



Holy Week Devotional

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Welcome

We're so excited to share this special set of Holy Week devotionals with you! Holy Week is a very important time of the year, as we stop and remember amazing passages about Jesus and the incredible things he did. Each day, from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday, we'll explore a different event in Jesus' life and learn some valuable lessons from them.

These devotionals are designed just for you and to help you understand the events that took place during Holy Week in a fun and engaging way. We'll read a Bible passage, learn a bit more about what happened on that day, and then reflect on some questions to help you think about how it applies to your own life. At the end of each devotional, we'll say a short prayer together to thank God for all the wonderful things we're learning.

We hope you enjoy these Holy Week devotionals as much as we enjoyed putting them together for you. Get ready to dive into these amazing stories and discover the love, sacrifice, and power of Jesus during this very special week.



Palm Sunday: The Big Parade

Bible Reading: Matthew 21:1-11

Imagine a huge parade in your town or city, with lots of people cheering and celebrating. That's what it was like on Palm Sunday when Jesus entered Jerusalem! He didn't ride a fancy horse as a king might; instead, He rode a gentle donkey. As Jesus rode into the city, the people waved palm branches and shouted, "Hosanna!" which means "Save us!"

The palm branches were a symbol of victory and peace. By waving them, the people were showing that they believed Jesus was their true king, the one who could save them. They remembered a prophecy from long ago that said a king would come to them riding on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9). Jesus fulfilled that prophecy, showing that He was the true king who came to bring peace and love to everyone.

Just like the people of Jerusalem, we can also celebrate Jesus as our king. We may not have palm branches to wave, but we can show our love and respect for Him through our actions and words. We can obey His teachings, be kind to others, help those in need, and share the good news of Jesus with our friends and family.

In our everyday lives, it's important to remember the humility of Jesus. He could have chosen a magnificent horse to ride, but He chose a simple donkey. This teaches us that we should also be humble in the way we live our lives. We can show humility by being willing to learn from others, admitting when we make mistakes, and putting others' needs before our own.

Reflection Questions:

1. How do you think you would have felt if you were in the crowd on Palm Sunday, waving palm branches and shouting "Hosanna!"?
2. How can you show Jesus that you believe He is Your true king in your everyday life?

Prayer: Dear God, thank You that Jesus is the King of kings who brings peace and love. Help us to remember the excitement of Palm Sunday as we celebrate and follow You every day with humility and love. Amen.



Monday: Jesus Gets Things in Order

Bible Reading: Matthew 21:12-17

Every now and then, we need to clean up our rooms and homes so they can be neat, tidy and organized. It can be a challenging job, but when we're done, it's like a breath of fresh air and feels like a whole new space. On Monday of Holy Week, Jesus wanted to clean up something even more important – the temple in Jerusalem. When he arrived, he saw people using the temple for business and making money instead of using it as a special place to pray and worship God.

Jesus knew this wasn't right, so He took action. He cleared out the temple, turning over the tables of the people who were using it for the wrong reasons. Jesus was passionate about making sure the temple was a place where everyone could connect with God. He wanted it to be a special space.

In the New Testament, we learn that those who believe in Jesus are the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). This means that our hearts and lives should be a special place for God to live. Just like Jesus wanted the temple to be a place of prayer and worship, we should make sure our lives are focused on our relationship with God.

We can create our own special spaces to talk to God and learn more about Him, like a quiet spot in our room, a cosy corner in the living room, or a peaceful place outside. We can also learn from Jesus' actions in the temple by making sure we're treating the things that are important to God with respect. This means being kind and respectful to the people around us, taking care of the world we live in, and making time to pray and learn about God every day.

Reflection Questions:

1. Are there things or actions you need to clean out of your life?
2. How can you make your life a special place for the Holy Spirit?

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for teaching us the importance of having special places to connect with you and for making our lives the temple of the Holy Spirit. Help us to treat the things that are important to You with respect and to always make time for prayer and to grow closer to You. Amen.



Tuesday: The Great Lesson Day

Bible Reading: Matthew 22:34–40, Matthew 21:18–22

Imagine being able to sit and listen to Jesus teach important lessons! On Tuesday of Holy Week, Jesus returned to the temple and did just that. He taught the people many valuable things, including the parable of the fig tree and the greatest commandments.

