

Day 5 – Maundy Thursday (Love and the Supper)

Scripture: Matthew 26:26-28 Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

On Thursday, Jesus shared a final meal with His disciples. During this intimate time, He gave them a new commandment: to love one another as He had loved them. This was not merely a suggestion but a defining mark of His followers. He then instituted the Lord’s Supper, giving bread and cup as visible signs of His coming sacrifice. The bread represented His body, soon to be broken, and the cup represented His blood, poured out for the forgiveness of sins. In this moment, Jesus was preparing His disciples for the cross while demonstrating His deep love for them. He knew what was about to happen, yet He served, taught, and comforted them. The Lord’s Supper continues to remind us of Christ’s sacrifice and love. It calls us to remember, to believe, and to live in grateful obedience. His love was not merely spoken—it was sacrificially displayed.

Object Lesson: Use bread and juice to explain remembrance.

Discussion: How did Jesus show love? How can we love like Him?

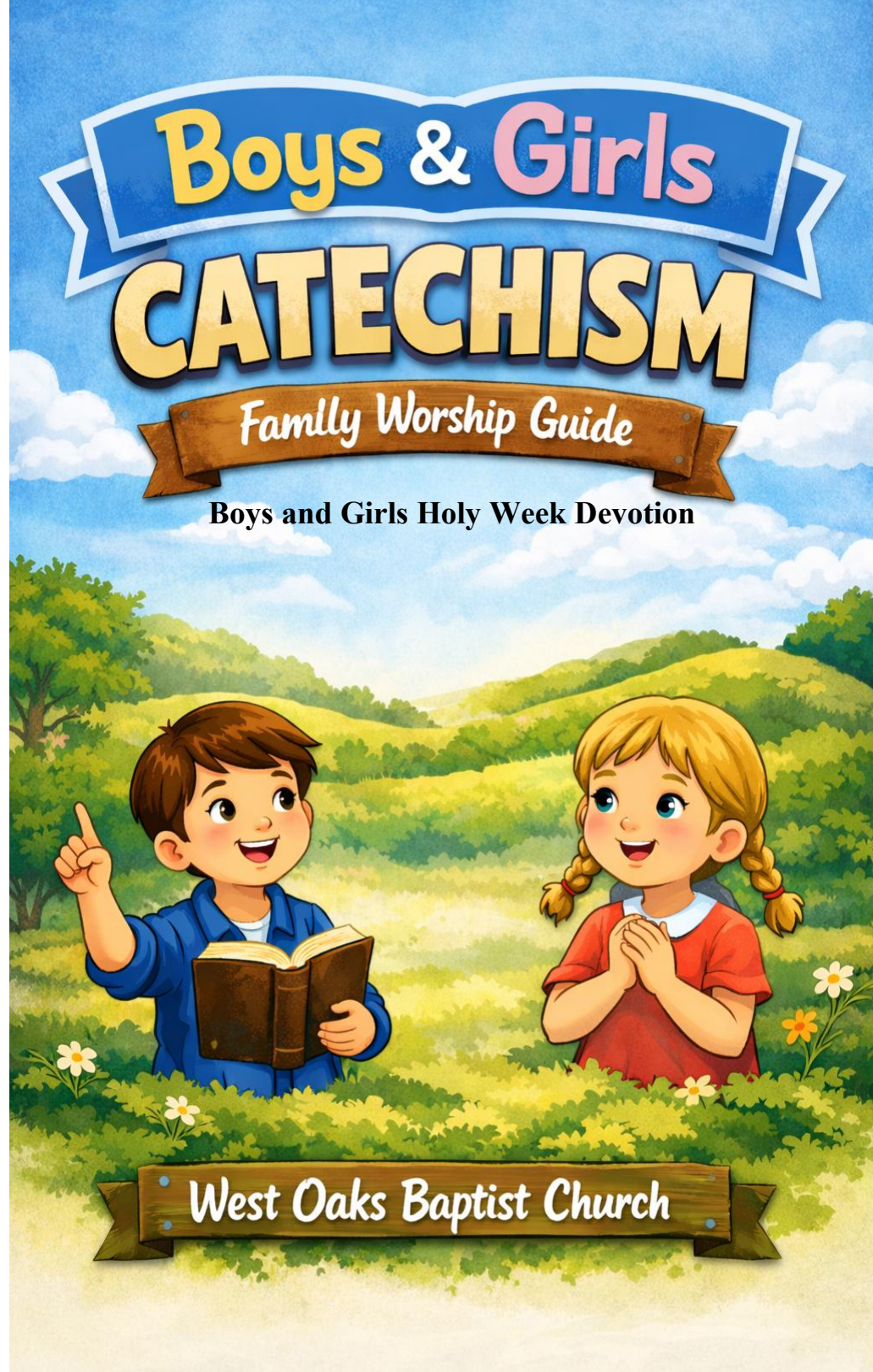
Day 6 – Good Friday (The Cross)

Scripture: Mark 15:37-39 And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, “Truly this man was the Son of God!”

