

Established
July 5, 1840

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

We are disciples who act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God.

Churches: † Immaculate Conception-Holualoa † Holy Rosary-Kalaoa † St. Paul's-Kawanui † St. Peter's by-the-Sea-Kahalua
St. Michael's Church 75-5769 Alii Drive | Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 | Phone: (808) 326-7771

Email Address: stmichaelarchangel@rcchawaii.org / Office Hours: Monday through Friday | 9am - 4:30pm

WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES: 7am Monday through Saturday at St. Michael the Archangel

WEEKDAY EVENING MASSES: 5pm Mon Tues Thurs Fri (English) & 6pm Wed (Spanish) at Immaculate Conception

Adoration: Wednesday 7:30am - 4:45pm / Confessions: Saturday 9am at St. Michael's Church

WEEKEND MASSES: Sat 4pm, Sun 7am, 9am, 4pm / SPANISH MASS: Sun 12noon

Gift Shop Hours: Sun 7:30am - 11:00am

Website: saintmichaelparishkona.org **March 15, 2026 | 15 de marzo de 2026**

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Reading I - 1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13 | Psalm - 23:1-3a,3b-4,5,6 | Reading II - Ephesians 5:8-14 | Gospel - John 9:1-41
Primera Lectura - 1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13 | Salmo - 22:1-3a,3b-4,5,6 | Segunda Lectura - Efesios 5:8-14 | Evangelio - Juan 9:1-41

CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT

The future king, David, in today's first reading, is an example of a type of character present throughout the Hebrew scriptures. He is the child born out of place (not the eldest or most favored) who ends up receiving the promise of the covenant. The spirit of God's anointing rushes upon him. In this way, he is similar to the man born blind from today's Gospel. David's family and the blind man's community did not expect the miraculous grace of God's love to work through them. Perhaps they, too, were "blinded" by the expectations and assumptions of those around them. Yet, after being touched by God, they both came to "see" the presence of God's will for them. Both became messengers of God's will. That same Spirit of God's anointing rushed upon us at our baptism; we were given a candle as a sign of our membership in the Body of Christ, the Light from Light. Our vocation, then, is to fulfill that enlightenment, that anointing, as Ephesians tells us, by living as "children of the light." - Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Prepare for Next Week's Scripture Readings

1st Rdg/Primera Lectura: Ezekiel (Ezequiel) 37:12-14

Psalm/Salmo: 130(129):1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

2nd Rdg/Segunda Lectura: Romans (Romanos) 8:8-11

Gospel/Evangelio: John (Juan) 11:1-45



PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.

Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do you, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Aloha! Welcome to Our Parish - We hope you will find our parish community a place where your faith will be nourished. We encourage you to register with the parish. Registration forms are available in the kiosk, or can be completed online at saintmichaelparishkona.org. To our visitors, we pray that you enjoy your stay in Kona and are blessed with safe travels home.



March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16:1b 6-7, 10-13a | Eph 5:8-14 | Jn 9:1-41

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

There has been much commentary over the centuries about Jesus' use of saliva and mud to heal the man born blind. One of the most profound interpretations I have read reminds us that in Genesis, God made man out of "the dust of the ground." (Gen 2:7) Jesus' use of mud in the Gospel suggests that he is re-creating the blind man before him. The man receives a whole new life, such that even those who see him after his healing question whether he is the same person as before: "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" ... "No, he just looks like him." Through this Gospel, I've come to believe that Jesus is inviting us to see that every time he touches us in the sacraments, we are inwardly re-created, inwardly renewed. As we come to this midway point in Lent, let's open our eyes to the ways God is waiting to meet us with his healing love in the sacraments, and avail ourselves of this amazing grace.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our first reading offers a powerful reminder that although humans see what's on the outside, God looks at our hearts. While the prophet Samuel thought surely God's hand was on Jesse's oldest son, God chooses David, the youngest, who was out tending the sheep. In the Gospel, the Pharisees look at the man born blind and think he is a sinner, born from sinners. But underneath is a man whom Jesus sends (the name of the pool that Jesus instructs him to go wash in means "Sent") to bear witness to all that God has done for him. God often chooses the unlikeliest (in our eyes) persons to be the messengers of his Gospel. At times we may wonder why God has chosen us or feel ourselves lacking in the qualities needed to lead others to the Lord. In those moments, let's trust that through our baptism and confirmation, the Lord has put his Spirit in us and has equipped us for the work of sharing the Gospel.

