



HOLY WEEK GUIDE



WELCOME

This devotional guide is intended to provide a starting point for meditation, discussion, and worship as we remember the sacrifice of Jesus and celebrate His resurrection.

Readings

Each day in this guide will include a reading from one of the Gospel accounts describing what took place on that corresponding day in the final week of Jesus' life. For Monday through Thursday, there will be an additional reading from John about the arrest, trial, crucifixion, and burial of Jesus. These will be the same readings we meditate on together as a church during our Good Friday service.

Response

Following each day's readings, there will be a few questions to encourage meditation and discussion. It is hoped these will be helpful whether used individually or with the whole family.

Each day has also been paired with a hymn. Scanning the QR code accompanying each hymn will take you to an online resource where you can freely view the music for the hymn or launch a slideshow of the lyrics accompanied by music. To do so, find the "Present" button near the top of the page and click it.

SUNDAY

Daily Reading

Luke 19:29-44 (2 min.)

Devotional Thoughts/Questions

What was Jesus communicating when He chose a donkey colt to ride into Jerusalem on? (cf. Zechariah 9:9)

Why does Jesus tell a crowd declaring Him to be the King who comes in the name of the LORD that they had not recognized the time of their visitation (Luke 19:38, 44)? What was it about Jesus and His peace (Luke 19:38, 42) they failed to grasp?

How do we wish to demonstrate our worship of Jesus this week as we meditate on His sacrifice and resurrection?



Suggested Hymn

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

MONDAY

Daily Reading

John 12:20-50 (4 min.)

Good Friday Reading

John 18:1-27 (3.5 min.)

Devotional Thoughts/Questions

From the reading in John 12, how does Jesus describe His coming sacrifice in terms of a comparison (v. 24), a purpose (vv. 27-28), and a result both in the spiritual world (v. 31) and the human world (v. 32)?

What tempts us to be afraid of confessing Jesus today (John 12:42-43)?

From the reading in John 18, we see Jesus demonstrating control over even His own arrest and trials.

What is the purpose of Jesus' words to those who arrested Him in the garden? (vv. 4-9)

What is the lesson Jesus is teaching Peter in v. 11?

What is Jesus proving by the way He answers the high priest? (vv. 19-23)

In contrast to Jesus, what motivates Peter's words in this passage? (vv. 15-17, 25-27)

Suggested Hymn

He Leadeth Me



TUESDAY

Daily Reading

Matthew 21:18-25:46 (25 min.)

If time is short, focus on Matthew 22:34-46 (2 min.)

Good Friday Reading

John 18:28-19:16 (4 min.)

Devotional Thoughts/Questions

Pick one of the parables in Matthew 21-22, 25 and explain what the central point of the parable is and why Jesus would have wanted to teach this lesson so close to His death and resurrection.

How did Jesus model the two great commandments for us in His final week? (Matthew 22:37-40)

What themes does Jesus emphasize about the future in Matthew 24 that should be on our minds today as believers (e.g. warnings against false teachers)?

From the reading in John 18-19, how many times did Pilate declare the innocence of Jesus and try to release Him? What prevented Pilate from doing so?

What is the tragic irony on display in John 19:14-15? Are there ways we can demonstrate such backwards loyalty today as well?

Suggested Hymn

Rejoice the Lord is King



WEDNESDAY

Daily Reading

Luke 22:1-6 (1 min.)

Good Friday Reading

John 19:16-30 (2 min.)

Devotional Thoughts/Questions

Given the feast that was being observed (Luke 22:1), what should the religious leaders have been meditating on? What two motives were they consumed with instead (Luke 22:2)?

The great enemies we face are the world, the flesh, and the devil. How are all three seen on display in Luke 22:1-6?

The cross is central to our Christian faith, and it is also a horrific reality. How are we affected by our meditation on John 19:16-30?

When Jesus declared, "It is finished" (John 19:30), what all is He referring to?

Suggested Hymn

O Sacred Head Now Wounded



THURSDAY

Daily Reading

Luke 22:7-38 (4 min.)

Good Friday Reading

John 19:31-42 (2 min.)

Devotional Thoughts/Questions

In Luke 22:20, Jesus declares the beginning of a new covenant. What is this new covenant, how is it different than the old covenant?

In Luke 22:24-27, what is the lesson Jesus taught about how to follow Him? How did He model that lesson in His own life, and how are we learning to model this lesson in our own lives?

The reading of John 19 mentions two Old Testament prophecies about Jesus that were fulfilled in His burial (vv. 36-37). How many other prophecies can you remember that have been mentioned in the readings so far this week or that you can recall from other Gospel accounts?

What two men assisted in the burial of Jesus, and why is it significant that they participated?

Why is it important that Jesus not only suffered, but that He died and was buried?

Suggested Hymn

Jesus Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

FRIDAY

Instead of personal readings, today we join as a congregation to remember the death of Jesus. Please join for either the 5:30 or 7:00 service. If you are unable to attend, the service will be live-streamed.

SATURDAY

Daily Reading

Isaiah 53 (2.5 min.)

Devotional Thoughts/Questions

In Isaiah 53, what did God tell us the death of Jesus would be for?

Why do you think the people of Israel did not understand this when Jesus finally came?

As you reflect on this week of meditating on final week of the life of Jesus, what has made the biggest impression on you? How do you desire to see this week impacting your worship of Jesus both in your heart and in your life?

Looking back at Isaiah 53, what hints do you see pointing to Easter morning, the greatest plot twist in all of history?

Suggested Hymn

Man of Sorrows, What a Name



