

**March 10, 2017**

**Ezk 18:21-28; Ps 130: 1-7abc, 8; Mt 5:20-26**

Today's readings talk about those who commit sin and are forgiven, and those who live a virtuous life, but turn to sin expecting that previous good works will "save" them from their sins. Many years ago, I thought I had committed an unforgiveable sin, and as a result, I stayed away from my Church in shame. How wrong I was and how deeply grateful I am that I sought help and education in the matter!

Our faith communities and our priests are available to help guide and support us through the rough times. We only need to seek their help in opening our hearts and souls to God. Do not be afraid to take that first step; God is always present to forgive our sins. None of us are ever truly alone in this life because God walks beside us always and, even if we should have a weak moment of sinfulness, God is there to love and forgive us. What a comfort!

Reflection questions:

*Do you know anyone who may be too ashamed to come to church because of a past sin? How might you walk with this person on his/her journey of returning to the Church?*

*Are you someone who is away from the Church because you are afraid your sins are unforgiveable? What are some first steps you might take that will bring you back into the life of the Church?*

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