

Second Sunday of Advent, Year A - RCLB Lectionary



Lectionary: 4

Read Sunday's Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

Gospel Summary

In Matthew's Gospel, we learn of John's continued warning for us to be ready for Jesus when he comes again. It is not enough that we are sons and daughters of Abraham, but by our own desire, we want to live a life pleasing to God. The Gospel challenges us to bear fruit. It was not enough for the Sadducees nor is it enough for us to simply follow the rules and rituals of our faith. The very actions of lives must show what we believe about our faith.

Reflection for Families

We Christians come in daily contact with other people whether at work, in our neighborhoods, or school. We have opportunities throughout the day to witness to our faith by our actions and words, but what greater audience do we have than our own children? They watch us and listen to us. They imitate our every action and mimic our expressions. It is important that we witness our faith to all we meet, but no audience is more important than our families. Sometimes we need to take some quiet "desert time" like we find in today's Gospel in order to focus our lives more intentionally on what is truly important.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family

Continue using the Advent wreath as a tool for prayer. Light the second candle today and offer one suggestion of something you will do this week to take some quiet, reflective time. Think of at least one way you (individually or as a family) will create peace for yourself or someone near you.

Discussion Starters

- 1. It's hard for me to slow down, but I know I need to when . . .
- 2. One way others (especially my family members) see the Kingdom of God in my actions is when . . .
- 3. In order to prepare the heart of our family for Christmas we need to . . .

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