

Weekly Word

Lent Devotional

2021

by

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WEEKLY WORD

HOW TO USE THIS DEVOTIONAL:

Each week of Lent will focus on one word. There is a reflection on each of the words on the following pages. Read the reflection at the beginning of the week. Keep it in mind as you read the verses for that week. The verses are listed below the reflections on the words, and they are also all listed together in a daily reading chart for you to print, if that is easier. Most days the reading is short, just a few verses. Some days there are several verses or a story to read.

COLORING PAGES:

At the end of this devotional you will find a coloring page for each of the words. This is a great way to include kids, but adults may want to color too! Print the pages each week and post them somewhere to remind you of the word all week.

May God meet you in these readings and in this season.

MERCY – Mercy is showing forgiveness and compassion when it is within one’s power to do harm. We sometimes use the phrase, “at the mercy of” to describe being under the power of another. Mercy is always the job of the one in power. That we are recipients of God’s mercy highlights the fact that we are helpless on our own. It is only because of God’s character that we are not hopeless. God showed mercy on the cross, that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. God shows us mercy every day, by sustaining us and providing for us. How have you experienced God’s mercy this week or this year? How have you extended that mercy to others?

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MERCY				2/17 (Ash Wed) Psalm 51:1-2	2/18 Exodus 33:19	2/19 Luke 6:32-36	2/20 Ephesians 2:4-5

COMPASSION – Compassion is the foundation for mercy. Compassion is sympathetic. It is a concern for the suffering or misfortune of others. It is out of God’s compassion, out of his concern for us, that God shows us mercy. God doesn’t look upon us with indifference, but with feeling, with sympathy, and with care. Our God cares deeply for us, and for our wellbeing. God’s compassion is what compels him to save us from our helpless state of sinfulness. Even the hairs on your head are numbered. Can you think of a time you have had compassion on another? How does that help you think about God’s compassion for you? It’s humbling to know that the God of the universe has compassion for each one of us.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
COMPASSION	2/21 Isaiah 49:13	2/22 Isaiah 63:7	2/23 Isaiah 54:10	2/24 Psalm 145:8-13	2/25 Matthew 9:35-38	2/26 Psalm 103:1-5	2/27 Luke 15:11-32

REPENTANCE — The Greek word in our Bibles that we translate as “repent” means to change your purpose. It is sometimes described as turning and heading in the other direction, like making a U-turn. Repentance should spur us to confession, but it is more than being sorry. Repentance is actively moving in a new direction, away from sin, and toward life with God. God’s compassion and mercy make a way for repentance. Jesus invites us to turn and head in a new direction, and embark on a new journey with him. Have you repented? Are there things from which you still need to repent or turn away? God calls us to repent and believe.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
REPENTANCE	2/28 Ezekiel 18:30	3/1 Ezekiel 18:31-32	3/2 Mark 1:4-5	3/3 2 Corinthians 7:10	3/4 Acts 2:38	3/5 Matthew 4:12-17	3/6 Luke 5:31-32

JUSTICE — Justice is about fairness. Dating back to ancient Rome, the image of a scale has been used to illustrate justice, symbolizing fair distribution of the law without bias. The rich, powerful, influential people of the world are no more deserving of God’s love than the poor, powerless, and oppressed. In fact, in Scripture, justice frequently means the relief of the oppressed or the needy. And in the Psalms we often see the psalmist crying out for God’s justice against the wicked and powerful. In the end, God’s justice will roll on like a river (Amos 5:24). The scales will be even. As the prophet Isaiah describes, the mighty will be brought down, and the lowly will be raised up, because God is perfectly just. How do you feel when you think about God’s justice? In what ways can you reflect God’s justice to the world around you?

