

## February LIFT 2017-18

### Level 6-8 Home Assignment

**Theme:** Suffering and Healing

- Objectives:**
1. Know where we are in the liturgical calendar.
  2. Be able to retell the gospel story of the Healing of the Leper
  3. List some ways that we can bring healing in the world.
  4. Consider ways in which Jesus heals us.
  5. Be able to explain Ash Wednesday and Lent
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#### Activities

##### Liturgical Calendar Connection

Remember from last time that the church uses different colors to show what church (liturgical) time of year we are in.

- What color did we see today on the altar and on Father Andrew's vestments? (green)
- What does green mean? (We are in Ordinary Time.) What does Ordinary Time mean? (It is the time when we study Jesus' life and teachings- Ordinary usually means "regular" or "plain" but the way that we are using it here means "order" as in the order of counted weeks.)
- What liturgical season is coming next? Hint...Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. What does Ash Wednesday mark the beginning of? (Lent) What color is associated with Lent? (purple)

##### Gospel Reading and Reflection Questions

###### Read the Gospel

Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean."

Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean."

The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean.

Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once.

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them."

The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter.

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He spread the report abroad  
so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly.  
He remained outside in deserted places,  
and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

### Reflection Questions

- In the context of the time and place, what is unusual about the leper approaching Jesus?
- Do you have the same kind of confidence and faith as the leper when you want healing (spiritual or physical) from God? Why or why not?
- How do you think Jesus' compassion and healing changed the leper's life? How does receiving God forgiveness change you?
- When was the last time that you went to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession)? Is it time to do so?
- How does it feel to be left out? Did anyone ever reach out to you and include or invite you to be a part of something? How does Jesus feel about those who are left out?
- How do I reach out to other people? How does Jesus reach out to other people?
- What prayer of yours was answered in a way that you did not expect? What did you discover about faith and about how God answered your request?
- Who are the people in your life who seem to be, like the leper in today's Gospel, on the outside looking in? How can you help them?

### Lent

Here is a short video about Lent from Busted Halo  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3L3c23MfC0>

Reflection questions:

- What do the 40 days of Lent symbolize or remind us of?
- Why do we receive a cross of ashes on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday?
- Who has received ashes? How do you feel with ashes on your forehead?
- Practices of Lent: Fasting, Almsgiving and Prayer
  - What is fasting? almsgiving? prayer?
- What will you do this Lent? In what ways do you need to be healed this Lent?

### Locker Room's Binding Force

This is a video about the faith of three of the Eagles.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6bnEY13vAok>

The session this month is about suffering and healing. In this video, the players talk about the role of faith in dealing with suffering (problems) and the healing power of faith.

Questions to consider:

- What stood out for you as you watched this video? What surprised you?
  - The players talk about challenging each other to be better people. Service within the community is a fruit of their faith. How does this inspire you? What is the fruit of your faith?
  - The players also talk about challenging each other to see the big picture. It isn't about winning or losing. What, then, is the big picture for them?
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- The players talk about using their faith to solve everyday problems and to grow as people. When have you used your faith to solve everyday problems?
  - The players talk about being respectful to the point of view of others but also being honest about sharing their faith. Are you respectful to the point of view of others? Do you share your faith?

### **Closing prayer**

Say the "Our Father" and a "Hail Mary" prayer

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