

Look to the Cross



A Children's Sermon for the Start of Lent

LOOK to the CROSS

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Boys and girls, Lent is a season when we think about the cross, right? What happened on that cross so long ago? *(Allow the children to respond.)* That's right! Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. That's something very special that we need to remember, isn't it?

To help you remember and think about the cross during Lent, I want you to be on the lookout for cross shapes during this special season. Let's look around this church first. Where do you see a cross? *(Allow the children to point out various crosses they find in your worship space on the altar, paraments, pews, robes, a processional cross, necklaces, etc.)* Good job, boys and girls! These crosses in church help us to remember that Jesus is here with us, that he loves us and cared for us so much that he died for us.

Now I want you to think about where you might see crosses outside of this church building. Can you think of any cross shapes you might see outside of church? *(Allow the children to respond.)* Good ones! I thought of a few that I would like to mention. The **street sign** that indicates that there is an intersection coming up has a cross on it and can remind us that Jesus is with us as we travel in the car. Some **hospitals** have a big cross on them and that helps us to remember that Jesus is with those who are sick and in pain. The tops of **telephone poles** often look like crosses and that makes me think that Jesus is with us as we communicate with one another over the phone.

To help you remember Jesus and the cross during Lent, I have a coloring sheet to give you with the image of the cross. Color it and put it in a place where you will see it each day. Think of how you can be "cross-eyed" for Jesus, looking for ways in which Jesus is present in your life today. Let's fold our hands and pray.

Dear Jesus, this season we remember how you set your eyes on the cross and journeyed there in our place. Thank you for your great sacrifice. Thank you for your forgiveness. Help us to keep our eyes on the cross this Lent. It is a reminder of your eternal love for us. In your name we pray. Amen.

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A Coloring Sheet
for Lent

During the season of Lent we
follow Jesus on his journey to
the cross. Color this Lenten
cross and hang it up in your
room until Easter.