Good Friday is both solemn and glorious. On this day, Jesus Christ was crucified, enduring a shameful and painful death. The cross was reserved for criminals, yet the sinless Son of God took that place. According to God’s law, to be hung on a tree was to be under a curse. Jesus bore that curse in the place of His people. This is the heart of the gospel: substitution. He took our sin, and we receive His righteousness. When Jesus cried, “It is finished,” He declared that the work of salvation was complete. Nothing more needed to be done. The curtain of the temple tearing in two signified that access to God was now open through Christ. Though it was a dark day filled with suffering, it was also a day of victory. Sin was paid for, and death was defeated. This is why Christians call it “Good” Friday.

Object Lesson: Hold a heavy book to represent sin, then set it down.

Discussion: Why is Good Friday sad? Why is it also good?



Day 1 – Palm Sunday (The King Arrives)

Scripture: Matthew 21:8-9 Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

The week before Easter (Resurrection Sunday) is traditionally called Holy Week. During this week, instead of our usual catechism, we will read portions of Scripture that highlight the path Jesus took to the cross and the grave before His glorious resurrection. We begin with Palm Sunday. Jesus *intentionally* set His face toward Jerusalem, fully aware that suffering and death awaited Him. He was not a victim but the sovereign Son willingly laying down His life for His people. Yet as He entered the city, the scene was full of joy. The crowds welcomed Him as a King, spreading cloaks and branches before Him and crying, “Hosanna,” which means “save now.” They honored Him, but many misunderstood Him. They expected a political ruler, but Jesus came to bring spiritual redemption from sin. This moment shows both Christ’s true kingship and the confusion of human hearts. We must ask: do we receive Jesus as He truly is, or only as we want Him to be?

Object Lesson: Lay a coat or towel on the ground and walk over it. Talk about honoring a king.

Discussion: Why did people praise Jesus? How should we honor Him?

Day 2 – Holy Monday (Pure Worship)

Scripture: Matthew 21:12-13 And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

On Monday, Jesus entered the temple and found it filled with corruption. What was meant to be a sacred place of prayer had become a center of selfish profit. The worship of God had been replaced with human ambition. In righteous zeal, Jesus drove out the money-changers and declared, “My house shall be called a house of prayer.” This act reveals Christ’s holiness and His deep concern for true worship. God is not pleased with outward religion that is empty of sincerity. He desires hearts that are devoted, reverent, and focused on Him. This passage also exposes our own tendencies. We may not set up tables in a temple, but we can easily allow distractions, pride, or selfish motives to corrupt our worship. Jesus, however, perfectly honored the Father. His righteousness becomes ours through faith. Therefore, we are called to approach God with sincerity and gratitude, seeking to worship Him in spirit and truth.

Object Lesson: Clean a messy table together. Explain how Jesus cleansed the temple.

Discussion: What distracts us from worship? How can we honor God rightly?

Day 3 – Holy Tuesday (Jesus’ Compassion)

Scripture: Matthew 23:37-39 “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”

On Tuesday, Jesus spoke words of lament over Jerusalem. Though the city had welcomed Him days before, it would soon reject Him. Jesus compares Himself to a hen gathering her chicks under her wings, a picture of tender care and protection. Yet the people were unwilling. This reveals a profound truth: Jesus is both just and merciful. He pronounces judgment on those who reject Him, yet His heart is full of compassion toward the lost. He desires to save, to gather, and to protect. Even in the face of rejection, His love is evident. This should shape how we understand Christ. He is not distant or indifferent but deeply compassionate. At the same time, rejecting Him brings real consequences. Today, the same invitation stands. Jesus calls sinners to come to Him and find refuge. The question is not whether He is willing to receive, but whether we are willing to come.

Object Lesson: Wrap a child in a blanket like protection.

Discussion: Why did people reject Jesus? What does this show about His heart?

Day 4 – Spy Wednesday (Betrayal)

Scripture: Matthew 26:14-16 Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

Wednesday is often called “Spy Wednesday” because Judas agreed to betray Jesus. For thirty pieces of silver, he chose to hand over the Son of God. This act of betrayal is shocking, especially because Judas was one of the twelve disciples. He had walked with Jesus, heard His teaching, and witnessed His miracles. Yet his heart was drawn toward sin. This reminds us that outward association with Jesus is not the same as true faith. At the same time, we see God’s sovereignty clearly. The sinful actions of Judas and the religious leaders were not outside of God’s plan. What they intended for evil, God ordained for good—the salvation of His people. This does not excuse their sin, but it magnifies God’s wisdom and power. Even betrayal and wickedness are used by God to accomplish His redemptive purposes. We must examine our own hearts and respond to Jesus with genuine faith and obedience.

Object Lesson: Hold coins and talk about choosing money over Jesus.

Discussion: What tempted Judas? What tempts us to turn away from Jesus?