

St. Paul Catholic Newman Center



1572 East Barstow Avenue
Fresno, Ca 93710
Office 559.436.3434
csufnewman.com

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year C

April 3, 2022

Readings: Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

*You better watch out
You better not cry
You better not pout
I'm telling you why*

Santa Claus is comin' to town

*He's making a list
He's checking it twice
He's gonna find out
Who's naughty or nice*

So many people, Catholics included, think of God as a judge, watching to punish us when we do bad and reward us for good deeds. After all, how do we get to heaven - by avoiding bad and doing good. But that is that is Santa Claus, not God!

We are currently in Cycle C of the scripture readings at Sunday Mass. The Church has set aside the last three weeks in Cycle C to focus on the God Jesus revealed – a loving, forgiving, reconciling God. All the readings for these three Sundays support the notion of a forgiving and reconciling God. In the Gospel readings in particular, Jesus clearly shows us that merciFUL God with the Prodigal Son last week and the woman caught in adultery this week. As Edgar, our Campus Ministry Director, said in his talk to RCIA, “There is not a single thing we can do to make God love us more and not a single thing we can do to make God love us less.” Jesus would heartily agree. Or as Fr. Byron likes to say in his introduction at Masses, “No matter how big our sin, God’s love is greater.” Paul adds to this perspective of God when he points out that “while we were still sinners. Christ died for us” (Rm 5:8). He did not wait for us to become good first.

It seems easier to convince people of a God who rewards good and punishes bad than the unconditionally loving and forgiving God that Jesus reveals. Jesus certainly struggled to get people to accept this loving God perhaps because it raises questions like “You mean it doesn’t matter if I am good or bad?” or “But isn’t it unfair if I work hard at being good but then bad people also get to go to heaven?” Jesus’ answer, especially in the Gospel of John, is “Get over it. I come from God and I am telling you this is how God is.”

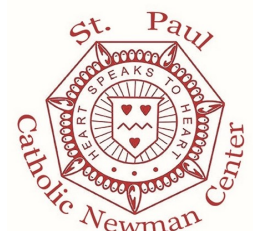
There is one caveat though - if it is even a caveat - now go and be as forgiving as God. That’s the rub. To become as gentle, loving and merciful as God, we first need to experience God’s forgiveness. Having a real experience of God’s forgiveness opens us to become merciful like God. But then we don’t get to that experience until we acknowledge our sin or sinfulness. Jesus reminds us “Those who are well do not need a physician but sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words I desire mercy not sacrifice. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners.” (Mt 9; 12-13). Catholics have no problems saying they are sinners but the minute you point out an actual sin, their backs go up and Freud’s defense mechanism kick into action.

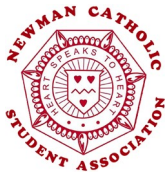
Christ expressly came for sinners, actual ones who healthily probe their dark side and seek redemption. A great place to start is at our reconciliation service on April 5 at 6:00pm. The service will give us time to reflect and then go to confession to experience God’s forgiveness and begin our journey to being forgiven and forgiving.

Charles Arokiasamy, RCIA Director

Mission Statement

Gifted by God, called by Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, St. Paul Catholic Newman Center is a parish committed to serving the academic community and all those who choose to be part of our parish family. We dedicate ourselves to bringing the transformative power of Christ to the world through word and action.





Campus Ministry News!

Week of April 3-10

Fresno State Campus Meeting

Fresno State Students will meet on Monday, April 4 in the Library Room 3134 (located on the second floor). We will be preparing for the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. Join us from 10:00am to 11:00am.

Clovis Community College Club Meeting

On Tuesday, April 5, there will be a campus club meeting at 3:30pm. This invitation is open to students, staff, and faculty. Please join us.

Reconciliation Service

This Tuesday, April 5 at 6:00pm, priests from neighboring parishes will be hearing confessions inside the Chapel. Let us use this time to repent from our sins and to prepare ourselves for the coming of Easter.

