

Dear Families:

We've been a little off schedule due to the flu and winter break! Hopefully everyone will return next week, safe and healthy!

Today's lesson was on a very difficult passage in the Bible- one of the toughest. We studied the Gospel of Luke; specifically, the passage in which Jesus preaches on the plain. He has some difficult messages for us: Love our enemies, pray for those who hurt you, turn the other cheek, don't expect kindness to be returned. He continues, reminding us to forgive our enemies and even love them! Now, this is easier said than done. It takes a great person indeed to do all this. Humans naturally want fairness and reciprocity. However, with Jesus' help, we can learn to love all. It's not easy. But a kind heart can shine the light of Jesus into the darkest night. It can conquer any evil. We can't be afraid to deny ourselves, bear the cross, and ask Jesus to help us have compassion. That's a great thing to work on as we prepare for Lent!

Today, we continued our hot chocolate sales to benefit Literacy of Love. For \$1, you can enjoy a cup of gourmet hot chocolate! We encourage you to use your own mug, but cups will be available if needed. We will have a variety of flavors and toppings available. Please help support the boys in their mission work! The sales will continue as long as the cold weather lasts- hopefully at least one more week!

Next week, our church will celebrate Transfiguration Sunday, and then Ash Wednesday on March 5th. Lent is a great time to return to the way of Jesus. Please consider joining us for a special service that evening.

Thank you for being with us today!

Carol McClellan, CE Director