

# The Question of the Week

Breaking Open the Word

Week of March 1, 2009

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

## 1. The Call to Prayer

**Leader:** My friends, let's pause to spend a few moments in prayer and conversation with each other. [Lead all in the Sign of the Cross] + In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## 2. The Word of God

**Leader:** May the Lord be in our hearts as we recall and re-listen to a reading from last Sunday's Liturgy of the Word.

[Re-read all or part of the suggested reading.]

Readings from last Sunday are:

First reading: Genesis 9:8-15

Second reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel reading: Mark 1:12-15

Reading suggested for this Week's sharing: **Today's Gospel**

## 3. The Two Faith Sharing Questions

**Leader:** As we consider this Sacred Scripture, I invite you to think about it in two dimensions. [You may wish to work in small groups if your number is large.]

- First, ask about the text itself, to draw attention to the Scripture.
  - What word or phrase in this text caught your ear?
  - What story did you hear, or image did you get?
  - What touched you as you heard this reading?
- Second, when the first sharing is complete, ask about the people's lives.
  - Use this "Question of the Week" to help people get started sharing faith:
  - **What is the one area of your life which you most want to reform? What are your plans for Lent this year?**

**4. The Prayer.** At the end of the sharing period, invite folks to pray in one of the following ways:

- The Lord's Prayer out loud together
- Spontaneous prayers
- A moment of silent prayer
- Listen to a recorded hymn