



TOTALLY LENT!

A CHILD'S JOURNEY TO EASTER 2020

J E A N L A R K I N

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NOTE: Some of the activities in this book were adapted from *Totally Lent! A Kid's Journey to Easter 2020* written by Sr. Alice Ann Pfeifer, CSA. This intermediate level book is also available from Pflaum Publishing Group.

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Primary Grades



Planning a Journey

What do you think when you hear the word journey? **Circle all the words in this list that remind you of a journey.**

trip	sacrifice	bus	friends
airplane	relatives	water park	desert
boring	visit	car	adventure
exciting	vacation	share	long
ocean	positive	negative	sad
fun	mountains	short	movies

Did you circle lots of words? Maybe you circled ALL of them!
There are many kinds of journeys. Some you might think of as good and some as bad.

Make plans for what you think would be a GOOD journey.

Where would you go? _____

How would you get there? _____

What would you do there? _____

Make plans for what you think would be a BAD journey.

Where would you go? _____

How would you get there? _____

What would you do there? _____

Your Journey with Jesus

Unless something bad happens that no one expects – like an accident – most often it is not where you go, how you get there, or what you do that makes a journey good or bad. It is your own **ATTITUDE** that matters the most. A good attitude makes a journey good. A bad attitude makes a journey bad.

Circle the words that remind you of a **good** attitude. Draw a line under the words that remind you of a **bad** attitude.

smile	complain	frown	pester
whine	cooperate	share	respect
obey	pout	be satisfied	want more
be patient	be polite	argue	be pleasant

During Lent, you will go on a journey with Jesus. It is called a spiritual journey. With Jesus, you will fast, do good works, and pray. As it does with other journeys, your attitude will make your Lenten journey a good one or a bad one.

MAKE PLANS FOR YOUR JOURNEY WITH JESUS.

First, fill in the blank with your own idea. Next, circle the word that will make your journey with Jesus a **GOOD** one.

On my journey with Jesus...

- 1 I will do a **good work** when I _____.
While I'm doing a good work, I will **POUT * SMILE * WHINE**
- 2 I will **pray** when _____.
When I pray, I will **BE PATIENT * FROWN * COMPLAIN**
- 3 I will **fast** by doing without _____.
While I'm fasting, I will **ARGUE * WANT MORE * BE SATISFIED**

Today's Gospel » Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18

On my journey with Jesus, I learned it was important how you do good works, pray, and fast.



Jesus said, “Don’t show off to others how holy you are. If you do, my Father will not reward you in heaven” (6:1).

Today, Jesus tells us how to have a good attitude when we do good works, pray, and fast. We must do them right. **Check the correct meaning to Jesus’ words.**

Doing good works means helping someone who needs it. When you do this, Jesus says, “Do not sound a trumpet before you” (6:2).

WHAT DOES HE MEAN?

- ☐ Don’t blow a horn when you give money at church.
- ☐ Don’t help others just so people will praise you.

Praying is talking with God. Jesus says not to stand and pray on street corners but to pray behind closed doors (6:5-6).

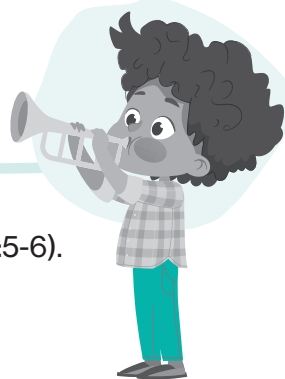
WHAT DOES HE MEAN?

- ☐ Don’t pray outside.
- ☐ Don’t pray just so other people will think you are holy.

Fasting means giving up something you really like. It can be something you eat, like candy, or a bad habit, like pushing ahead in line. When you fast, Jesus says to fast in secret (6:18).

WHAT DOES HE MEAN?

- ☐ Don’t let anyone see you skip the candy bowl at Grandma’s.
- ☐ Don’t make a big show of skipping the candy bowl just so others will see how good you are.



