

Linda Rainey  
March 20, 2018

Today we hear the Gospel of John. It's a beautiful, but difficult teaching of Jesus. His time to leave is approaching. Jesus tells the people, "You belong to what is below, I belong to what is above. You belong to this world, but I do not belong to this world."

Jesus anguished over this message knowing His life was near the end. He was leaving the people He loved -- His disciples, His friends, and His mother.

I think of Mary, and wonder how was she able to watch her only child go through this? When you love someone so much and have to watch them suffer, sometimes the pain becomes almost unbearable. We echo today's Psalm which says, "O Lord, hear my prayer and let my cry come to you."

The reward comes when your loved one's pain has ended, and you know God has welcomed them home to an eternity of unconditional love and everlasting peace. We are not meant to stay here on earth. We are made for eternal life with Him. That indeed brings peace and comfort to us.

Jesus endured the earthly pain knowing His Father's love was greater than anything else, and that He would have everlasting life. For God so loved the world He gave His only Son for us.

Wouldn't it be amazing if we could all live and love like Him? Let us turn to God for forgiveness and strength to do better, knowing His love is greater than anything else.

God Bless you and have a Happy and Holy Easter.