

## A WEEKLY WORD

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Readings for the week of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026

- ☐ [Genesis 12:1-4a](#)
- ☐ [Psalm 121](#)
- ☐ [Romans 4:1-5, 13-17](#)
- ☐ [John 3:1-17](#)

The Season of Lent always provides us with interesting readings. Today's readings bring us God's call to Abraham plus Jesus' call to Nicodemus. But I want to focus on the 16<sup>th</sup> verse of the Gospel of John, chapter 3.

***"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life"***

I have that verse in a frame in my office to remind me that eternal life is free to us, but it wasn't free to Jesus. He had to give his life for our freedom, It is probably the most known verse in the whole Bible, More people I know can quote that verse than any other.

Let's break that verse down into 2 parts. ***For God so love the world that he gave his only Son.*** We all know the story of Adam and Eve and the Fall of Mankind. If you don't it is in Genesis 3. If That hadn't happened we would all be living as in the Garden of Eden, no evil in sight. But it did happen, and we live in a corrupt and sinful world. We were all born with that sin in us and we are a sinful people because of it. But a funny thing about that, God still loves us and wants to have a relationship with us. So He did what a good and loving Father would do, he found a way to save us. It had to be drastic and effective, so he sent a baby to be the Saviour of the world. We just went through Christmas and Epiphany where we talked about Jesus, his Incarnation, His dedication at the Temple, and his Baptism in the River Jordan by John the Baptist.

Now we are in the season of Lent where we are moving toward Holy Week and Good Friday, where Jesus is captured, beaten and tortured and finally crucified for those sins we have committed, and will commit as we live out our lives on earth. We will learn during these 6 weeks of the ministry and teachings of Jesus. We should pay close attention to these teachings, because they are the foundation of the church as we live in it today, or it should be.

Now to the second part of the verse ***so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*** Jesus did the work for us and provided the blessing, now we have to believe that and accept the blessing. That's the only way the sacrifice works! If we don't accept Jesus into our hearts and lives, His sacrifice will have been for nothing. We will have no hope of eternal life, no heaven for those who don't believe. It is as plain as it can be.

This is the message Jesus was trying to press on Nicodemus. Believe, be born of the Spirit, and you will have the promise of spending eternity with Jesus!

I will end with verse 17, a fitting way to end the discourse

***"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."***