

Scripture Prayer For The Week

"Once...
when Jesus...
was praying alone..." (Luke 9:18)



Artwork Dorothy Woodward

Ordinary Time - Yr A Week 5

We Gather: Green is the current liturgical colour. In the prayer space, have the bible opened at the Gospel reading. On the stand, have one or more lanterns or lamps. An earthenware bowl with salt could also be placed. Community members could take a pinch of salt as they leave the prayer space.

Leader: Blessed be your name, O God, light in the dark and taste of all goodness.
All: Strengthen us to be salt of the earth and a light dispelling the shadows.

We Listen: The Gospel. Matthew 5:13-16

Read the gospel passage reflectively. After a time of silent reflection, the line from scripture below could be repeated and the short commentary read.

"No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub, but puts it on the lampstand for all to see."

Commentary:

It's a very domestic scene in the Gospel this week. Salt tossed out because it has been used and lost its taste and the obvious point of using the lamp for its primary purpose of seeing in the dark. Jesus means us to be disciples of the kingdom in our domestic lives. Not earth-shattering heroes, but people at home adding flavour and light to the lives of those around us. Stay "earthed" Jesus says, be true to where you are and who you are. There are many opportunities to spit out sour tastes and alleviate the hunger for love and freedom in our everyday. Many possibilities for us to break up shadows and spread light into the corners of minds and hearts darkened by loss, anger and despair. Salt and Light!

We Respond: *"They put it on the lamp-stand for all to see."*

In silence, reflect on the questions below? You may wish to have a time of brief sharing.

- Do I see my home as the foundation place for my Christian life and work?
- How can I add zest and taste to the lives of my students and colleagues?
- What are three simple ways of being "a light so that all can see"?

Song: Bring Forth the Kingdom (M Haugen-AOV2) or Go Make a Difference (Angrisano/Tomaszek-AOVNG)

We Go Forth:

God, you entered into our human home through the birth of your Word Jesus Christ and you share our hunger and our darkness. But, by being one of us, you totally changed our options and future. Guide us, Spirit of God, so your teachings will give taste and light to our daily work, for the good of all people. We ask this through that same Christ our Lord. Amen.