

Sunday, March 11th



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- Whom are we celebrating this week?
- How many steps does St. John write about in his book?
- True or false: all it takes is one big step to be closer to God.

Praying Together:

Lord Jesus,
It can be really hard to follow
You sometimes. Help us to
remember that as long as we take
small steps toward You, we can
climb the ladder to be closer to
You.

Amen.

Parents' Cheat Sheet - Car Qs Mar.11/18, St. John Climacus (4th Sunday of Lent)

- 1. Whom are we celebrating this week?
 - 1. St. John Climacus
 - 2. The word *climacus* is Latin for "ladder" which is why St. John is also called St. John of the Ladder.
 - 3. He wrote a book called *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*¹ that serves as a guidebook for monks as they grow in their spiritual life.
 - 4. Though St. John's writings are directed towards monks, the book is useful for all Christians who seek to grow in faith. Check out *Thirty Steps to Heaven: The Ladder of Divine Ascent for All Walks of Life*, an interpretation of the original text for ordinary Christians.
- 2. How many steps does St. John write about in his book?
 - 1. 30
 - 2. Supposedly the reason why there are 30 steps has to do with the 30 years of Jesus' life
- 3. True or false: all it takes is one big step to be closer to God.
 - 1. False. Though some Christian groups maintain that one declaration of faith in Jesus Christ has saved them, in the Eastern Church we would instead say, "We have been saved, we are being saved, and we will be saved."
 - 2. Salvation and faith in Christ takes time, which is evident in our sacraments: start with baptism, then chrismation, Eucharist, repentance, etc.
 - 3. In the same way, our faith grows and matures as we mature, and the 30 steps of the Ladder of Divine Ascent serve as a guide for that maturation of faith.

¹ For the full text online go to http://www.prudencetrue.com/images/TheLadderofDivineAscent.pdf