Station of the Cross Led by Students

Next Friday, on April 8, all are invited to participate in the Stations of the Cross. We will begin at 6:00pm inside the Chapel. Let us be reminded of the meaning behind this Lenten season and the need for reconciliation with God.



Picture of the Week

First listening session with our young adults led by Steve Toon.

Our Lenten Journey With Luke's Gospels

On Week Five of Lent, the Gospel of Luke shares with us the story of the Woman Caught in Adultery. Notice the symbol of writing in the sand at the back of the Chapel. It is a beautiful story that shows the full extent of Jesus' kindness toward sinners. May we strive to imitate Jesus' kindness toward all.

Faith, Family & Friends

This Tuesday, April 5 will be our Lenten Reconciliation Service at 6:00pm in the Chapel. There will be activity for younger children.

Faith, Family & Friends is the Newman Center's Religious Education and faith formation program for EVERYONE of all ages - Children, HS Youth & Adults. All FF&F groups and class sessions meet on Tuesday evenings from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. All Children's classes meet in Cardinal Newman Hall, Claretian High School Youth Group meets in St. John XXIII, and the Adult Group Session will meet in the Chapel. No registration is required to attend the Adult Sessions.

Adult Sessions: Tuesdays, April 19 and 26 will continue with our exploration of the Sacraments: Past and Present.

Family Life Ministries

Adult Religious Education and Faith Formation

Our series exploring the *Sacraments of the Church - Past & Present* will resume on April 19 and 26 on Tuesday evenings from 6:00pm to 7:00pm in the Chapel. No registration or fee is required.

Men's Scripture Reflection and Discussion Group meets Monday mornings after Mass from 8:30am to 9:15am in the Library.

Prayer Ministries

Christian Meditation meets weekly on Tuesdays at noon in the Community Room for 20 minutes of silent meditation followed by a brief lesson about this ancient Christian prayer tradition and discussion. Christian meditation utilizes the mantra, "Maranatha" (a word in Jesus' own Aramaic language meaning, "Come, Lord Jesus") in order to quiet the mind and come to silence, meeting Jesus in the depth of our own being, beyond words or images. The group is a member of the World Community for Christian Meditation. Meetings are facilitated by Benita Lankford. For information email contact John Prandini at prandinij@csufnewman.com.

Hope Blooms: A VIRTUAL Retreat for Catholic Women Healing from Betrayal Trauma April 22-23, 2022

This virtual retreat is for women seeking healing from betrayal trauma (discovering a spouse's or significant other's pornography use, infidelity, and/or sex addiction). Gather with others on Divine Mercy weekend as we lay our pain, our sorrow, and betrayals at the Lord's feet. With expectant faith, let us open our hands and our hearts to receive His merciful outpouring. Join us for this powerful virtual retreat experience. Talk topics include: Uprooting Shame and Guilt, Understanding Trauma and its impacts on body, mind, and spirit, Freedom through Forgiveness, and more. The retreat also includes small group healing prayer and Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Retreat leaders are Father Allen Hoffa of Integrity Restored, Laura Ercolino of Hope's Garden, De Yarrison of You Are Made New Ministry, Bonnie West, and Marian West Veilleux. Find the full schedule and register at <https://hopesgarden.com/hope-blooms-virtual-healingretreats> or email De: de@youaremadenew.com.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, April 3

Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

Altar Flower Tabling

7:30am Mass for Carmen Hernandez Chapel
 9:30am Mass for John Godburn Chapel
 11:30am Mass for Hector and Ernestine Gonzales Chapel
 7:00pm Young Adult Mass and RCIA Third Scrutiny Chapel

Monday, April 4

Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30

8:00am Mass for Carrie Lou Butchert Chapel
 8:30am Men's Morning Scripture Study Library
 6:00pm Grief Support Community Room
 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study St. John XXIII
 7:00pm Creation Care Team Meeting Cafeteria

Tuesday, April 5

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42

8:00am Communion Service Chapel
 12:00pm Christian Meditation Community Room
 1:00pm Synod Listening Session Cafeteria
 6:00pm Lenten Reconciliation Service Chapel

