

# Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE RCIA

## CATECHUMENATE SESSION: THE GRACE OF GOD

Fourth Sunday of Lent • Year B • March 10, 2024

God of Love,  
you sent your Son, Jesus,  
into the world  
to save us from our sins.

Thank you for the gift of  
grace we have  
because he died for us.

Thank you for the gifts of grace  
you bless us with each day.

Amen.

By  
Grace  
You Have  
Been  
Saved  
THROUGH  
Faith. EPH



### Sunday Word

**2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23**

**Psalms 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6**

**Ephesians 2:4-10**

**John 3:14-21**

The above readings are available at  
[usccb.org/bible/readings](http://usccb.org/bible/readings).

### To Help You Remember



1. The Israelites stopped listening to the messengers of God. Because of this, many hard things happened to them. In due time, King Cyrus of Persia proclaimed freedom to God's people.
2. Grace is God's gift to us.
3. God sent his Son, Jesus, into the world to save the world.

## Key Teachings



### Listen to the Messengers of God

Just as we learned last week that God gave us the Ten Commandments to guide us, so we are to pay attention to the messengers of God who bring God's Word to us today.

### Receive the Gift

We cannot earn grace by our words and deeds. Grace is God's free gift to us. Grace helps us live as children of God.

## Faith Words



### grace

Grace is the gift of God sharing his life and love with us. The types of grace include sanctifying grace, actual grace, and sacramental graces.

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### sanctifying grace

The word *sanctifying* comes from a Latin word meaning "to make holy." Sanctifying grace is God's gift, given by the Holy Spirit, that frees us from sin and makes us holy.

## Amazing Grace



John Newton (1725–1807), who wrote "Amazing Grace," did not grow up believing in God. Caught on a ship in a storm at sea, he cried out to God for mercy and—after arriving safe on land—began to question whether God was indeed real. In the years that followed, John Newton became a Christian and a writer of many hymns.

## With My Family



### We Listen

The Israelites ignored God's messages. They did not listen to God, and as a result, their enemies defeated and captured them. It was a dark time for the Israelites, until King Cyrus set them free. In the Gospel, Jesus tells us that God sent the light into the world. Jesus is that light. He is the light that saves us.

### We Believe

The world is full of grace. Grace is God's life with us. Even though there is sin and darkness in the world, there is more grace. Grace is always stronger and more powerful than evil. Light will always break through the dark.

### We Live As Disciples

Jesus' disciples live in truth and light. How can you take light to someone who is in darkness? Do you know anyone who is sad or lonely or scared? What can you do to be a light in that person's life?

### We Pray

Pray together these words from the Second Scrutiny:

"... God ... dispel darkness and be the light that shines in the hearts of our elect" (RCIA 167).

Allow time for all to quietly think of ways they will take light to someone who is in darkness.

Then pray again the words from the Second Scrutiny.

# JESUS IS LIGHT AND TRUTH

As a family, complete the table below. Identify the people and things in your life that are light and truth. Write them in the left-hand column.

Also identify those things that are darkness and lies that you need to avoid. Write them in the right-hand column.

Some examples are already given for you.

<u>LIGHT AND TRUTH</u>	<u>DARKNESS AND LIES</u>
Creation	Littering
Friends who love me	Bullies at school
God has a plan for my life.	I'm just no good at anything.

<u><b>LIGHT AND TRUTH</b></u>	<u><b>DARKNESS AND LIES</b></u>