

RESPONSE SHEET—FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

Dwelling in the Word: Isaiah 58:6–12 (adapted from NRSV and The Message)

Reader 1: Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Reader 2: Is it not sharing your food with the hungry, inviting the homeless poor into your homes, putting clothes on the shivering ill-clad, being available to your own families?

Reader 1: Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly;

Reader 2: Your righteousness will pave your way. The God of glory will secure your passage.

Reader 1: Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say Here I am.

Reader 2: If you get rid of unfair practices, quit blaming victims, quit gossiping about other people's sins,
If you are generous with the hungry and start giving yourselves to the down-and-out,
Your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in sunlight.

Reader 1: The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in the emptiest of places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

Reader 2: You will use the old rubble of past lives to build anew, rebuild the foundations from out of your past.

You will be known as those who can repair, restore, rebuild, and renovate, and make communities thrive.

Where are you in your journey as a disciple? What is the invitation through this text as you enter the season of Lent?
