

Finding Paradise



First Reader (*Gn 1:1–5*)

All: God saw it was good.



First Reader (*Gn 1:6–8*)

All: God saw it was good.



First Reader (*Gn 1:9–13*)

All: God saw it was good.



First Reader (*Gn 1:14–19*)

All: God saw it was good.



First Reader (*Gn 1:2–23*)

All: God saw it was good.



First Reader (*Gn 1:24–31*)

All: God saw it was good.



First Reader (*Gn 2:1–4*)

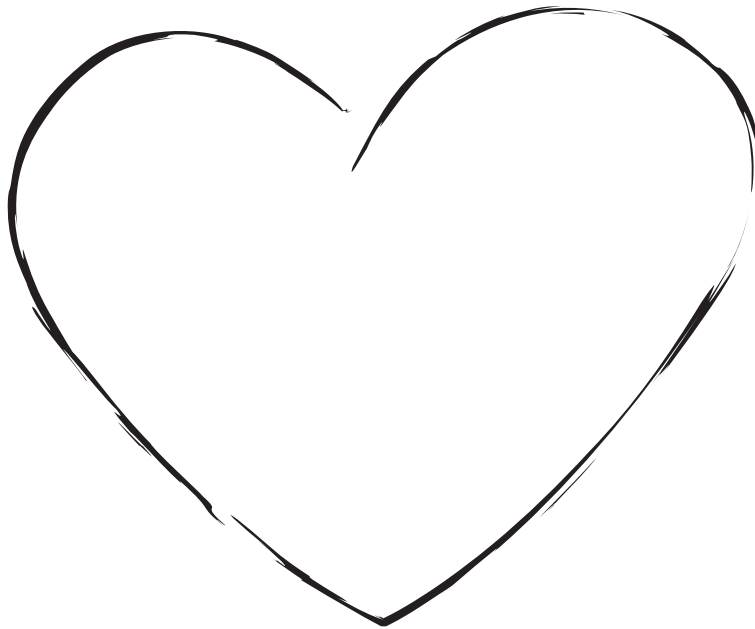
All: God saw it was good.

All: Be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore, be at peace with God.

From *Desiderata*, found in Old St. Paul's Church, Baltimore, 1692

The Ten Commandments

- I. I am the Lord your God; you shall not have strange Gods before me.
- II. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
- III. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.
- IV. Honor your father and your mother.
- V. You shall not kill.
- VI. You shall not commit adultery.
- VII. You shall not steal.
- VIII. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- IX. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
- X. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.



***OF
THE COVENANT***

Here Come the Judges!

(1) Judges 4:1-16

Who is this Judge? _____

What was the name of the king whom this judge ordered to attack the Canaanite forces? _____

(2) Judges 11:1-11

Who is this Judge? _____

What sort of woman was this judge's mother? _____

(3) Judges 3:7-11

Who is this Judge? _____

How many years of peace did the land know under this judge's rule? _____

(4) Judges 3:15-23

Who is this Judge? _____

What did this judge wear, strapped to a thigh? _____

(5) Judges 6:11-14; 7:1-7; 16-20

Who is this Judge? _____

With how many men did this judge need to defeat the hordes of Midian? _____

(6) Judges 15:4-16

Who is this Judge? _____

What was his only weapon against the Philistines? _____

Use your Bible to find the names of these other judges.

A. 3:31 _____

B. 10:1-2 _____

C. 10:3-5 _____

D. 12:8-10 _____

E. 12:11-12 _____

F. 12:13-25 _____

Wisdom's Concerns

- The realm of human needs and concerns and how to address them.
Read Proverbs 3:27. Below, write its sentiment in your own words.
- Offering wise advice on how to deal with seemingly mundane problems.
Read each of the following passages. Write what everyday problem or circumstance it addresses.
Proverbs 31:30

Proverbs 6:6–8

Proverbs 11:1

Proverbs 11:22

Proverbs 14:21

Proverbs 12:10

Proverbs 15:1
- Dealing honestly and bluntly with the way things are by refusing to look at the world through rose-colored glasses.
Read Ecclesiastes 1:14. What do you think this famous passage means?
- Recognizing that God who is and is our creator and the creator of all that is has a plan for us and for all creation.
Read Psalm 19:2–4, 8–12. See if you can sum up these verses in one sentence.
- Searching out the order that God has established in the world and then choosing to live well within that order.
Read Ecclesiastes 12:13–14. Why are these wise words to live by today?