REFLECT

The lyrics "I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see," from the hymn "Amazing Grace" is based in part on today's Gospel reading. The man born blind says, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." Locate a favorite rendition of this song and use it in your prayer time this week, reflecting on the ways God has brought you greater spiritual vision and inner renewal this Lent.

Life of Stewardship

Today's readings for this Fourth Sunday of Lent are filled with powerful contrasts - God's vision versus human vision, the light of Christ versus the darkness of sin, and spiritual blindness versus spiritual sight. Embracing a stewardship way of life frees us from spiritual blindness, helps us see as God sees, and allows us to reflect Christ's light in our daily lives.

In our Second Reading from Ephesians, St. Paul reminds us, ". . . You were once in darkness but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light." Through Baptism, the very life and light of the Blessed Trinity dwell within us. Yet amid the busyness and challenges of daily life, it is easy to forget this truth. We may even struggle to recognize whether our actions truly reflect Christ's light.

A stewardship way of life - with its intentional and grateful use of our time, talent, and treasure - provides a daily guide to help us live as children of the light. It encourages us to make choices that reflect Christ in the way we serve, give, and love others.

In today's Gospel from John, Jesus restores sight to a man born blind, and the man simply testifies that Christ "opened my eyes." During these Lenten days, we too can ask Jesus to open our eyes - to help us see areas where spiritual blindness may still linger, especially in how we use the gifts entrusted to us.

As we continue our Lenten journey, let us renew our efforts wherever our vision has grown dim, so that by Easter we may truly live as children of the light.

- Stewardship Reflections by Catholic Stewardship Consultants

Parish News

Hawaii Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

Our **Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal** is an exciting opportunity for our parish community to come together and *Share God's Gifts* in support of the vital ministries that strengthen our Church across the islands. Make your gift online using the QR code. Envelopes are available in the pews and kiosks. Your generosity supports Catholic schools and faith formation programs, outreach to individuals and families in need, evangelization efforts, and the formation of seminarians preparing for the priesthood. Together, we can make a lasting difference!



Knights of Columbus 40 Cans for Lent Campaign

Please consider donating one can for each day of our Lenten season. Donations can be left in the carts inside the front entrance of the Church.

Lenten Soup Supper-Wednesdays after Benediction

Every Wednesday during Lent, our various ministries will provide a simple soup and bread supper after Benediction. Come and spend an hour of adoration between 7:30 and 5pm in the Church. Join us for Benediction at 5pm and then our Soup Supper in the Grace Parish center. Let us come together to embrace the Lenten season.

40DaysForLife

The Respect Life Committee continues the international 40DaysForLife Campaign, until Sunday, March 29. You're

invited to join us in 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. If you'd like to volunteer as a prayer disciple, or stand up for life and participate in our community outreach, please sign up at www.40daysforlife.com/en/kona.

Lenten Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent, the **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed at **5pm at St. Michael's in English** and at **6pm at Immaculate Conception in Spanish**.

Lenten Fish Fry Fridays

Please join us each Friday after Stations of the Cross from 5:45pm to 7:15pm, for Lenten Fish Fry Fridays in the Grace Parish Center. Hosted by the Knights of Columbus. Eat-In or Take-Out dinner is only \$15 per person. See posters on the church kiosks for more information.

St. Michael the Archangel Scholarship Program

Our St. Michael the Archangel Scholarship aims to empower young adults to become active witnesses of the Catholic faith, supporting students in developing and participating in a faith-based environment at their campus or local church. The scholarship is available to incoming or current students at an accredited university, college, community college, or technical school.

