

LENT

RESOURCES

5th Sunday of Lent

ACTIVITY

This week's activity is to a walk up a hill. If you live near one, or can travel to a place in your local area that has a hill, walk to the top with your family or by yourself, . It doesn't even need to be a big hill! You could have a walk up the steepest road in your area, or the highest point in your local park.

When you get there take a look at what is around you.
What can you see? What can you hear? What can you feel?

During the 40 days when Jesus was in the wilderness, He stood on a high place and looked around at the vast world. Even though the devil was trying to tempt Jesus, I'm sure when Jesus looked at the vast kingdom and the world that had been created, He would have been amazed and thankful for His Father's creation.

Once you are at the top of your hill, say a prayer of thanks to God. Thank Him for the world you live in, for the nature he has created and the beauty of all things around you.

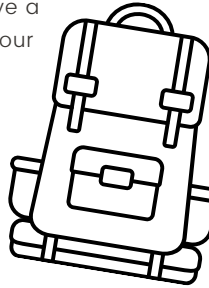
If you are with someone for your walk, share with each other one thing you find amazing or appreciate that God has made (It can be serious or silly!)

SCRIPTURE

John 11:38-44

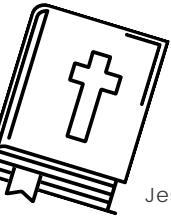
Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odour, for he has been there four days."



Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."



When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

REFLECTION

Jesus makes a bold statement in this scripture, talking about how he will raise Lazarus from the dead. Martha and Mary had faith in Jesus but didn't understand what He meant. Once he raises Lazarus from the dead, he turns and says 'Didn't I tell you that you would see God's glory if you believe'.

When we feel like we are in the wilderness, we too can sometimes question our faith and we find it hard to keep on walking with Jesus. How can we believe and trust fully in Jesus?

Jesus said He will show the Glory of God to all who believe so what's stopping us from doing so?! This Lent, let's pray every day to receive and believe fully in God. Let's take time to step closer to God every day and open our eyes to see His glory all around us.

Here are some questions to help you reflect:

How can we put our full trust in Jesus, just like Mary and Martha?

How can we be patient on our journey with Jesus this Lent?

How can we share the good news of Jesus to others and resurrect their belief?



You may like to listen to this song as part of your prayer time. We invite you to spend some time listening to the words and talking to God.

Strength of my Life by Vertical Worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6sqyIURx4mg>

PRAYER

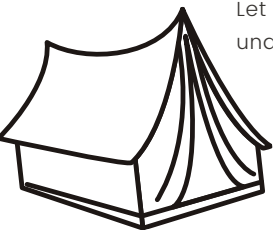
Dear God,

Thank you for this day that you have made. Thank you for allowing me to journey with the people around me.

Let your light surround us and bring us to a deeper understanding of who you are and your loving nature.

I ask that you help me to be a good example to others and that you give me the strength to share your good news.

Amen.



CHALLENGE

This week's challenge is to spend some time with God, in prayer, each day.

As we approach Easter, let's pray for the strength to finish Lent stronger than we started. Pray for yourself, your family and friends and thank God for all He has done for you.

