

Living Life as Sacred Story 2014: FORTY WEEKS

Weeks 36: Advice and Suggestions

The School of Discernment is teaching us that God's communicates with us daily but so does the enemy of our human nature. This week's lesson is designed to help us understand how this enemy can trick and confound us. The enemy can hide his strategies behind seemingly good ideas but ultimately his suggestions lead us to "miss the mark." Thus our topic for **Week 36**: two of the three *Strategies of the Enemy of Human Nature*.

As we go through this lesson, we note that the common theme is *fear*. In our prayer times this week, it may be beneficial to bring our fears to the Lord, in connection with the 5 words of *Sacred Story Prayer*. It is easy to intellectually understand the oft repeated Bible phrase; "Be Not Afraid" but much harder to deeply *know* it as true in our own lives!

A major theme of these concluding "Discernment" weeks is understanding how sin works in us, and how our enemy seeks to manipulate our weaknesses. Yet, rather than letting this fact make us anxious or troubled, we must remember the lessons of our Whole-Life Confession: the Lord desires our healing and freedom! It is Christ who will do this work of renewal in our souls, if we ask Him to make us open.

The [Week 36 E&W](#) shares thoughts on "Appreciation of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist" and "Growth in Self-Understanding." Even if we have not been spending much time with these recent E&W, this will be a beneficial supplement as we come to the end of the journey. These Sacraments and the growth the Lord desires for us will continue to be part of our journey for the rest of our lives –the Spirit wants to use these E&W discussions to teach us!

Above all this week, let us remember the Week 36 Affirmation:

I will trust that Christ came to heal all my wounds!