Visit St. Michael's website saintmichaelparishkona.org for eligibility criteria and application. Scholarship amounts can vary and will be determined based on availability of funds. Deadline to apply is March 15. Top candidates will be notified by May 1.

St. Michael Statue Brick Garden

Phase 2 is scheduled for installation in the Spring 2026. Order forms and information are available after Mass at the coffee station, at the kiosk, or at the Parish Office during the week. Three brick sizes are offered, each with your choice of engraving. Let your legacy become part of our parish grounds. Together, let's build something beautiful for generations to come. All are welcome to participate.

Hawaii Island Chrism Mass

Bishop Larry Silva will preside at our Hawaii Island Chrism Mass on Tuesday, March 24 at St. Joseph Church in Hilo. All Parishes on our island will receive their Chrism Oils. Mass begins at 5:30pm. Everyone is invited.

2026 Lenten Reconciliation Service

Join us for our Lenten Reconciliation Service at 6pm on Wednesday, March 25 at St. Michael's.

AARP Offering Free Tax Help

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is available free to taxpayers with low and moderate income, with special attention to those ages 50 and older. West Hawaii has two sites offering service from **February 4 until April 10**. Hale Halawai, located at 75-5600 Ali'i Drive is open on a walk-in basis on **Thursdays from 8am until 12 noon**.

Yano Hall located at 82-6156 Mamalahoa Highway in Captain Cook is open for walk-in and appointments (808-765-9141) on **Wednesdays from 10am until 4pm**.

Stewardship of Treasure

March 2nd - March 8th, 2026

ONLINE GIVING	\$ 3,265.00
SUNDAY OFFERINGS / MAILED-IN OFFERINGS	\$ 11,963.00
BUILDING REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	\$ 8,797.00

We are grateful that our construction debt for the Grace Parish Center has been paid off. Our weekly second collection will be for our Building Repairs & Maintenance. *Mahalo* for your continued generosity!

Offerings can be mailed directly to the parish office; or use our website's "Online Giving" to share your blessings.

STEWARDSHIP OF OUR TREASURE FOR THE MONTH MARCH 2026 MONTHLY DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT: \$14,082.75

The Diocesan Assessment covers shared staff and administrative resources from the Diocese supporting every parish. The new "Annual Appeal" assessment starting in January provides funds for collaborative Catholic ministries and services that extend beyond the capacity of any single parish.

Online Giving

St. Michael's Church provides **Online Giving** - a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy - visit saintmichaelparishkona.org and click our **ONLINE GIVING** tab. Your gift will be securely transferred directly to the parish bank account.

Helping Children with Loss program

All of us have experienced grief throughout our lives, a result of many changes and losses. These losses begin in childhood - for example, when we move from one home to another, when our parents go through divorce, when a pet dies, a first love doesn't work out, or our team lost. The "**Helping Children with Loss**" program **teaches adults** (parents, grandparents, teachers, daycare providers and others who have, love, or work with children) **how to help children to deal with loss**. The program is an action-based program with reading and writing assignments, outlined in the book "*When Children Grieve*" (book provided). Based on the Grief Recovery Method program, "**Helping Children with Loss**" is a 4-session program for a total of 10 hours. This is **not** a drop-in program, as each session builds on previous sessions. All 4 sessions must be completed. This program will be held on Wednesdays, **April 8 - April 29, 2026 from 10am to 12:30pm. There is no charge.** To register, please call **Suzanne Zaw**, Certified Grief Recovery Specialist, before Friday March 27, 2026, at (808)339-7980.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation (Grades K-5)

No class on March 15 due to Spring Break. Classes will resume on Sunday, March 22 from 10:15 to 11:50am in the Grace Parish Center. Class attendance is required in order to receive your Sacraments.

