



Living Lent | March 15

Tell The Children

*Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us,
we will not hide from their children.
We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord,
and the wonderful works he has done.
He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel,
which he commanded them to teach their children;
That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn;
that they in their turn might tell it to their children...*

Psalm 78: 1-6 (NRSV)

Encouragement for the Lenten Journey:

In the Scriptures, we are reminded of the commands that God established for his covenant people under the leadership of Moses. The Law given through Moses served as a way of identifying God's people. Obedience to the commands was the means by which the children of Israel would enter the Promised Land. Moses models what we read in Psalm 78. He passes along the traditions and commandments of God from one generation to the next. Notice how Moses urges them to tell their children and their children's children how God rescued them from

slavery in Egypt and journeyed with them through the wilderness. Remembering the great acts of God on behalf of his people is central to the message of the Bible. We see the story of redemption unfold as we trace God's calling of Abram so that he might be a blessing to the nations in Genesis 12 to the fulfillment of God's promise in Jesus the Messiah.

Telling the story of God's relationship with his people is a command we still have today. The transmission of God's word from generation to generation is what we refer to as discipleship. Discipleship is how we join God in the multiplication of his people and the expanding of his kingdom. The promise we find in scripture is not inheritance of a land to possess, but a relationship with the living God who shapes our lives to be more like Jesus, his son. Jesus affirms his role in fulfilling the Law not abolishing the Law in Matthew 5 in the Sermon on the Mount. In this discourse Jesus reveals an ethical system that is rooted in God's grace and mercy. As Christians we remember the commands of scripture not to earn God's blessing, but because through Jesus we have received God's blessing of life eternal. As we tell the story of God's redemption from generation to generation, we remember the commands of scripture and the promises of God fulfilled to his people throughout all generations in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Contributor and Contributing Body of Christ

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