

explaining GOD'S WORD

Fourth Sunday of Lent (A) • John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38 • March 22, 2020



Family Page

As Jesus pointed out in today's gospel, we can be blind in many ways. We can be blind to God's goodness. We can be blind to the goodness in others. We can even be blind to the goodness in the members of our own families. For a family activity this week, set aside a few minutes at the beginning of your family meal time to acknowledge some special goodness in one another. Each family member should take a turn being the leader. You can do this activity for as many days as you have family members.

1 Jesus said, "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Place a candle on your table and light it to remind you that Jesus is present, lighting your way.

2 The leader begins by thanking God for the food you are about to share and asking for God's blessings on your meal and on your time together.

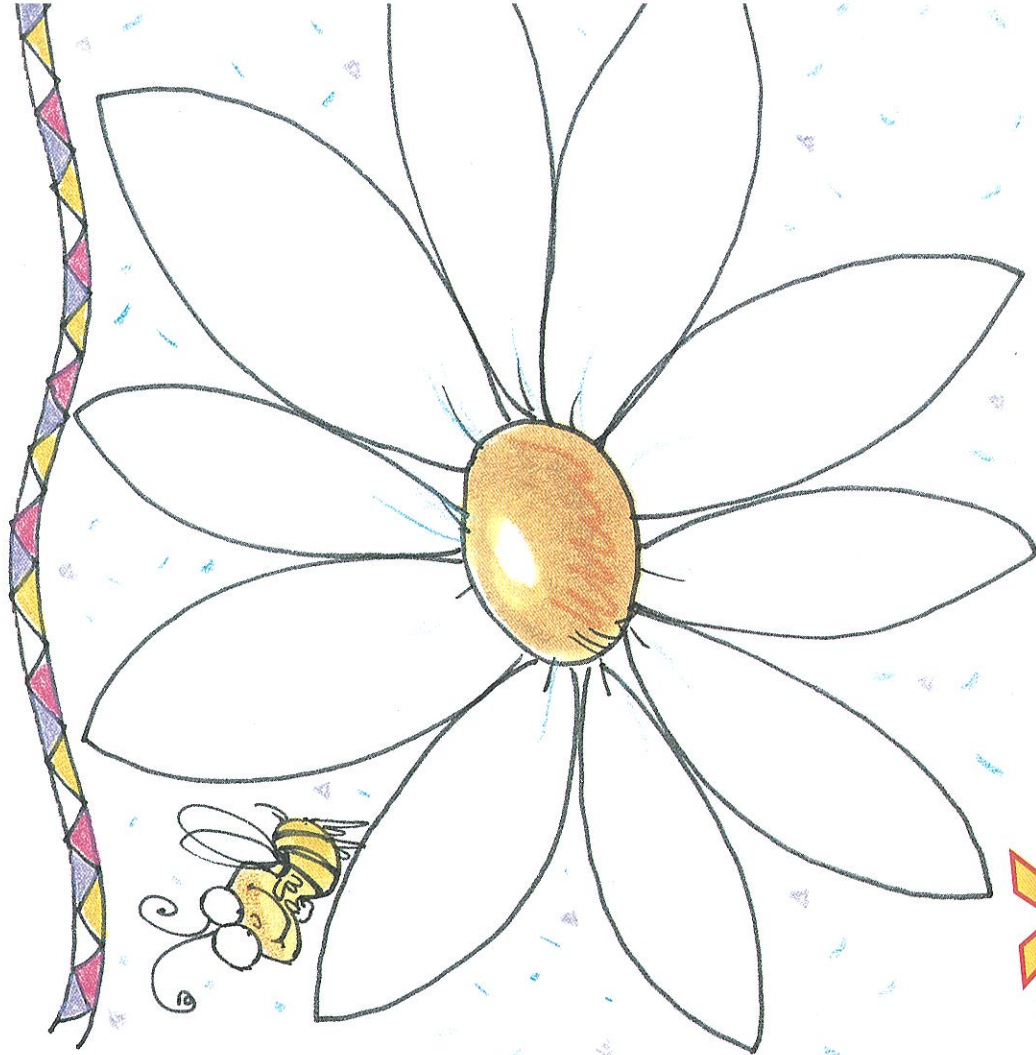
3 The leader should then mention a good quality about each person at the table, thanking God for that person's presence among you.