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

Spring Break Bible Campers meet at Grace Parish Center on Sunday at 5:15 pm. Pray for us. We return on Saturday March 21. Next YM session Sunday March 29 at 5:15 pm.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

If you are like me, it's easy to fixate on our shadows: failures, guilt, shame. Especially when we suffer, it is easy to want to blame ourselves or others. In this week's Gospel, Jesus' disciples ask about the blind man, "**Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents?**" (**John 9:2**) They, like us, focus on blame. But Jesus sees the entire situation differently: "**Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him.**" He does not deny sin, but he sees deeper - through the light of mercy, not the lens of judgment. The scene hinges on Jesus' strange claim: "**I am the light of the world**" (**John 9:5**). He sees things differently than every-one. They see shadows and light. He is the light.

Thought experiment: imagine you are the sun looking at everything on the earth. What do you see? Everything. What do you not see? Shadows. Everything is illuminated. If you see it, it is illuminated. For the light, nothing is dark.

Because he is the light, Jesus sees us in the glow of his redemptive love. Even our sin becomes a place where his glory can shine. The man's healing is not just about sight - it is about seeing as Christ sees. Lent is not a season of staring into darkness. It is a time to step into the light - to let Christ's gaze reframe how we see ourselves and one another. **Lenten challenge:** Spend 10 quiet minutes this week asking Jesus to show you how he sees you. Not through shame or fear, but through the light of his mercy. - *Father John Muir, ©LPI*

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent - Gracious

Vacations can be great times for refueling the body and renewing bonds within a family and between friends. No matter how good the vacation was, it is almost always good to get home when it is over. Sleeping in our own bed, taking a shower in our own bathroom, and resting on our own couch are some of the aspects of home we can miss while on the road. That's why encountering truly gracious and hospitable people while we are away is so important. These people are not family, but they sure can provide for us a glimpse of home. They can be waiters at a restaurant, desk hosts at a hotel, or even Uber drivers. They enrich our lives if for only a moment, yet that moment can make all the difference.

When disciples of Jesus Christ act in a gracious manner to all those they meet, they provide a glimpse of home. This home is not in a house in a particular location, but it is a home prepared for all of us for eternity. No matter how comfortable we may be in our earthly homes, it truly pales in comparison to eternity with God. In that heavenly home, there is no darkness, only light. There are no tears, only joy. There is no hate, only love.

We are ambassadors for heaven by how we offer ourselves to others. Our stewardship of hospitality allows others to see a glimpse of what God promises to us. Unless we truly step up and act in a gracious manner, will those we encounter ever know the Truth? I

YOU ARE INVITED

(schedule may change without advance notice)

MONDAY

- Friendly Place Lunches 10:30am-12pm
- Knights of Columbus 5:45pm
(2nd Monday of the month)
- Church Cleaning 6:00pm

TUESDAY

- Coffee with the Priests 7:30-9:00am
- Charismatic Prayer Group 6:00-7:30pm

WEDNESDAY

- Adoration 7:30-5:00pm
- Kupuna Ministry 8:30-10:30am
- Benediction/Evening Prayer 5:00pm
- Hula Ministry Practice 5:30-6:30pm
- Men of Faith 5:30-6:30pm
- Neocatechumenal Way 6:00-7:00pm
(Last Wed. of each month) 7:00-8:00pm

THURSDAY

- Spiritual Book Club 4:00-5:30pm
(3rd Thursday of each month)
- Young Adults Group 6:00-7:00pm
(First Thursday - Grace Parish Center)
(Third Thursday - Ola Brew)

FRIDAY

- Women of the Word 12:00-1:00pm

SATURDAY

- Church Cleaning 7:30am
- Grounds Maintenance 7:30am
- Confession 9-10am

SUNDAY

- Gift Shop Open 7:30am-11am
- Children's Rosary Group After 9am Mass
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Immigration Seminar 1:00-2:00pm
(Last Sunday of each month)
- Consecration to God the Father 3:00pm
(1st Sunday of each month)
- Order of Christian Initiation of Adults After 9am Mass