Wednesday, April 6

Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59

8:00am Mass Int. of Carolina Hogg and Sr. Maria Rosa Guzman Chapel
 8:45am Synod Listening Session Community Room
 6:00pm Scriptural Rosary Community Room
 6:00pm College Night CNH 101

Thursday, April 7

Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42

8:00am Communion Service Chapel
 4:00pm Confessions Chapel
 6:00pm Mass Int. of Elena Ortega Chapel
 6:00pm Synod Listening Session Library
 6:30pm Women's Guild Meeting Cafeteria
 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal Chapel
 7:00pm Synod Listening Session Library
 7:00pm Knights of Columbus Community room

Friday, April 8

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

8:00am Mass for Roger Berman Chapel
 6:00pm Stations of the Cross Chapel

Saturday, April 9

Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

3:30pm Synod Listening Session Cafeteria
 5:00pm Mass for Anastacia Sibal Chapel

Sunday, April 10

Lk 19:28-40; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56

7:30am Mass for Marie Therese Tam Vu Chapel
 9:30am Mass for Lai Pham Chapel
 10:00am HS Confirmation Class CNH 101-103
 11:30am Mass for Sandy Ullmann Chapel
 2:00pm Baptism Prep Class (Via Zoom)
 7:00pm Young Adult Mass Chapel

March Contributions

2021		2022	
Mar. 7	ACH \$21,491.37	Mar. 6	ACH \$28,016.65
Mar. 14	\$13,710.00	Mar. 13	\$17,822.11
Mar. 21	ACH \$13,363.38	Mar. 20	ACH \$16,619.10
Mar. 28	\$ 9,168.00	Mar. 27	\$12,292.66
March Total	\$57,732.75	March Total	\$74,750.52

Second Collection Thank You


We raised \$5747.20 for the second collection last weekend which benefits International Needs. Thank you for your generosity.


Prayers:

- ◆ **For those who have died this week:** Shannon Wong
- ◆ **Please pray for those who have requested special intentions and prayers:**
 Sr. Ana Rosa Guzman, Joan Renner, Margery Toll, Kristal Lowe Limon, Abigail Love, Gary Payne, Linda Alvarez, Marianne Coons, Julissa Mojarras, Estefania Medina, Laura Willers, Mary Garr, Kathy Papagni, Michael Vienna, John and Kathy Brechmann, Issac Orozco, Diana Mock, Fr. Kevin Bray, Msgr. Anthony Janelli, Sandra Barrie, Nettie Shute, Sandy Keith, Meghan Vasquez, Dan Dungy, Isabel Wiggins, Monica Becerra, Alice Schultz, Sr. Rosa Maria Branco FHIC, Dick and Jan White, Randy Trejold, Jose Guadalupe Solorio, Tommie Huettmann, Melvin Helm Family, Don Dallas Family, Sr. Joanne Bauer, Deacon Steve and Angie Taylor, Deacon Jim Rooney, Jan Fusselman, Nyla Zender, Alma Alba, Deacon Rick DeLeon and Family, JoAnn Myers, Monica Baker (Lucido), Deacon Kelly Canelo and Family, David Toll, Susan Olson, Ken Barnes and Family, Ramona Egan, Mary Yoakum, Olivia King, Esther Gutierrez, Joe Calandri, Jeff Janzen, Maria Coronel, Christina Jacques


To better serve our Faith Family we are updating our list of prayers. Names for the sick / special intentions will remain in the bulletin for one month. If deceased, names are only published the week they died. If you have someone who is in need of prayers please contact the office at 436-3434 or go on our website and fill out the form under the "Prayer Intentions" tab.


Follow us!

 St. Paul Catholic Newman Center

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College Pages

 Newman Catholic Student Association (Fresno)

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Lenten Reconciliation Service

You are invited to an evening of prayer, reflection, and music this Tuesday, April 5 at 6:00pm in the Chapel. There will be several priests on hand to hear private confessions, and an activity will be provided for younger children. We hope to see you there for this special Annual Lenten Service.