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JUSTICE	3/7 1 Kings 3:10-12	3/8 Psalm 11:7	3/9 Psalm 103:1-6	3/10 Isaiah 1:16-17	3/11 Amos 5:24	3/12 Ezekiel 34:16	3/13 Matthew 12:18

PEACE — Peace means a lack of disturbance or upset. We refer to times without war as times of peace. Ultimately all the earth will have peace through Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Despite the still turbulent world in which we live, we can be filled with God’s peace. When Jesus heals and forgives, he often tells people to go in peace. The healing presence of Jesus in our lives relieves the disturbance and upset in our souls. When God’s peace settles into our souls, we experience a deep sense of wellbeing, like a tree planted by water, or a sheep resting in green pastures under the care of a good shepherd. Breathe deeply in and out, and ask God to fill you with his peace.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PEACE	3/14 Psalm 29:11	3/15 Proverbs 3:13-17	3/16 Isaiah 9:6	3/17 Isaiah 53:5	3/18 Matthew 5:9	3/19 Luke 1:76-79	3/20 John 16:33

FAITHFULNESS — Faithfulness is steadfast allegiance or unfailing loyalty. God’s faithfulness means he is trustworthy. God will not change his mind and leave us without hope. God will neither abandon nor forsake us. God will not leave us without justice or peace. It is God’s faithfulness that has sustained the earth since the beginning of time. It is God’s faithfulness that meets the oppressed in their troubles, and the sorrowful in their grief. It is God’s faithfulness that meets us sinners in our helplessness. The hymn, *Great is Thy Faithfulness* proclaims, “Great is thy faithfulness, O God my father; There is no shadow of turning with thee. Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not. As thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.” God is faithful to us forever, and in all circumstances. He is resolutely and devotedly for us. He has saved us. Look for signs of God’s faithfulness to you this week.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FAITHFULNESS	3/21 Lamentations 3:22-23	3/22 Psalm 26:3	3/23 Psalm 71:22	3/24 Psalm 100:5	3/25 Psalm 111:7	3/26 Isaiah 25:1	3/27 Galatians 5:22-23

LOVE — In Scripture, 1 John 4 tells us that God isn't simply loving, but God is love. Therefore, God is not only the source of love, but the perfecter of love. God's love is infinite and unconditional, and there is no other love like God's. Everything God does is rooted in love. God loves the world so much, that he sent his only Son to save us. Do you know that God loves you? Do you let God's love for you shape you? How can you share God's love with someone else this week?


	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOVE	3/28 Deuteronomy 6:4-5	3/29 Deuteronomy 11:12-14	3/30 Psalm 6:4	3/31 Psalm 33:5	4/1 Psalm 136:1	4/2 1 John 4:10	4/3 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

EASTER SUNDAY, READ THE EASTER STORY

EASTER SUNDAY	4/4 Luke 24:1-12
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DAILY READING CHART