4 End with this "Goodness Prayer."

Goodness Prayer

Jesus, you came to open our eyes so that we might see the goodness of God and of all God's creation. We are blessed to be together at this time and to see in one another the special goodness God gave each of us. We thank you for this moment and ask you to always be with us to light our way. Amen

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You can make this flower come to life. Every time you see something that reminds you of God's love, write it on one of the petals and color that petal. Each petal should stand for a special sign of God's presence in your world.

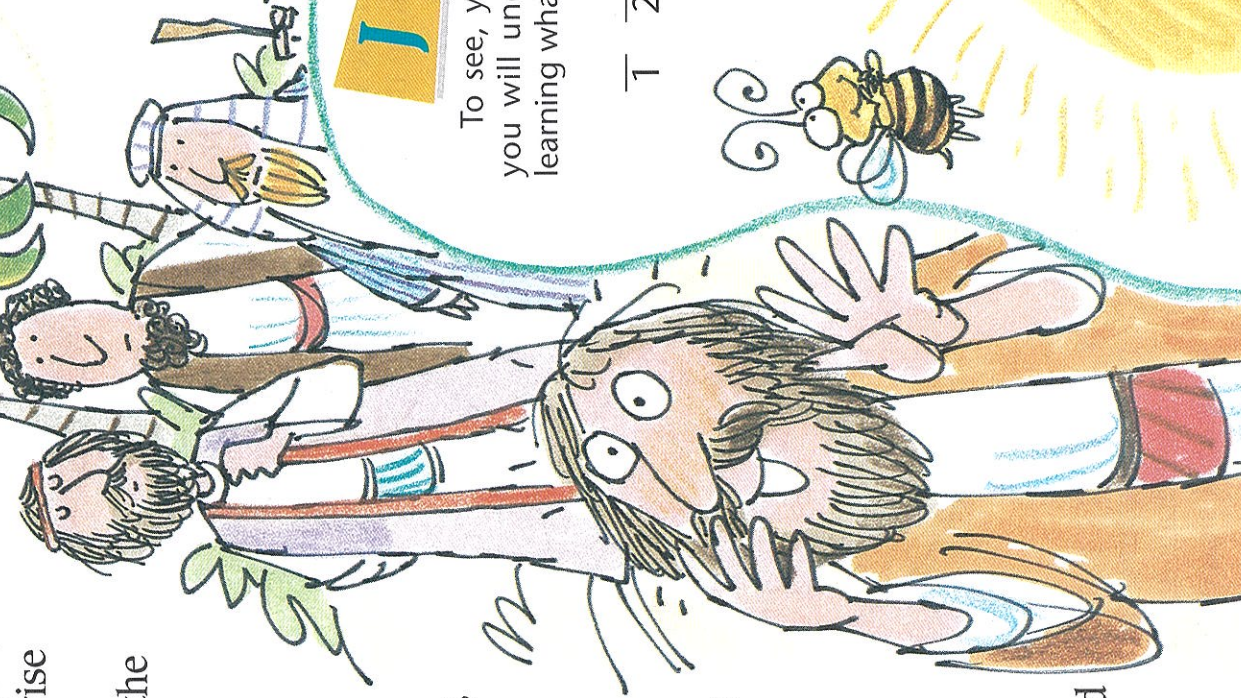
See With Your Heart!

Today's gospel story is about a man who had been blind all his life. He had never seen a bright yellow sunrise or the colors of the flowers in the spring. He had never sat quietly in the field watching the birds in the sky.

Jesus touched the blind man's eyes with a little clay from the ground and told him to go wash in the pool. The blind man did what Jesus told him. Suddenly, he could see! For the very first time in his life, he saw the world and knew God's love.

When the man told others what Jesus did, they didn't believe him. Jesus said it was they who were blind, for they could not see, with the eyes of faith, that Jesus was the Son of God.

Do you sometimes not see what Jesus came to help you "see"? Do you pass by flowers and trees but forget the God who put them there?



Do you sit down at the table and forget to thank God for the food and for your family's love? Do you do your lessons well in school but forget that God made your mind and the teachers who teach you so well?

Try to "see" all the wonderful things God does for you every day — and thank God for loving you.

Jesus Helps You To See

To see, you need light. Decode the message below and you will understand how Jesus helps you to see God by learning what he says about himself in today's gospel story.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 8 5 4 9 10
4 5 6 11 9 12 7 13

Code Key

1 = I; 2 = A; 3 = M; 4 = T; 5 = H;
6 = E; 7 = L; 8 = G; 9 = O; 10 = F;
11 = W; 12 = R; 13 = D