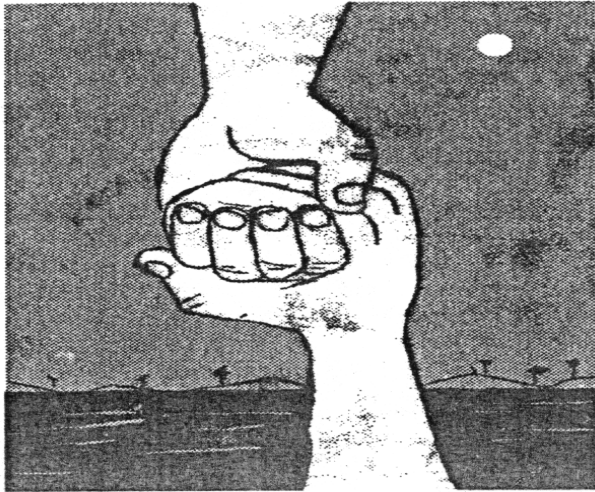


"I was hungry..."



Edel Rodriguez

"I was hungry" is a calendar-can wrapper of scriptures and quotes for Lent, 2011. They are intended for daily reflection, family devotions, congregational gatherings, etc. on the theme of overcoming hunger. They resonate common themes of justice for the "least of these," our brothers, sisters, children, and families in need.

What?

Why?

Most of us rarely spend a day with nothing to eat. Yet hunger is an everyday fact of life for millions of people everywhere. Lack of food and malnutrition is increasingly a problem for many of our neighbors—nearby and far away.

How?

Lent reminds us of those in need and encourages us to become involved as advocate for those who are hungry and in suffering severe poverty. It calls us to spiritual discipline including collecting at least 2 pennies each day for hunger-related ministries in our local churches and beyond (**)

Where & When?

Placed on our dining table during mealtimes, these quotes/scriptures supplement prayers of thanksgiving, stimulate discussion of opportunities for reducing poverty, and encourage action. Quotes with scriptures may also be clipped and carried as reminders of their messages for us throughout each day.

Who?

"I was hungry" is produced by the Hunger Network in Ohio, a faith-based, not-for-profit organization dedicated to end hunger in Ohio through addressing its root causes and changing conditions leading to poverty. Contributors include Deborah Archie, Cari Brackett, Mary Henton, George and Maureen Jensen, Michael and Ali Malley family, Marilyn and Lance Shreffler, and Glenn Schwerdtfeger. They represent a variety of faith communities: United Methodist, United Church of Christ, Presbyterian, Episcopal, and Buddhist-Christian.

For assistance or more information

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* **2 Cents-a-Meal** (AKA "Prayers, Pennies, and Persuasion,") is a spiritual discipline recommended by the Hunger Network in Ohio within partner congregations. Church members collect pennies during family and congregational meals. Once accumulated (every month or so), collections are divided in half between direct service--such as congregational food pantries--and preventive hunger ministries--such as the Hunger Network in Ohio. To use the wrapper, copy with flip side ("I was hungry...") on 8.5 x 11" paper. With Calendar facing out, wrap and tape around a 16 to 20 oz. can for collecting **2 Cents-a-Meal**. Keep visible and handy on dining table throughout Advent.

Food for Thought

Ash Wednesday, March 9 (Glenn Schwerdtfeger)

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17;
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

W. To honor God is to share our bread.

T. God cleanses the honest heart.

F. Sacrificing for others is costly but enriching.

S. Whose approval are we seeking?

1st Sunday in Lent, March 13 (The Malley)

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32;
Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

S. What cunning voices today distract us from the paradise around us?

M. Does feeding our ravenous selfishness, feed anyone else? Or even ourselves?

T. May we, too, provide shelter in times of stressful trouble

W. Surrounded by kindness and love. Do we manifest loving kindness?

T. Gift implies generosity and grace. What gift do we offer?

F. Beyond bread & foods, what else might we fast from to regain clarity?

S. Resistance requires awareness: What is not beneficial? What tempts us?

2nd Sunday in Lent, March 20 (Russ Sawmiller)

Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17;
John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-19

S. The Lord calls us to be courageous

M. Blessed by God, may we become blessings to others.

T. Good morning, Great God of all my days! Nights!

W. Our faith is never bound by the LAW, important as it is

T. What happens to me is not the last word

F. God's gift is ours!

S. There is real power in THE REAL FAITH!

3rd Sunday in Lent, March 27 (Mary Henton)

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

S. God does not need to prove Himself

M. In the midst of our complaining, God waits

T. God meets us in our needs—needs we know and needs we do not know

W. We thirst, we cry out, we lament. God provides

T. An offer of water; a gift of life

F. Open my eyes that I may see all whom You love

S. Open my eyes that I may serve

4th Sunday in Lent, April 3 (The Shreffler)

I Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

S. God looks into the heart

M. "The Lord is my shepherd"

T. "In the Lord, you are light"

W. If you claim to see everything, you are accountable for every fault and failure

T. Observe how Christ loved us. Love like that

F. While it is day, we must work the works of him who sent me.

S. I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long

5th Sunday in Lent, April 10 (The Jensen)

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

S. God, who is all powerful, gives us gifts

M. God will raise us from the grave to new life

T. Our hope is in the Lord who loves and forgives

W. We should fear and love our God

T. Holy Spirit: live in me and me in you

F. Have faith in God concerning all things

S. Believe and see the glory of God

Holy Week, April 17 (Deborah Archie)

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Matthew 21:1-11

S. The stone the builders rejected is now our Rock of Ages!

M. All are blessed who do God's will

T. If an ass and colt can fulfill prophesy, what more can you accomplish?

Holy Week, April 20 (Cari Brackett)

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11;
Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54

W. We've been given the gift of wisdom (use it!)

T. "Sustain the weary": offer hope to those who have none

F. Even when having time on our hands, our times are in God's hand

S. The power to render judgment bears profound responsibility