



That Man is You!

A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

•Session #23  
•Step 7  
•Make it Easy to be Good and Hard to be Bad



We have come to our last step.

Make it easy to be good and hard to be bad.



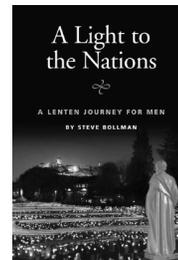
The Jewish School at Nazareth



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Honor your wedding vows.                    | } Sanctity of Place<br>(Spousal bed/<br>dinner table).                  |
| 2. Eat dinner together.                        |   |
| 3. Give some of your time to God.              | } Sanctity of<br>Time.  |
| 4. Set your mind on the things above.          |   |
| 5. Find God in yourself.                       | } Sanctity of<br>Person<br>(Most<br>important in<br>Christian<br>life). |
| 6. Find God in other persons.                  |   |
| 7. Make it easy to be good and hard to be bad. |   |



The Path for Step Seven



“Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.”

- Don't sin: Go to monthly confession.
- Encounter Creator: Practice the Preventive Method of Don Bosco with your children.
- Encounter Redeemer: Help bring Christ's saving message to greater society.



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This covenant is about mercy.  
Superabundant mercy.

Mercy is very important for the  
men and woman of our age.



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## The Promise of a New Springtime



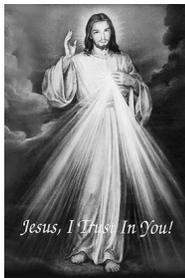
- “As the third millennium of the redemption draws near, God is preparing a great springtime for Christianity” (Pope John Paul II).
- “The light of divine mercy will illumine the way for the men and women of the third millennium ... this consoling message is addressed above all to those who, afflicted by a particularly harsh trial or crushed by the weight of the sins they committed, have lost all confidence in life and are tempted to give in to despair” (Pope John Paul II).



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## A Message for our Time



- “Before I come as the just Judge, I am coming first as the King of Mercy” (Divine Mercy Revelation to St. Faustina).
- “In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph ... and a period of peace will be granted to the world” (Our Lady at Fatima).



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We must enter into the mystery  
of Divine Mercy.

We must see how it relates to the  
mystery of Mary.

A little contemplative theology.



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## The Mystery of the Father



“Mercy and truth have met each other: justice and peace have kissed.”

Psalm 85:10



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## The Wounding of Christ's Heart



“When they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water ... these things took place that scripture might be fulfilled.”

John 19:33-36



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## The Blood and the Water



“The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls ... These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of My Father.”

Divine Mercy Revelation



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## The Superabundant Justice of the Father



- “Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins” (Hebrews 9:22).
- “Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13).
- “I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father” (John 14:31).
- The Father requires a faithfulness beyond death!



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## The Superabundant Mercy of the Father



- The Father “is rich in mercy” (Ephesians 2:4).
- “Mary, ‘full of grace’ through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception ... the ‘splendor of an entirely unique holiness’ ... comes wholly from Christ” (Catechism #491 – #492).
- Our Lady is washed immaculately clean in the blood flowing from the wounded heart of Christ..



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Jesus Christ stood before the  
superabundant justice of the Father.

He obtained for you the  
superabundant mercy of the Father.

It is offered to you in the  
confessional.



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## The Conscience of Man



“Deep within his conscience man discovers a law which he has not laid upon himself but which he must obey ... His dignity lies in observing this law, and by it he will be judged. His conscience is man’s most secret core, and his sanctuary. There he is alone with God whose voice echoes in his depths.”

Second Vatican Council  
*Gaudium et Spes*, #16



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## The Reality of the Last Judgment



“In the presence of Christ, who is Truth itself, the truth of each man’s relationship with God will be laid bare. The Last Judgment will reveal even to its furthest consequences the good each person has done or failed to do during his earthly life.”

Catechism #1039



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## The Judgment Seat of God



“In [the sacrament of reconciliation], the sinner, placing himself before the merciful judgment of God, anticipates in a certain way the judgment to which he will be subjected at the end of his earthly life. For it is now, in this life, that we are offered the choice between life and death ... In converting to Christ through penance and faith, the sinner passes from death to life and ‘does not come into judgment.’”

Catechism #1470

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## The Gift of Mercy



“The whole power of the sacrament of Penance consists in restoring us to God’s grace and joining us with him in an intimate friendship ... Indeed the sacrament of Reconciliation with God brings about a true ‘spiritual resurrection,’ restoration of the dignity and blessings of the life of the children of God.”

Catechism #1468

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## Receiving Superabundant Mercy



“Without being strictly necessary, confession of everyday faults (venial sins) is nevertheless strongly recommended by the Church. Indeed the regular confession of our venial sins helps us form our conscience, fight against evil tendencies, let ourselves be healed by Christ and progress in the life of the Spirit.”

Catechism #1458

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How superabundant is God’s mercy  
for you personally?

Listen to the voice of Our Lady.

She understands the mercy of  
God.

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## The Excess of God's Mercy



"I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."

Our Lady to Lucia  
December 10, 1925



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## The Last Message of John Paul II



"To humanity, which at times seems to be lost and dominated by the power of evil, egotism and fear, the risen Lord offers as a gift his love that forgives, reconciles and reopens the spirit to hope. It is love that converts hearts and gives peace. How much need the world has to understand and accept Divine Mercy. Lord, who with [your] Death and Resurrection reveal the love of the Father, we believe in you and with confidence repeat to you today: Jesus, I trust in You, have mercy on us and on the whole world."



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Can you imagine a mercy more  
superabundant?

Our God is truly "rich in  
mercy" (Ephesians 2:4).

How should you respond?



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## Questions

1. When was the last time you went to confession?  
What keeps you from going on a once a month?
2. How can you better educate yourself on the  
messages of Christ and Our Lady for our day?



Next Week  
Superabundant Mercy in the  
Home



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