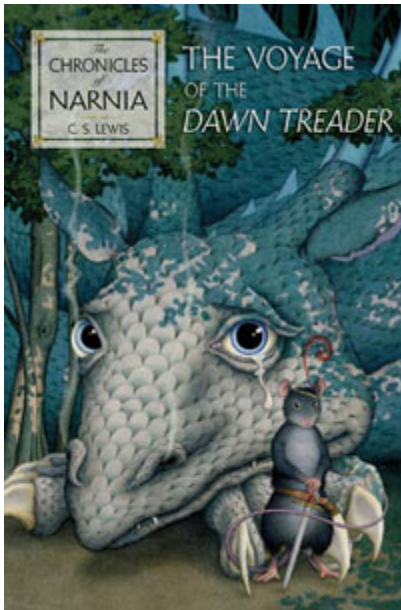


March 29, 2009
John 12:20-26
Romans 6:1-11

Lent 2009 - The Crux of It All

The Cross as the Great Gift of Life



For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin – because anyone who has died has been freed from sin.
Romans 6:6-7

In the sermon, John talked about 3 rules for how basketball players should play defense. The third rule is to always stay between the player and the basket. He said as followers of Jesus we need to get between Jesus and the cross. What did he mean by this?

READ John 12:20-26 and Romans 6:1-11

What does Jesus call his followers to in these scriptures?
(Write answers here.)

What promises are made?
(Write answers here.)

THE CROSS – THE GREAT GIFT OF LIFE

Where/How are you feeling trapped?

How should you respond to this?

In what ways is your response something of your effort?

In what ways does your response allow God to bring forth the new creation in you?

What helps you recognize what needs to die in yourself next?

What practices or disciplines of discernment are built into your life to help you know what needs to die?

What is a hurtful situation you have experienced recently? What might God be calling you to do to in yourself through this experience?

When do you most feel like who God intended you to be?

Where are you being unselfish and caring for others?
Where do you find it most difficult to be unselfish?

How can we help each other become who God intended us to be?

PRAY TOGETHER!

Refer back to the answers you wrote to the questions about each or the scripture readings. Ask God for the power to live into what Jesus calls us to. Express your thanks for the promises given to us.