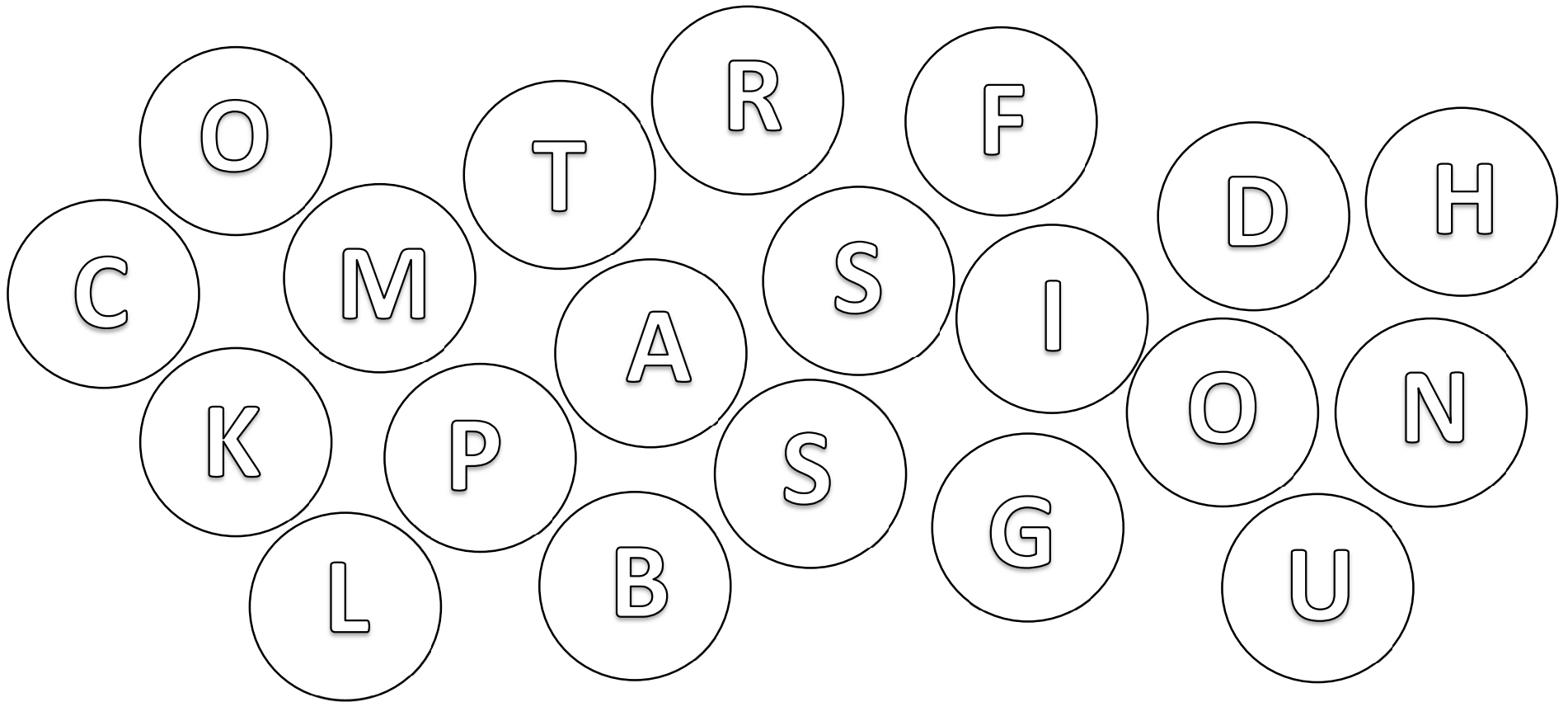
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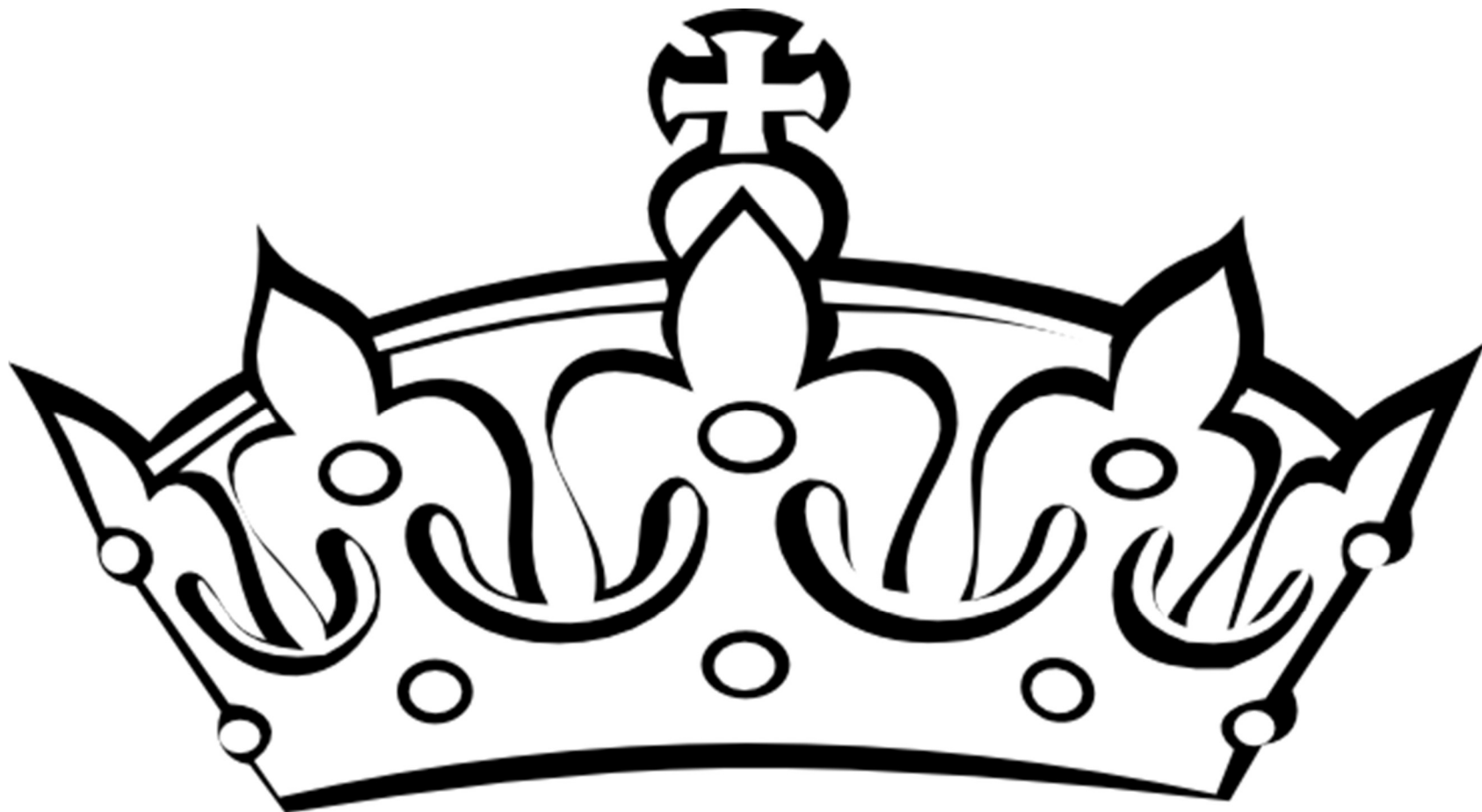
Mercy