In the parable of the fig tree, Jesus talked about a tree that didn't produce any fruit. He used this story to teach people about the importance of being fruitful in their lives. Just like the fig tree should have produced fruit, our lives should produce good things, like kindness, love, and faith.

One of the most important lessons Jesus taught that day was about the greatest commandments: Love God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and love your neighbour as yourself. Jesus explained that these two commandments are the foundation of everything we do. When we love God and others, we follow Jesus' example and live the way He wants us to live.

We can apply these lessons to our lives today by making sure we're "fruitful" in how we live. We can show love to our family and friends, help those who need it, and be kind to everyone we meet. By following the greatest commandments, we can be sure we're putting God first and treating others with love and respect.

Reflection Questions:

1. How can you be "fruitful" in your life?
2. How can you follow the greatest commandments and love God and your neighbour in your everyday life?

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for teaching us important lessons about being fruitful and loving God and our neighbours. Help us to follow Your example and live our lives in a way that shows love and kindness to everyone we meet. Amen.



Wednesday: A Quiet Day

Bible Reading: Matthew 26:6-16

Sometimes, we need a day to slow down and enjoy quiet moments with the people we care about and with God. On Wednesday of Holy Week, Jesus had one of those quiet days. However, not everything was peaceful on this day.

One of Jesus' friends, Judas, made a terrible choice. He agreed to betray Jesus to the religious leaders for 30 silver coins. Judas was going to help them capture Jesus, even though Jesus had always been a loving friend to him.

Sometimes, people we care about might let us down or make bad choices. Even though it hurts, we can learn from Jesus and how He responded to Judas. Jesus still loved Judas and treated him kindly, even though He knew what Judas was planning. This teaches us the importance of forgiveness and love, even when others disappoint us.

Like Jesus and His disciples, we can also benefit from spending quiet time with our friends, family, and God. It's important to take breaks from our busy lives and make room for moments of peace and reflection. We can share our thoughts, feelings, and prayers with those we love and with God, who always listens to us.

In our own lives, let's remember the importance of setting aside time for quiet moments with the people we care about and with God. During these times, we can grow closer in our relationships, learn from one another, and find comfort in knowing God is always with us.

Reflection Questions:

1. How do you feel when you spend quiet time with your friends, family, and God?
2. What are some ways you can make more time for quiet moments with the people you care about and with God?

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for the gift of quiet moments spent with friends, family, and You. Help us to make time in our busy lives for peaceful reflection, growing closer to the ones we love, and deepening our relationship with You. Amen.



Thursday: A Special Meal

Bible Reading: John 13:1-17, Matthew 26:17-56

On Thursday, Jesus and his friends, the disciples, shared a special meal together called the Last Supper. During this meal, Jesus took bread, broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is given for you." Then he took a cup of wine and said, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." These words remind us of the great sacrifice Jesus made for all of us out of love.

Another important lesson happened during the meal. Jesus did something surprising – He washed His friends' feet! This was usually a job for a servant, but Jesus showed them that it's important to serve and love one another, no matter who we are.

After the meal, Jesus took His friends to a quiet place called the Garden of Gethsemane. There, He prayed to God for strength, knowing that challenging times were coming. He asked His friends to stay awake and pray with Him, but they were so tired that they fell asleep.

While Jesus was praying, a group of soldiers came to arrest Him. Even though this must have been a scary moment, Jesus stayed calm and showed love. He trusted in God's plan for Him and showed us that we can always rely on God, even in difficult times. We can pray for strength and trust in God, no matter what challenges we face.

Reflection Questions:

1. How can you show love and serve others in your daily life, like Jesus did when He washed His friends' feet?
2. How can remembering Jesus' sacrifice through the bread and wine at the Last Supper help you be grateful for His love?

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for the lessons we learn from Maundy Thursday. Help us to serve and love others, remember Jesus' sacrifice, and trust in you during difficult times. Amen.



Good Friday: The Ultimate Sacrifice

Bible Reading: John 19:1-30

On Good Friday, we remember the day Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for all of us. He was taken to a place called Golgotha, where He was crucified on a cross. Even though He hadn't done anything wrong, Jesus took the punishment for our sins so that we could be forgiven and have a relationship with God.

