

LOOKING FORWARD

2018 Lenten Reflections
with Greg Wasinski

WEEK 5: PERFECTION

READINGS:

JER 31:31-34 | HEB 5:7-9 | JN 12:20-33

OVERVIEW:

The Lord is continually calling us back to be in communion with Him. This is no different than it's been since the beginning of time. A message He tried to convey through the His different covenants with His people, including the words He put into the mouths of the prophets; still the people did not listen. Ultimately, He needed to offer a final covenant through His son, Jesus Christ.

We are reminded though that the road to being perfected in His image is not an easy one. Christ's purpose was fulfilled through the cross and so is ours. These final weeks of Lent call us to carry our sufferings with dignity to allow them to transform us in a way that unites us with Christ in the hope of the resurrection.

REFLECTION & JOURNAL QUESTIONS:

1. Words can fall on deaf ears to those who wish not to believe or hear about faith at work. How can you change the way you evangelize by living the Gospel instead of only telling people of God's love?
2. Through cries and tears, Jesus saves the world. What suffering have you endured that you can offer up so it may inspire others to carry their own crosses?
3. Even though Jesus questions if the Father can “save Him” from what He has to do, He knows that His purpose is only fulfilled by doing what He came to do. Reflect on what God is calling you to do in this life in service to Him and others in the world around you.

LOOKING FORWARD:

Even though we focus on the cross at this moment, we must never forget it is the means to an end that creates the opportunity for the resurrection. All you encounter through adversity can offer the promise of hope if we all ourselves to suffer in God's grace to get through it; to become better not bitter.

Instead of only lamenting or complaining about aspects of your life that are not going the way you planned, look for every way to find inspiration in your strength to persevere. Allow this quote from St. John Vianney be your prayer: “When we must do something we dislike, let us say to God, " My God I offer You this in honor of the moment when You died for me.”