Baptism

Baptism Classes are held monthly as needed. Parents and Godparents must attend class. To register, please email baptism.stmichaekona@rcchawaii.org

Marriage

Please notify the office and allow six months before the date of marriage for preparation.

hate it when I am on the road and fail to meet people full of joy and welcome. At least I can look forward to coming home. What do those along the way look forward to in the next life that you can't show them a glimpse of in this one? - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPI

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments-Sent

I don't know about you. But if I was a blind person sitting by the side of the road, mind-ing my own business, and a stranger came along and rubbed spit-mud in my eye, I'm just salty enough that I would ignore his words out of spite.

Even though he was, admittedly, super-nice about the whole thing. Obviously I would wash the mud out, because . . . spit. But I wouldn't go to the Pool of Siloam. I would go to a pool on the whole other side of town, just to be contrary. I would make frustrated, gross-ed out noises while I splashed water on my eyes: "Ugh! I can't believe this! People are the worst!" I would feel satisfied that I wasn't tricked or conned or taken advantage of. And I would stay blind the rest of my life.

When Jesus performs a miracle in the Gos-pel, we sometimes think of it like a fireworks show. Something people point at - "Ooh! Aah!" - and move on from. But a miracle of Jesus is not a party trick. It is a commission-ing. And each of us, in our own way, has the choice of accepting it or not.

Nowhere in the Gospel story does it say that Jesus promised the man sight if he washed in the pool. I wonder what it was that made the blind man feel he could trust Jesus. Was it something in his voice? Was it something in his touch? Was it the humanity with which he spoke of the blind man to his disciples - a gentleness missing from most other interac-tions of his life?

We'll never know. But we do know this: the blind man's sight wasn't restored until he made a decision. A decision to be sent.

- Colleen Jurkiwicz Dorman © LPI

LIVETHE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

The Pharisees refused to see what was in front of them. Their blindness was stronger than that of the man born without sight, because it was a blindness they chose for themselves. So what will it be for us? Do we choose blindness, or do we choose sight? - ©LPI



As Catholics, let us witness the beautiful gift of life with civility and love, and with our peaceful prayers and our compassionate service to all those in need. - USCCB 5/10/22

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

- 4pm - Karl & Theresia Rupp, Rest in Peace

SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

- 7am - Richard Russell Gooding, Death Anniversary, Rest in Peace
- 9am - Richard Alger, Rest in Peace
- 4pm - JP Urgino, Rest in Peace

MONDAY, MARCH 16TH

- 7am - Leopoldo Mendez Vargas, Juan Sanchez Geronimo, Mark Weaver, Jacen Ham, Christopher Kanoko, Catalina Ramos, Gabriel Zarate, All Souls in Purgatory
- 5pm - Poor Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY, MARCH 17TH

- 7am - Mike Bui, Birthday Blessings
- 5pm - Jennifer Carlstrom for Healing

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18TH

- 7am - Hilina'l Morimoto, Birthday Blessings

THURSDAY, MARCH 19TH

- 7am - Zola Ingram, Rest in Peace
- 5pm - Poor Souls of Purgatory

FRIDAY, MARCH 20TH

- 7am - JP Urgino, deceased, Birthday Remembrance
- 5pm - Hi'ilei Kaaua, Rest in Peace

SATURDAY, MARCH 21ST

- 7am - George Mettao, 1st Anniversary of Death

Requesting a Mass Intention

A Mass intention can be scheduled by calling the Office at **808-326-7771**.

Mass cards are available.

"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat..."

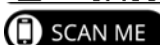
—Matthew 25:35

The Food Pantry Ministry

The Food Pantry is open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month **from 9 - 9:45am at Immaculate Conception Church Parking Lot.**



Use this QR Code for our Amazon Wishlist. Items purchased can be mailed directly to the Parish Office.



Mahalo for your support!

