

Third Sunday in Lent, March 3, 2024

## Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

*To forgive is to set a prisoner free, and discover that the prisoner is you!*  
—Lewis B. Smedes

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Jess Walter's book, *The Cold Millions*, was one of 2020's most anticipated books. It told a fictionalized account of the labor and free speech struggles in the early 1900s in Spokane, Washington. The story features two brothers of different temperaments trying to make their dreams come true. Along the way, they meet a young firebrand, only in her early twenties, but who is already turning the world upside down. Elizabeth Gurley Flynn would go on to become a founding member of the ACLU.

In this book, Walters tells the following story.

A preacher, having given a sermon on grace in a small mining town, was approached at the church door by one of the miners. The man was looking distraught. He told the preacher he'd give anything if only he could believe that God really forgives sins.

"I can't believe he'll forgive me if I just turn to him," the miner admitted. "It's too cheap."

"You were working in the mine yesterday, weren't you?" the preacher asked.

"Yes, of course," said the miner.

"And how did you get out of the pit?"

"The way I usually do; I got into the cage and was pulled to the top."

"How much did you pay to come out of the pit?"

"Why, nothing," the miner admitted.

"You weren't afraid to trust yourself to the cage? Was it not too cheap?"

"Oh, no," said the miner. "It was cheap for me, but it cost the company a lot of money to sink that shaft."

As soon as he said it, a change came over the miner's face. He saw the preacher's meaning. Forgiveness is free for us — but it was purchased at a terrible price, a price paid by Jesus on the cross.

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Lord, thank you for all of the spiritual blessings I enjoy at no cost to myself. May I be even more grateful as I stand beneath the shadow of the cross to receive them. Amen.*

*Blessings,  
Lead Pastor Ben Motz*

## Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Leviticus 1-4  
**Monday:** Leviticus 5-7  
**Tuesday:** Leviticus 8-10  
**Wednesday:** Leviticus 11-13  
**Thursday:** Leviticus 14-16  
**Friday:** Leviticus 17-19  
**Saturday:** Psalms 22-24

## Verse to Remember

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
 all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house  
 of the LORD my whole life long. —Psalm 23:6*

1. thumb, hornet, earth \_\_\_\_\_
2. little, leg, casserole \_\_\_\_\_
3. rites, straw, word \_\_\_\_\_
4. hat, elephant, knight \_\_\_\_\_
5. arrest, plant, fly \_\_\_\_\_
6. frame, perfect, this \_\_\_\_\_
7. jacket, fever, journalism \_\_\_\_\_
8. weight, tiger, mache \_\_\_\_\_
9. picker, bomb, tomato \_\_\_\_\_
10. ahead, line, away \_\_\_\_\_
11. saucer, buttress, squirrel \_\_\_\_\_
12. association, fall, born \_\_\_\_\_
13. friend, scout, Friday \_\_\_\_\_
14. eye, house, blower \_\_\_\_\_
15. digger, dust, coast \_\_\_\_\_

## ADD a WORD

**Directions:** Add one word to the beginning of each word in the series to create a phrase. For example, to the words **alert**, **carpet** and **herring**, you could insert the word **red** to create **red alert**, **red carpet** and **red herring**. Write the word that is common to all in the space provided.

### MATH SHAPES

**Directions:** Determine the value of each shape.

$$\bigcirc \times \square = 12$$

$$\square + \square = 8$$

$$\bigcirc + \diamond = 10$$

$$\bigcirc = ? \quad \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\square = ? \quad \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\diamond = ? \quad \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$



**Answers:**

1. green
2. chicken
3. last
4. white
5. house
6. picture
7. yellow
8. paper
9. cherry
10. straight
11. flying
12. free
13. girl
14. glass
15. gold

**MATH SHAPES:**

- $\bigcirc = 3$ ;  $\square = 4$ ;  
 $\diamond = 7$