

PALM SUNDAY

Key Events

- *Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.*

Read

- *Matthew 21:1-11*

Reflect

- *On Palm Sunday, Jesus makes a royal entrance into Jerusalem as the King. What does it mean to you that Jesus is a King?*
- *In Matthew 21:9, the crowds cried out "Hosanna," a shout of praise that means, "Save now!" What has Jesus saved you from?*

Pray

- *Praise God for all the ways He has saved you.*
- *Ask God to show you areas of your life where you are not submitting to Jesus as your king and are instead trying to do life your own way.*
- *Pray that God would prepare your heart and mind to celebrate Easter through these times of reading, reflection, and prayer.*



MONDAY

Key Events

- *Jesus curses a fig tree on the way into Jerusalem because it isn't bearing fruit.*
- *Jesus enters the temple and drives out those selling goods, flipping over their tables and calling people to remember the temple is to be a house of prayer.*

Read

- *Mark 11:12-26*

Reflect

- *Those in the temple had made something else other than worship and prayer their focus. What distracts you from worshipping God when we gather or even when you're worshipping with us online in this season?*
- *In this time of social distancing when we can't gather at our church campuses, how can you make your home a "house of prayer?"*

Pray

- *Ask God to show you if you're distracted in your times of worship and prayer. Ask Him to focus your mind's attention and your heart's devotion on Him alone.*
- *Ask that you would become more of a person of prayer and your home would become more of a house of prayer in this season of social distancing when we have more time on our hands.*



TUESDAY

Key Events

- *Jesus teaches in the temple and is questioned by the religious leaders.*

Read

- *John 12:37-50*

Reflect

- *John 12:43 says some did not admit they believed in Jesus because "they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God." In what ways are you tempted to be quiet about your faith because you are more concerned about what others think than what God thinks?*
- *Who is at least one person you can share your faith with or invite to our online Easter services?*

Pray

- *Ask God to help you value what He thinks about you more than what others think about you when you are tempted to be quiet about your faith.*
- *Pray for boldness to tell someone about Jesus this week or to invite them to our online Easter services.*



WEDNESDAY

Key Events

- *Judas agrees to betray Jesus.*
- *Jesus is anointed with expensive oil by a woman at Simon the Leper's house.*

Read

- *Mark 14:3-11*

Reflect

- *The woman that anointed Jesus' feet demonstrated extravagant love. What do you think leads someone to show that kind of love to Jesus?*
- *What would it look like to love Jesus today like the woman did in this story?*

Pray

- *Ask for forgiveness for any way your love for Jesus has been lacking or less than what He deserves.*
- *Ask God to help you see how He loves and has shown His grace to you, and that that would lead you to love Him extravagantly back.*



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Key Events

- *Jesus teaches and eats the Passover with His disciples and institutes the Lord's Supper.*
- *Jesus predicts Peter's denial.*
- *Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane.*
- *Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested by the authorities.*

Read

- *Mark 14:12-72*

Reflect

- *Jesus said His death would be like a new Passover, which commemorates when God both delivered His people from their enemies and protected them through the sacrifice of a lamb. What has Jesus delivered you from?*
- *What do you think made Peter deny Jesus? In what ways have you 'denied' Jesus?*
- *Jesus would later forgive Peter and ask Him to follow Him again. What encouragement should this give us for when we fail in following Jesus?*

Pray

- *Thank God for all the ways He has delivered you. If you need deliverance from something right now, pray that God would intervene in your life in a powerful way.*
- *Ask for forgiveness for any way you have recently failed in following Jesus.*
- *Thank God for the fact that no matter how many times you fail, because of Jesus' death on the cross, you can keep having another chance.*



GOOD FRIDAY

Key Events

- *Jesus stands trial before Jewish and Roman authorities.*
- *Jesus is whipped, crowned with thorns, and mocked.*
- *Jesus is crucified and buried.*

Read

- *Mark 15:1-47*

Reflect

- *Spend a moment thinking about all that Jesus suffered. When you realize that He did that to save you and give you access to God, how does that make you feel?*
- *If you were there on Good Friday, it would look like chaos was reigning and God wasn't in control. Yet everything went according to God's plan and Easter Sunday was coming. Where in your life or the world does it feel like things are chaotic and that God isn't in control? How can you be encouraged by the fact that God was in control on Good Friday?*

Pray

- *Thank Jesus that He died for you so you could have a relationship with God.*
- *Ask God to help you not take Jesus' death for granted, but to let it lead you to love Him more.*
- *Ask for the faith to believe that God is in control even when things seem chaotic.*



SATURDAY

Key Events

- *No key events. The Saturday between Good Friday is often called "silent Saturday" or "the forgotten day."*

Read

- *Matthew 27:62-66*

Reflect

- *Put yourself in the disciples' shoes on Saturday. What do you think their conversations were like after Jesus' death and before His resurrection?*
- *The disciples had forgotten Jesus' promise that He was going to rise again. What promises do you need to be reminded of if you're in a season of waiting or silence and it doesn't feel like God is doing anything?*

Pray

- *Ask God for faith to believe that He is still working even when you can't see it.*
- *Claim a promise of God over a situation in which you are waiting for Him to do something.*



EASTER SUNDAY

Key Events

- *Jesus is raised from the grave!*
- *Jesus appears to women at the tomb, to Peter, and to other disciples.*

Read

- *Luke 24:1-49*

Reflect

- *In 1 Corinthians 15, Paul says that the Christians should be pitied if the resurrection didn't happen. Why is the resurrection so crucial?*
- *Those who encountered the resurrected Jesus couldn't help but tell others about it. How can you share the good news of Jesus' victory over sin and death with others today?*

Pray

- *Praise Jesus for the victory He won over sin and death.*
- *Thank Jesus that His resurrection means you can have new life both now and forever.*
- *Pray for courage to tell others about Jesus and all that He did for us on the cross and in the resurrection.*