A black poster with yellow and white text. At the top, it says "Join us for Holy Week Services 2022". Below that, it lists three services: Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper on April 14 at 7:00PM, Good Friday Veneration of the Cross on April 15 at 3:00PM, and Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass on April 16 at 7:00PM. In the center, there are three lit candles: a tall yellow one in the middle and two shorter white ones on either side. The yellow candle has the St. Paul Catholic Newman Center logo on it. At the bottom, the address is listed: 1572 E. Barstow Avenue, Fresno, CA 93710.

Join us for **Holy Week Services 2022**

Holy Thursday
Mass of the Lord's Supper
April 14, 7:00PM

Good Friday
Veneration of the Cross
April 15, 3:00PM

Holy Saturday
Easter Vigil Mass
April 16, 7:00PM

1572 E. Barstow Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710

Easter Altar Flowers

Each Easter season, we fill our sanctuary with seasonal plants and flowers provided by parishioners' generous donations. Please consider participating in this longtime Newman Center tradition by donating in the name of a departed loved one. Their names will appear in the Easter Weekend bulletin. If you were not able to sign up this weekend, you can pay online (Please put the name of the deceased in the description e.g. Flowers in Memory of John Smith), mail in a check, or come by the office by Monday, April 11.

EKG Podcast

Sister Kathleen and Edgar Guzmán dialogue all things about faith. You're invited to dive into their clumsy conversations and journey together.

Look up EKG or St. Paul Catholic Newman Center anywhere you listen to podcasts. If the previous sentence left you confused, head to our website, scroll to the bottom of our page and you can find the play button there. Happy listening!

Women's Guild

All ladies of the parish are welcome to our April meeting! The meeting is Thursday, April 7 at 6:30pm in the Cafeteria. We will have our very own Deacon Bill as a guest speaker. We hope to see you there!

Creation Care Tips

"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." — Isaiah 43:18-19 If you sometimes feel overwhelmed by the direction the climate crisis is going, consider reading chapter 43 from Isaiah as an antidote. Or read chapter 3 of Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* (you can find it online for free). He reminds us, "The Spirit of God has filled the universe with possibilities and therefore, from the very heart of things, something new can always emerge" (#80).

Weekly Justice Challenge

Justice Challenge: What is the role of anger and rage in our lives? What purpose does it serve? We often think that when we feel anger, we need to express it... we need to get it out of our system. Perhaps anger has a different purpose as Jesus suggests to the angry crowd that is about to hurl stones at the guilty woman. Perhaps anger is a signal that there is something wrong inside of us, some pain that has surfaced because we have witnessed an injustice in the world and our consciences are feeling pricked. Anger can trick us into thinking that the injustice is outside of us or that we are above it. But Jesus suggests that when we seek justice with anger, rage, or revenge, we should use our anger to look within and hurl stones at our own sin. The challenge this week is to address the injustice that has root in our own souls.

A poster with a floral and Easter-themed background. It features a white box with the St. Paul Catholic Newman Center logo at the top left. The text inside the box says "Join us for Easter!" in large, stylized letters. Below that, it lists the Mass Schedule for Easter Sunday: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, and 11:30AM, with a note "(No 7:00PM Mass)". At the bottom, the address is listed: St. Paul Catholic Newman Center, 1572 E. Barstow Ave., Fresno, CA 93710.

Join us for **Easter!**

Mass Schedule for Easter Sunday
7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM
(No 7:00PM Mass)

St. Paul Catholic Newman Center
1572 E. Barstow Ave.
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Creation Care Team Meeting

Join us for our next Creation Care Team Meeting this Monday, April 4 at 7:00pm in the Cafeteria. Please contact Fr. Byron at frbyron@csufnewman.com or Jim Grant at jimgrantbc@gmail.com to let them know that you are attending or for any questions. Walk-ins are welcome to the meeting!