Have mercy on me according to your
faithful love
Psalm 51:1

Color the letters in the word COMPASSION



The Lord comforts his people and will have
compassion on those who are suffering
Isaiah 49:13



From that time on Jesus began to preach,
“Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

Matthew 4:17



Let JUSTICE roll on like
a RIVER -Amos 5:24

P	E	A	C	E	P	C	E	P	C
E	P	E	A	C	E	P	A	E	E
A	E	C	E	A	C	A	C	A	P
C	P	A	A	E	P	E	A	C	C
E	A	E	C	P	E	A	C	E	P
A	C	P	P	E	A	C	E	C	E
P	E	A	C	E	C	P	E	A	C
C	A	P	E	P	E	C	A	E	P

Can you find the word PEACE hidden 11 times in the puzzle?

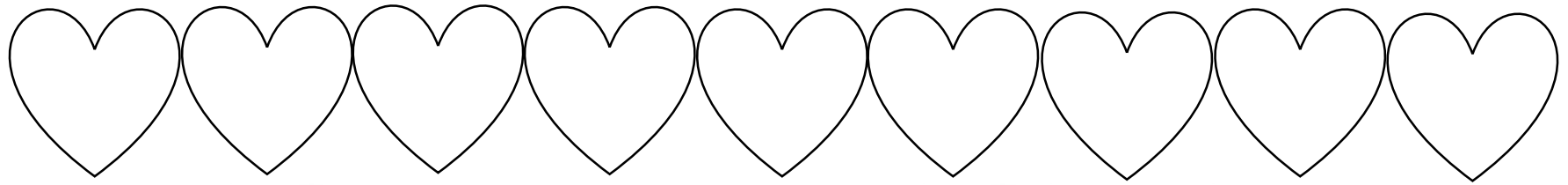
The Lord gives strength to his people,
the Lord blesses his people with PEACE. -Psalm 29:11

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his

faithfulness
faithfulness
faithfulness
faithfulness

continues through all generations.

Psalm 100:5



This is **LOVE**: not that we **LOVED** God, but
that he **LOVED** us and sent his son as an
atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 John 4:10