Live in the Light

This Week's Readings at Mass

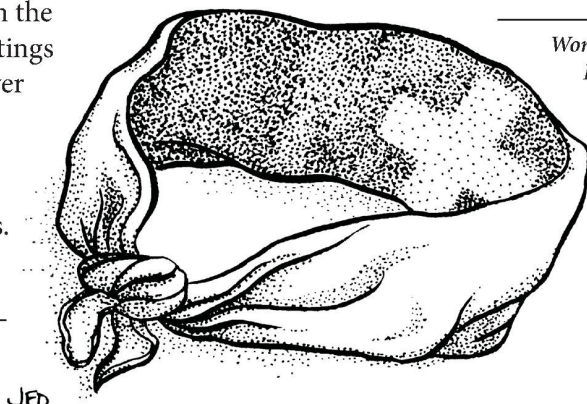
- ▶ 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a • Samuel anoints David
- ▶ Ephesians 5:8-14 • Live in the light
- ▶ John 9:1-41 • The man born blind

“Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth...Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness, rather expose them ... for everything exposed by the light becomes visible” (Eph 5:8-9, 11, 13).

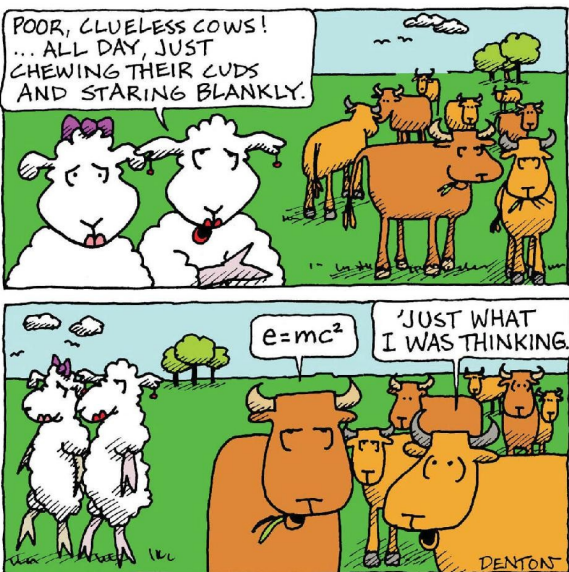
Jesus (and later, St. Paul) had a lot to say about living in the light, doing things in the light, and being honest and transparent about one's words and actions. In his conversations and interactions, Jesus repeatedly exposed hypocrisy, injustice, and greed. He wasn't afraid to point out posturing—people jockeying to sit in the positions of honor at the table or making a show of giving alms. He observed community leaders privately and publicly judging other people's sinfulness—the woman who washed Jesus' feet with her tears and the woman caught in adultery. He called out abusive practices—Roman soldiers conscripting citizens to carry their loads for a mile or using physical force to demean or subdue others (striking on the cheek). Jesus' eyes were wide open to the injustice and oppression around him, and he wasn't afraid to expose it, speak out against it, or call the offenders on it.

Contrast Jesus' habit of speaking and doing things openly (healing the man born blind outright on the Sabbath!) to that of people with power who met secretly to plot his death or Judas who went covertly to the officials to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that much injustice and sin in the world are born in secret meetings of people with wealth or power or individuals making decisions alone without the accountability of others asking questions or raising concerns.

Today's Gospel story offers a perfect metaphor for the contrast between light and dark,



JFD



© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

“Not as man sees does God see.”

Sheepish Question:
How can I broaden my perspective to view life around me with the eyes of God?

seeing and blindness, openness, and secrecy. If we are tempted to keep something secret (which is not the same as respecting confidentiality), that's usually a red flag. If we are afraid of something we say or do being made public, should we be saying or doing it in the first place? On the other hand, if we are “living it the light” we will have nothing to be ashamed of.

Questions of the Week

- 1 Share about a time when you had to “come clean” by exposing something you did to the light? What came of that experience?
- 2 Share some examples of injustices done or allowed in the dark. What happened when they became public?

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