

***Nurturing Faith...
Every Day in Every Way***



February 25, 2018

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms 22:23-31 (27)

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38



The Game of Life. Object: Game of Life board game.

Do you like to play board games? One of the most popular board games of all time is called "The Game of Life."

The "Game of Life" is played very much like real life. At the beginning of the game, each player must choose what path he or she is going to take in their journey through life. Just as in real life, you have many choices along the way, but what happens to you in the "Game of Life" depends on the choices you make. At the end of the game, the player with the most money wins. Is that true in real life? Today we will see what Jesus had to say about that.

In our Bible reading today, Jesus was teaching his followers about life. He said to them, "If you want to be my follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Gospel, you will save it. After all, what good is it if you gain the whole world, but lose your own soul?"

Some people live as if the most important thing in life is getting more stuff—big houses, fancy cars, and pretty clothes. Others live as if the most important thing in life is following Jesus and serving him. How do they do that? By loving other people and doing good things for them. When Jesus lived on earth, everything he did was for others.

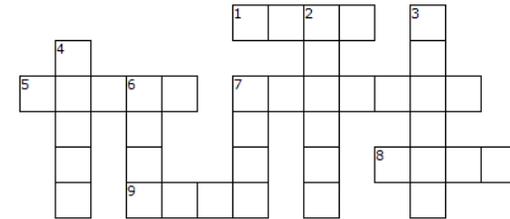
How about you? Begin to think about others in the same loving way you think about yourself.

Dear Father, we want to follow the example that Jesus set. We want to give up our selfish ways and give our lives in love and service to others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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Gospel Acclamation: May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world is crucified to me, and I to the world. (Gal. 6:14)

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- The period between birth and death
- The object upon which Jesus was crucified
- To care about what you want without thinking of others
- To refuse to allow yourself something
- To no longer have something because it has been taken away

DOWN

- To be guided by someone else; to go behind
- The teachings of Jesus and the Apostles
- A large number of people gathered together
- The part of a person that continues to live after a person dies
- To keep someone or something safe from harm

FOLLOW	CROWD	SELFISH	LIFE	SOUL
GOSPEL	LOSE	SAVE	CROSS	DENY

MEMORY VERSE BAG: Supply the child with a paper lunch bag and markers to decorate the bag with pictures of today's theme of the GAME OF LIFE. The child can draw choices of what they want to be when they grow up, what their family might look like, if they will have pets, etc. Have today's Bible verse (Mark 8:34) written out and cut into several pieces and put into their brown bag. Then let the child take the verse out of their bag and try to put the verse together. Encourage the child to give the bag to another member of the family to see if that family member can put the Bible verse together.



I WILL FOLLOW JESUS, OUR LEADER

