



MARCH 15, 2015

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



2 CHRONICLES 36:14-16, 19-23

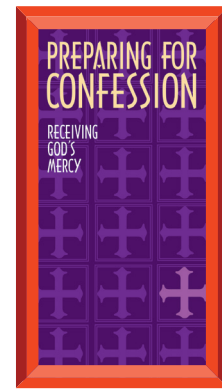
PSALM 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

EPHESIANS 2:4-10

JOHN 3:14-21

## REFLECTION

Have you ever seen a hidden-camera TV show? People are secretly filmed, usually in a situation where they need to make a choice to help or hurt someone else. Afterward there are questions about the choices made and true motives are revealed. Sometimes people behave in ways they are embarrassed about later. Today's Gospel gives us a great metaphor for choosing between good and evil. Like the hidden-camera scenario, the guiding question is, "Would you want to bring this action into the light?" Is the thing we're about to do something we would want other people we care about and admire to see? Good deeds—generosity, service, kindness, inclusion—are ones we are happy to have caught on camera. The dark deeds of selfishness and unkindness are the ones we'd like to hide. Our readings today reflect the themes of how sin separates us from God and from one another but that God's mercy and love can unite us again. If you've been living in the dark, trust in God's mercy to help you make a change and live in the light!



### **PREPARING FOR CONFESSION: RECEIVING GOD'S MERCY**

PAUL TURNER

Interested in having your sins forgiven? This little book is a great overview of the sacrament and how to go to Confession.

## ACTION

Go through a day pretending you have a camera crew following you that will broadcast the day. What would you want to be caught doing? Are there any people you usually spend time with or places where you usually spend time that you would avoid on that day?

## JOURNALING QUESTIONS

- Can you remember a time when you felt like you were living in the kind of darkness talked about in the Gospel? What about a time when you lived in the light?
- When have you experienced forgiveness or mercy?