RCIA

Sponsors Needed

God has blessed us with many people wanting to become Catholic. We have three candidates and eight catechumens in the catechumenate and another five in Inquiry. In two weeks these five inquirers will go through their Rite of Acceptance but have run out of sponsors. We desperately need another five sponsors. If you are a practicing Catholic and have received baptism, confirmation and Holy Eucharist, you qualify. If you are interested in serving as a sponsor and share your faith with these new candidates and catechumens, or if you have questions about sponsoring, please contact Charles Arokiasamy at rcia@csufnewman.com or 559-286-6372. Or leave your contact information at the front office and we will follow up with you. It is a lot of fun being a sponsor and you will find yourself learning many things you did not know about your own faith.

Interested in becoming Catholic?

If you have never been baptized or if you are baptized in another denomination but would like to become Catholic, please contact Charles Arokiasamy at rcia@csufnewman.com or 559-286-6372.

The RCIA process at the Newman Center is designed to be a safe and welcoming place to personally experience Christ and develop your personal relationship with Jesus in a supportive community. We don't throw a bunch of doctrines and rules at you. Instead we provide a place for you to explore and develop your faith journey with Jesus as a Catholic Christian.

No Confessions at St. Anthony of Padua

St. Anthony of Padua will not have confessions on the following dates: Tuesday, April 12 and Saturday, April 16.

25th Annual Jo Ann Stephens Memorial Golf for Life Tournament

Right to Life of Central California's 25th Annual Golf Tournament is Monday, April 25 at Fort Washington Golf and Country Club. The tournament entry fee is \$175.00. Entry fee includes lunch, dinner, green fees, golf cart and tee prizes. There will be a prize drawing. Call 229-2229 or visit our website www.RightToLifeCA.org for invitations, to advertise, or for more information.

Knights of Columbus Go Make a Difference Membership Drive



Do you want to make a difference in our Church, in your Community, and in your Family? Then Come and see what the Knights of Columbus us all about.

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Men's Fraternal Organization. Founded by the Venerable Michael J. McGivney in the basement of St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1882, to support the Catholic Irish widows in his parish. With its rapid growth his ideals were reach and has since become the largest Catholic Fraternal Organization in the world (USA, Military Bases overseas, Canada, Mexico, The Philippines, Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania and So Korea).

Our members only Insurance program is rated the highest in the industry.

Our John Cardinal Newman Council, #9445, was Chartered on November 26, 1986 when the Rev. Sergio Negro was pastor. Local Councils are mandated to support our local parish and communities. You have seen our members being involved in the parish functions as well as raising monetary funds for different local charities (Wings Fresno, Garden of Innocence, Food Recovery Network, etc.), our own Knight's charities, as well as financially supporting various parish programs (CNH Hall building fund, VBS, Confirmation, Fr. Sergio Scholarship Program, etc.) through our (former) Fireworks, Pancake Breakfasts, Breakfast Burritos, Christmas Cards, Crosses for the Holy Land sales, etc. The Coats for Kids, Wheelchairs and Infant of Prague Adoption Services were only some of these major recipients from your support. We have also financially contributed directly to our parish from our profits. Our current major fundraiser is the parking lot for Bulldog Football Games. These funds help us financially support a seminarian, Mr. Arturo Cisneros, and other programs.

We are always looking for good Catholic Gentlemen who would like to join us and be involved in a brotherhood who hold high ideals of Catholicity.

On April 23 - 24 we will be holding a Membership Drive after all Masses so please look for members of our council. We will be located by both entrances. Come by and say hi and see how you can make in difference.

For more information on the Knights of Columbus please go to www.KofC.org or www.kc9445.org. You can also contact us at www.membership@kc9445.org. or just ask us.

Dear Newman Community,

If you are wanting to attend any of these proposed dates for Listening Sessions, please contact the Parish Office (559-436-3434) or Jim Grant (559-708-3530) and leave a message indicating your preferred dates! If people register, the sessions will be held. Hope you'll join the 80+ parishioners who participated in March!