One Solitary Life

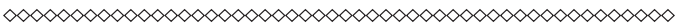
He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another obscure village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty. Then for three years or so he was an itinerant preacher.

He never had a family or owned a home. He never traveled more than two hundred miles from the place he was born. He never wrote a book or held an office. He did none of the things that usually accompany greatness.

While he was still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends deserted him. He was turned over to his enemies, and went through the mockery of a trial. He was executed like a common criminal. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for the only piece of property he had—his coat. When he was dead, he was buried in a borrowed grave.

Twenty centuries have come and gone. Today he is the central figure for much of the human race. All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever sailed, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of humankind upon this earth as powerfully as this one solitary life.

Anonymous



How the Story Was Told

The Historical Jesus	The Oral Tradition	The New Testament Writings
(6 BC–AD 30/33)	(AD 30–50)	(AD 50–ca. 120)
<i>The Event</i>	<i>Remembering the Event</i>	<i>Recording the Event</i>
Life	Kerygma	Letters of Paul
Passion & Death	Didache	Gospels
Resurrection/ Ascension	Liturgy	Gospels and Acts

Paul—The Great Communicator

+ One

Thessalonians

Paul wrote two letters to this Church. Both are addressed from Corinth.
Check out the advice Paul gives regarding the way to live well until Christ's return.
Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1–22. List three of Paul's proposals.

1.

2.

3.

Galatians

Paul wrote this letter from Ephesus. Afterwards, he actually traveled to Galatia in Asia Minor.
Read Galatians 1:11–24. What did Paul tell the Galatians about his life?

Philippians

Philippi was the first European city in which Paul preached. The Philippians were very generous in supporting Paul.
Read Philippians 4:4–6. What advice did Paul offer his beloved Philippians?

Corinth

Paul first wrote to Corinth from Ephesus in the spring of AD 56/57. The second came a year later from Macedonia.
Read Paul's instructions regarding the celebration of the Eucharist (1 Cor 11:23–26). How closely do we follow these instructions today?
Do Paul's words sound like the words we use at Mass?

Romans

Written from Corinth, Paul addressed this letter to citizens of the capital of the Roman Empire. Although a Roman citizen, Paul had never yet visited the city. What does Paul call the Romans? To find out, read Romans 1:7.

Philemon

Paul writes this letter to an individual named Philemon who lived in Colossae. The letter is about Philemon's slave, Onesimus, who ran away and is now a new Christian.

Read Philemon 1:17. How is Philemon to welcome his runaway slave back home?

Colossians

Paul wrote this letter while a prisoner in Rome.

Read Colossians 3:12–14. List the virtues Paul declared are necessary for Christians. Which virtue did he consider the most precious?

Ephesians

Paul wrote this letter while a prisoner in Rome. What does Paul say has saved the Ephesians?

Read Ephesians 2:8.

Titus

Titus was the head (bishop) of the Christian community in Crete. He had traveled with Paul on Paul's third missionary journey. Check out Titus 1:4 to find out what Paul called Titus.

Timothy

Paul wrote two letters to Timothy, who was bishop in Ephesus. Paul had converted Timothy as a boy. After Timothy grew up, he traveled with Paul on his second missionary journey.

Read Timothy 4:12. Why might this be good advice for people your age?

Hebrews

According to *The New American Bible*, “the exact audience, the author, and even whether Hebrews is a letter have long been disputed.” What does the author call this work?

Read Hebrews 13:22.

(*Note:* This is the same term used in Acts 13:15 to designate a sermon, thus, giving us a hint that this “letter” might be a written sermon to which the author added an epistle-like ending.)