



FAMILY DEVOTION

WEEK 4

LAWNDALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONALS

This week for our devotionals we'll meditate on what Jesus did during the culminating week of his earthly ministry. We'll end in darkness: Jesus' crucifixion on Friday and remaining in the grave on Saturday. Several of the songs we include we'll also use for our Zoom Tenebrae Service on Good Friday.

MONDAY, APRIL 6

Scripture: Matthew 21:12-17

QUESTIONS:

- *As we move through Holy Week, we want to revisit various passages that correspond to the last days of Jesus' life. Yesterday was Palm Sunday, Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. On Monday of that week, Jesus went into the temple to cleanse it.*
- Why did Jesus overturn the tables of the money-changers and other sellers in the temple?
- The temple is a place that was devoted to worship and prayer. In our own lives, we should be devoted to worship and prayer. Are these things often replaced by the busyness of life? How can you reclaim the space for worship and prayer in your own life?
- How did the money-changers view the temple? How does Jesus view the church?
 - Do you see the church as a place just for social-gathering, a place to do business, or to hang out with friends? How are we to rightly view the church?
- What were the children doing in this passage?
- What are some things that Jesus has done for you or your family?

Opening:

Zechariah 14:20-21

Sing together

Jesus, With Thy Church Abide

Closing Prayer

Pray that Jesus would grant you the same love for the church as he had. Ask God to strengthen our congregation and make it a place that knows Jesus and makes him known.

Closing Song:

Christ Our Hope In Life and Death by Keith and Kristyn Getty

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

Scripture: John 12:20-36

QUESTIONS:

- Why do you think Jesus says "Now is my should troubled"?
- Not even Jesus was spared from the pain of suffering. What comforts Jesus in the midst of his suffering?
- What does verse 24 mean?
- What should be our role in this?

Opening:

Isaiah 25:7-8

Sing together

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Closing Prayer

Pray for our missionaries in other countries. That they would be planting the seeds of faith and bringing many to Jesus.

Closing Song:

Christ Our Hope In Life and Death by Keith and Kristyn Getty

W E D N E S D A Y , A P R I L 8

Scripture: Isaiah 53

Q U E S T I O N S :

- *We have no record of what occurred on Wednesday. It's possible the Jesus rested and reflected with his disciples and family.*
- Isaiah 53 provides a prophecy about the suffering servant. What are some of the descriptions it uses for Jesus?
- What does it mean that he's a "man of sorrows?"
- This is what our Lord experienced for you. How does that make you feel?
- Twice it says "He opened not his mouth." (v. 7) What does this mean?
- Knowing that he faced death on your behalf, does that change anything in your life?

Opening:

Genesis 2:2

Sing together

Jesus, I am Resting, Resting

Closing Prayer

Pray that God would grant us, too, rest. That in the midst of Holy Week we find refreshment.

Closing Song: Christ Our Hope In Life and Death by Keith and Kristyn Getty

T H U R S D A Y , A P R I L 9

Q U E S T I O N S :

- Of course, this is a huge day in Jesus' ministry. It's a very long night! He shares the Passover Meal with his disciples, he walks to the Mount of Olives, giving them his profound last instructions, and he enters the Garden of Gethsemane to pray to his Father and to await his betrayer. He's then betrayed by Judas and abandoned by his other disciples. Afterward, he's tried before Annas and Caiaphas, and denied by Peter. Then, very early in the morning he's condemned as worthy of death by the full Sanhedrin.*
- Look at Luke 22:19. Imagine you were one of Jesus' disciples that night. Wouldn't you have been totally shocked when Jesus said about the bread: "This is my body?" What does he mean?
 - Read Luke 22:20. Wouldn't you have been absolutely dumbstruck to hear Jesus define the cup of wine as "the new covenant in my blood"? What does he mean?
 - Then, think about Luke 22:44. Why is Jesus in such agony in Gethsemane?
 - Afterward, note Mark 14:50. How alone was Jesus?
 - Finally, think through Mark 14:61-62. What an answer! What's the background for that? Who is Jesus saying he is? When does he come with the clouds of heaven?

Opening:

1 Corinthians 5:7

Sing together

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

Closing Prayer

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for shouldering all the responsibility for the Fall and for my sin. Thank you for how you cared for your disciples. Thank you for offering yourself to the fury of man in order to pay the price for man's fury. Amen.

Closing Song:

Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Scripture: Psalm 42

QUESTIONS:

We come to the terrible tragedy of Friday. About 6 a.m. the Jewish leaders deliver Jesus to Pilate, Pilate then hands him over to Herod, Herod sends him back to Pilate, and Pilate acquiesces to the Jews and condemns him to crucifixion. Jesus is mocked and flogged.

- *Then, he carries his cross to Golgotha. About 9 a.m. he's stripped, nailed to the cross and crucified. About 12 p.m. darkness comes across the land until about 3 p.m., when he cries out and dies. The curtain of temple is ripped from top to bottom, the earth shakes, and some dead people emerge from their tombs. A soldier pierces his side with a spear. Joseph of Arimathea asks for Jesus' body and buries him in his new tomb in a garden nearby.*
- Why do we call this day "Good Friday"?
- What's the significance of Pilate saying: "I find no guilt in this man"? (Luke 23.4)
- What's conveyed by the darkness that comes across the land?
- What does Jesus mean by: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"
- What's the amazing Truth of: "It is finished!"

Opening:

1 Corinthians 2:2

Sing together

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you that though you were perfectly innocent of any charge, you bore the full weight of my condemnation and guilt at the cross. Thank you that God abandoned you to hell, so he'll never have to abandon me. Thank you that you paid in full all my debt of sin to God's justice, so I can be forgiven. Amen.

Closing Song: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

Scripture: Psalm 51

QUESTIONS:

We call this Saturday, Holy Saturday or Black Saturday. It's the only full day Jesus' crucified body remains in the grave. The Jews reckoned any part of a day as a day, so in that way, Jesus does submit his body to the grave for three days. It's really important for us to know that Jesus does die. He goes the way of all the earth. He comes under the power of our final enemy.

- What if that was it? (Ecclesiastes 3:16-22)
- Where does Jesus' soul immediately go at death? (Luke 23:43)
- How are his disciples feeling, both the twelve and the wider number? (Matthew 27:61; Luke 24:17; John 20:19)
- What are the Jewish leaders doing? (Matthew 27:62-66)
- How important is this once Jesus resurrects?

Opening:

Romans 6:23

Sing together

Man of Sorrows

Closing Prayer

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for abiding under the power of death for a time in order that you might openly and obviously break its power at your resurrection. Thank you that we know where our souls go immediately at death and what will happen to our bodies on that Great and Final Day. Amen.

Closing Song:

There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood