

## *Families and the Gospel*

### **March 7**

**Lk 13:1-9**

The owner of the orchard in today's gospel was disappointed with the fig tree and ordered it cut down. When others disappoint us today's gospel tells us to imitate the gardener. Don't cut them out of your life by silence or ignoring them. Rather give them more time and assistance. Families don't give up on each other. When others reject, family accepts!

### **March 14**

**Lk 15:1-3, 11-32**

Our words and actions can crush or enhance children. The father in today's gospel did not allow a bruised ego, or "I told you so" to come between him and his son but teaches important parenting lessons: (1) never give up on your child, (2) be forgiving, (3) be accepting and (4) show affection.

### **March 21**

**Jn 8:1-11**

Each day we hurl verbal stones of ridicule, criticism, name-calling and put-downs and they are killers. Jesus admonishes us: "Whoever is without sin can throw the first stone." In other words, no one is qualified to throw stones. Rid your home of violence and stop verbal stoning.

### **March 28**

**Lk 22:14—23:56**

"Father forgive them, they know not what they do." Frequently we offend each other without being aware of it. The survival of relationships depends on our ability to forgive one another. This Holy Week imitates Jesus and forgives those who have wronged you. Stop carrying resentment in your heart.

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A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

