

Lenten Bible Study – March 10, 2021

Matthew 5:23-24

Question: From whom do we need to ask forgiveness?

²³ So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

Lent: Yearly “reset” – time to take an honest look at several things in our lives:

Whom Have We Hurt?

- Easy to make a list of people who have hurt us – how we have been wronged.
- How have we wronged others?
- Takes a lot of humility to admit there are people who need to forgive us.
- Alcoholics Anonymous
 - Step 4 – We made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
 - Step 9 – We made direct amends to people we had harmed wherever possible.
- We can take a page from their playbook.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to bring up names – keep a note pad around, take notes on your phone, let it marinate for a while.
- The Holy Spirit dwells within the hearts of believers.
 - 1 Corinthians 3:16 – Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
 - 2 Timothy 1:14 – Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.
- Are we willing to go to the other person and repent? Not try to excuse ourselves, not try to explain ourselves, but simply say, “I wronged you and I am sorry.”

To Ponder This Week:

- Who have we hurt? Who has the Holy Spirit brought to mind?
- How can we ask forgiveness from this person / these people?