

## Nurturing Faith . . . Every Day in Every Way

March 14, 2021 Fourth Sunday in Lent

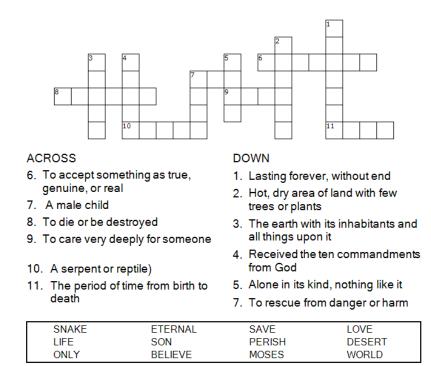
Numbers 21:4-9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21

Helllooo friends! Do schools still give out report cards? How many of you like to get them? Are you sometimes afraid to bring them home because you did not do well in math or spelling? When I was in elementary school, my teachers often wrote in the comment box: "talks too much." I knew that would make my parents upset because I was supposed to be paying attention, not talking! What if Jesus gave you a report card? How would you do in these subjects: kindness, forgiveness, love, courage? I hope everyone would get an A+++. But...here's the thing. God didn't send Jesus to grade us. Jesus didn't come with a heavenly report card.

In our gospel lesson from John today, it says this: God did not send Jesus into the world to judge us, but to save us and to love us. God sent Jesus to show us how to love each other, how to be kind, how to act with courage, and how to forgive ourselves and others. Jesus is the greatest teacher of all. Let's pay attention!

**Prayer:** Holy God, you sent your Son, Jesus to save us and to show us how to love. Help us to follow his example so that we can help make the world better for everyone. Amen.

**Memory Verse**: John 3:16 -God so loved the world that God gave God's only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have life forever.



**Crossword Puzzle** 

Activity: This week, make an extra effort to follow Jesus' way. For each day of the week, make a sign and tape it to your bathroom mirror. For example, Monday: Today, I will follow Jesus' way by being kind. Tuesday: Today, I will follow Jesus' way by being courageous, etc. At dinner, talk with your family about how you did.

**Discussion Question**: If Jesus came to dinner and asked how you think the world is following his example, what would you say?

**March Family Table Prayer**: God, you bless us every day. You give us strength for work and play. Bless this meal and our family, too Lord, we love and worship You.