Today's Gospel » Luke 9:22-25

*On my journey with Jesus, I learned
that I must carry a cross.*

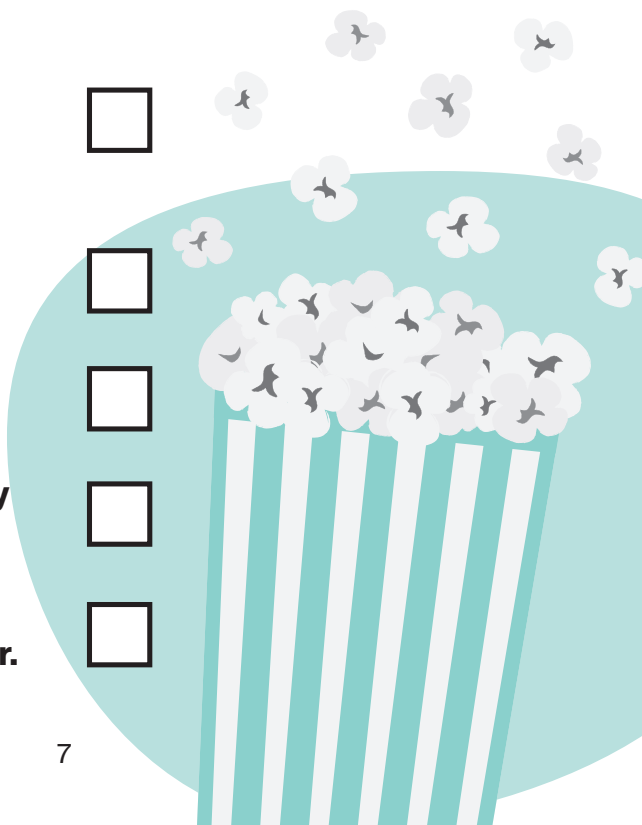


Jesus said, “Anyone who follows me must put others before themselves. They must take up their crosses every day” (9:23).

To take up your cross means to accept cheerfully the hard things in your life. Doing good works, praying, and fasting can be hard.

Here are some crosses you might have to bear. If the cross is a good work, write **GW** in the box. If it is praying, write **P** in the box. If it is fasting, write **F** in the box.

- 1 Sweep the kitchen without being told.
- 2 When you hear a siren, ask God to be with the people who need help.
- 3 Skip the popcorn at the movies.
- 4 Give your snack money to the missions.
- 5 Read or tell a bedtime story to your little sister.

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Today's Gospel » Matthew 9:14-15

On my journey with Jesus, we met some followers of his cousin John.



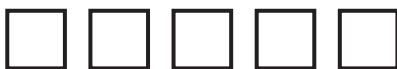
John's followers asked Jesus, "Why do we have to fast so often, but your followers do not?" Jesus said: "When the bridegroom is still at the wedding, everyone celebrates" (9:14-15).

Jesus liked to answer questions by giving examples or by telling stories. Today he gave the example of a wedding. He is like the bridegroom, and his followers are like the guests. As long as he stays with his guests, everyone eats and visits and has fun. No one fasts.

Jesus knew that when he died, his followers would be sad.

Decode this message to find out what they would do.

A	D	E	F	H	L	N	O	S	T	U	W	Y



Today's Gospel » Luke 5:27-32

On my journey with Jesus, I learned that he came to help those who needed him.



Jesus asked Levi, a tax collector, to follow him. Levi followed. Later Levi invited Jesus to his home for dinner with some other tax collectors. Jesus went (5:27-29).

At that time, most tax collectors cheated people. Nobody liked them. So people were not happy to see Jesus eat dinner with them and be nice to them. They asked Jesus why he did this.

Here is what Jesus told the people, but some of the vowels are missing from the words. **Choose an A or an O to complete the quote.**

PE__PLE WH__ __RE WELL
D__ N__T NEED __ D__CT__R.
SICK PE__PLE D__.

I H__VE C__ME N__T T__
C__LL G__ __D PE__PLE
BUT T__ C__LL SINNERS.