

Lent is a time for us to reflect on our life with Christ. Just as Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days, we are encouraged to set aside time daily during this period think and reflect on the sacrifice that Christ made on the cross so that we can have a renewed relationship with Him. Think about it, God our Heavenly Father was so compelled by his Fatherly love for us that He, "made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God" (NIV, 2 Cor 5:21). The Scripture declares that, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (ESV, John 3:16). Imagine for a moment, what if God had not loved mankind? Remove the love of God and everything about our Christian faith falls apart. The Scripture is so full of stories and descriptions about the love of God. But what does that really mean and what does God expect of us? I would like to encourage you to take time to ponder over these questions.

Lent is also a time for us to do deep soul searching and surrendering. King David, cried out, "Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!"

(ESV, Psalm 139:23-24). In the same way, Scripture often engages us to search deep into crevasses of our lives, for hidden sins. When we find them, we are to surrender them to God. I would like to encourage you to make time during this season for 'spiritual house in order and to surrender them

at the foot of the cross of Christ, sins or areas of our lives that are hindering us from coming to God.

Let us remember the purpose of Lentatime of reflecting on our relationship with Christ. Does our life truly reflect the image of Christ inside and outside the church? What do we need to "give up" to fully experience the power of Christ to the fullest? Let's take the Lent 2021 seriously to experience a Deeper Life in Christ!