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# Journeying Through the Gospels in Lent

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**Saturday  
March 8<sup>th</sup> 2014**

## Daily Devotional

*“Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise”*

### Collect:

Almighty and ever-living God, look with compassion on my weakness and assure me of your protection this day by stretching forth the right hand of your majesty. I pray through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

### The Readings:

Luke 5: 27-32

### Daily Meditation:

Today is our first Saturday of Lent. Each of the Saturdays of Lent are more upbeat and "lighter" in tone. We are preparing for Sunday. I encourage you to continue reading Isaiah chapter 58. We continue to follow the **four steps** which is our personal self-examination. regarding what true fasting is for us this Lent. Ask yourself what habits will you change?

### Daily Reflection

I will always and everywhere give thanks to Christ my Savior, and ask him with confidence: Lord, help me with your grace. May I keep my body pure, as a temple of your Holy Spirit. May I offer myself today to the service of others, and do your will in all things throughout the day. Teach me to seek the bread of everlasting life, the bread that is your gift. Lord, may your Holy Spirit intercede for me today, for words fail me as I see your loving forgiveness.

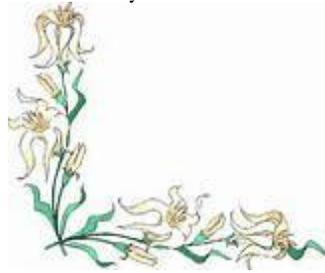
### Closing Prayer:

Loving creator, I am not asking to overcome my weaknesses, but to use it in some way to glorify you. Let me be aware of the many ways you reach out to help me today and let me stand in awe of the power that you use in such loving ways, for I acknowledge that my weakness if made perfect in your power. Amen

### Luke 5:27-32

The Message (MSG)

<sup>27-28</sup> After this he went out and saw a man named Levi at his work collecting taxes. Jesus said, “Come along with me.” And he did—walked away from everything and went with him. <sup>29-30</sup> Levi gave a large dinner at his home for Jesus. Everybody was there, tax men and other disreputable characters as guests at the dinner. The Pharisees and their religion scholars came to his disciples greatly offended. “What is he doing eating and drinking with crooks and ‘sinners’?” <sup>31-32</sup> Jesus heard about it and spoke up, “Who needs a doctor: the healthy or the sick? I’m here inviting outsiders, not insiders—an invitation to a changed life, changed inside and out.”



*May the Lord bless us,  
protect us from all evil  
and bring us to everlasting life.  
Amen.*

