

## Gift to the World

John 3:16

seen at sporting events  
quoted quickly  
with the tacit understanding

that God's gift was a sacrifice  
that God saved us  
through sacrificing his son  
washing our sins away

but...  
that's not what I read.

I read that God's gift  
was not to condemn the world  
but to inspire it.

We perform a similar act  
when our child is brought into the world;  
it is our gift  
and hope the child will inspire  
and lead others  
to live as Jesus lived.

How much easier to condemn the world  
than to live in such a way  
that one other person  
may be touched and encouraged  
to live differently.

And even if no one is touched,  
living our life that way  
will not have been in vain.

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Reflection on John 3:14-21  
Lent – Sunday week 4