

the season of
lent



A REDEEMER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DEVOTIONAL

WRITTEN AS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN...

BEN HAILEY

LEAD PASTOR, REDEEMER COLLEGE STATION
February 22 - March 1st

WADE COLEMAN

LEAD PASTOR, WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN BRYAN
March 2-8th

ANDREW "TREE" TRIOLO

ASSOCIATE PASTOR, WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN BRYAN
March 9-15th

MICHAEL NOVAK

LEAD PASTOR, TRINITY GRACE PRESBYTERIAN SAN ANTONIO
March 16-23rd

TITUS BAGBY

RUF-I PASTOR, TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
March 24-31st

BILLY CRAIN

LEAD PASTOR, CHRIST CHURCH PRESBYTERIAN KERRVILLE
April 3-7th

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BUT GROW IN THE GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. TO HIM BE THE GLORY BOTH NOW AND TO THE DAY OF ETERNITY. AMEN.

II PETER 3:18

My earliest childhood memories of Lent were most informed by McDonald's, king cakes, Mardi Gras parades, and Doubloons (affectionately pronounced "Deblooms" for those of us who didn't know any better). I grew up on the MS Gulf Coast close to New Orleans and had a ton of Catholic friends. On Friday's when we had an away high school baseball game, they would always order Filet-o-Fish off the menu, because they fasted from "meat" on those Fridays during Lent. Over the years, though, I've grown to appreciate the long tradition of seasons in the Church. These are occasions when the Church can focus on specific aspects of the Christian faith, particularly focusing on Christ in unique ways. For example, we celebrate Advent as a season of not only thanksgiving that Christ has come, but to ignite afresh our longing that he will come again. We celebrate Epiphany as we focus on the missional heart of God, the abundance of life we have in Christ, and the light of Christ as the light of the world. We come now to the season of Lent. Our friend Joe Dentici summarizes the point well, "Lent is a season of owning that our flesh has a profound influence in our lives, and we are slower to repent than we want to admit. It's not a season of self-flagellation, however. It calls us to repentance in pointed ways as

we fly to the Lord Jesus." While we do not believe that observing Lent is a biblical mandate, or even a mandate of the church, we believe that spiritual formation and spiritual disciplines in the Scriptures are a thing. Church seasons like Lent, for example, provide some definite structure in which we can corporately cultivate a deeper sense of our separation from God because of our sin, and at the same time a sense of Christ's great sacrifice for us on the Cross, and his victory over the grave in the Resurrection. We hope this devotional aids you in this season to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." -2 Peter 3:18.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Ben Hailey

Redeemer Presbyterian Church