Saturday

Cafeteria

April 9

3:30-5:00

(4,5,6)

Sunday

Library

April 24

8:30-10:00

(7,8,9,10)

Tuesday

Cafeteria

April 5

1:00-2:30

(1,2,3)

Cafeteria

April 12

1:00-2:30

(4,5,6)

Cafeteria

April 19

1:00-2:30

(7,8,9,10)

Cafeteria

April 26

1:00-2:30

(1,2,3)

Wednesday

Community

Room

April 6

8:45-10:15

(1,2,3)

Community

Room

April 13

8:45-10:15

(4,5,6)

Community

Room

April 20

8:45-10:15

(7,8,9,10)

Community

Room

April 27

8:45-10:15

(1,2,3)

Thursday

Library

April 7

6:00-7:00 (1,2,3)

7:00-8:00 (4,5,6)

Library

April 21

6:00-7:00 (7,8,9,10)

7:00-8:00 (1,2,3)

Library

April 28

6:00-7:00 (4,5,6)

7:00-8:00 (7,8,9,10)

Death Is Not Final

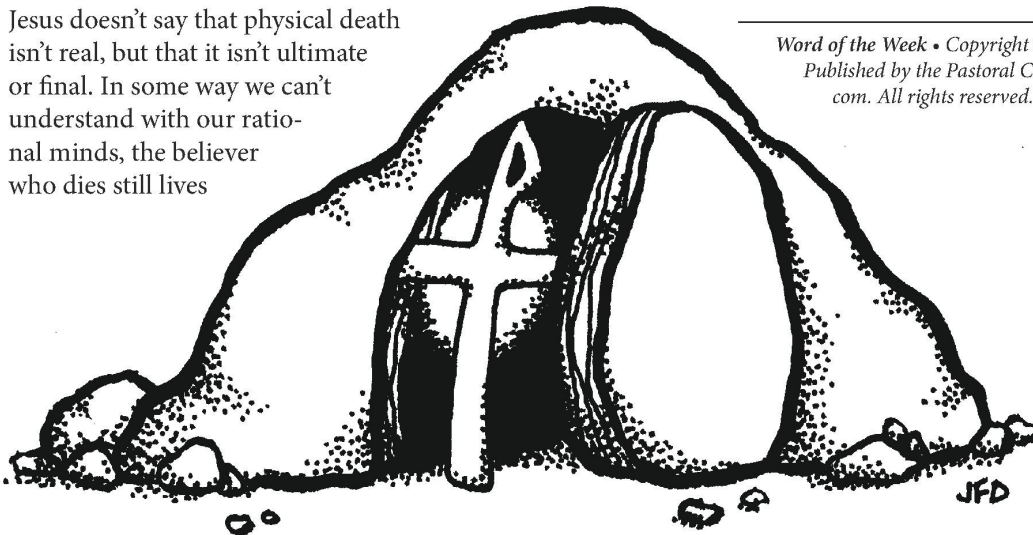
This Week's Readings at Mass

- ▶ Ezekiel 37:12-14 - Promise of resurrection
- ▶ Romans 8:8-11 - The flesh and the Spirit
- ▶ John 11:1-45 - The raising of Lazarus

The story of the raising of Lazarus is a story we could come back to time and time again throughout our lives as we await the death of a loved one or our own death, or after we've experienced the death of a loved one. Each time, we might find more meaning or consolation in it. It is the story of a faith community (Mary, Martha, and the Jews) trying to come to terms with the seeming finality of physical death with their belief in eternal life. It is also a story of people like us who are confused, grieving, and perhaps even upset with Jesus for not being there when they needed him.

Jesus never belittles Martha or Mary for their feelings: their anger that he didn't come as soon as they called for him, their tears at their brother's death, or their incredulity when Jesus orders that the stone be removed from the front of Lazarus' tomb. He simply accepts their limited human understanding and shows them that he is the resurrection and the life. For the rest of their lives Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, probably pondered the meaning of Jesus' words, "I am the Resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

Jesus doesn't say that physical death isn't real, but that it isn't ultimate or final. In some way we can't understand with our rational minds, the believer who dies still lives



while the living who believe will not die an everlasting death.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Which character in the story do you most relate to? Why?
- 2 How have you wrestled with the death of a loved one(s) while clinging to a belief in everlasting life?

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