Before He was crucified, Jesus was mocked, beaten, and made to carry His own cross. He suffered a great deal, but He did it all out of His love for people. He even prayed for the people who hurt Him, asking God to forgive them.

As Jesus hung on the cross, He cried out, "It is finished!" With those words, He completed his mission to save us from our sins. Jesus died, and His body was placed in a tomb. It was a sad day for His friends and followers because they didn't know something amazing would happen soon.

Good Friday reminds us of the incredible love that Jesus has for us. He was willing to suffer and die so that we could be forgiven and have a relationship with God. In our own lives, we can remember Jesus' sacrifice by being thankful for His love, asking for forgiveness when we make mistakes, and trying to live our lives in a way that pleases God.

Reflection Questions:

1. How does knowing that Jesus suffered and died for you make you feel?
2. What are some ways you can show gratitude for Jesus' sacrifice and live your life in a way that pleases God?

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for the incredible love You showed us on Good Friday. Help us to remember Jesus' sacrifice and live our lives in a way that honours you. Amen.



Saturday: A Day of Silence

Bible Reading: Matthew 27:57-66

On Saturday, the day after Jesus was crucified, there was a heavy silence that filled the air. Jesus' friends, family, and followers mourned His death and struggled to understand what had happened. Their hearts were filled with sadness and confusion as they tried to make sense of the events that had taken place.

Meanwhile, the religious leaders went to the Roman governor, Pilate, and requested a guard at Jesus' tomb. They remembered that Jesus had said he would rise from the dead after three days, and they wanted to make sure that His followers couldn't steal his body and claim He had risen. So Pilate agreed and sent soldiers to guard the tomb and keep watch.

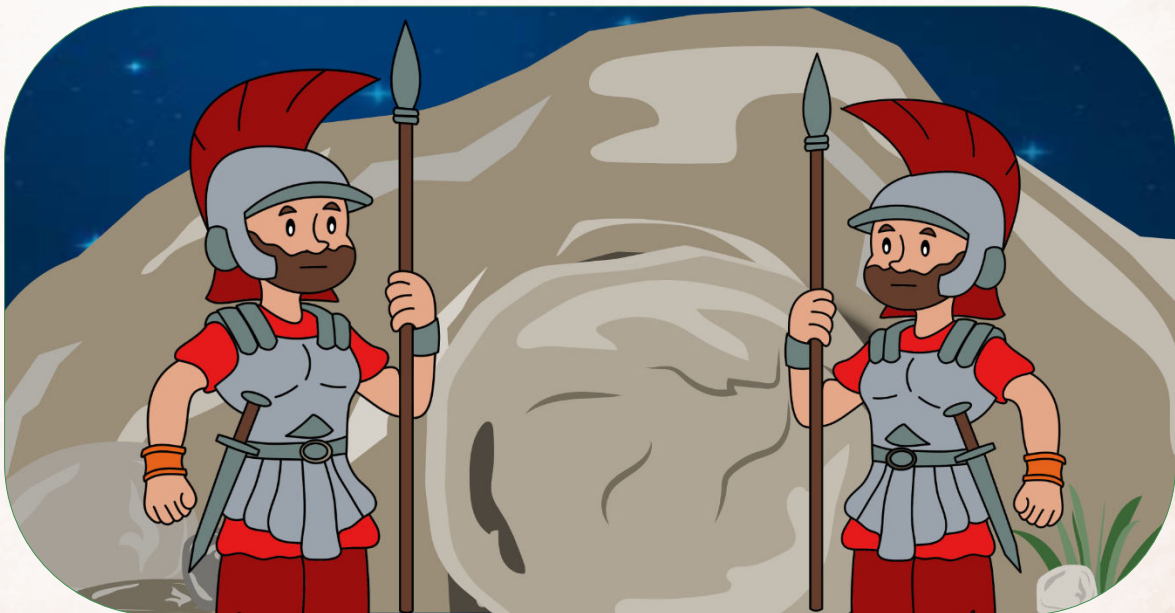
Saturday was a day of waiting and uncertainty for Jesus' friends and followers. In their sadness and confusion, they didn't know that God was still at work, and something amazing was about to happen.

In our own lives, we may face moments of silence, sadness, or confusion. During these times, it's important to remember that God is always with us and has a plan for our lives. Even when things seem dark or uncertain, we can trust in God's love and know He is working behind the scenes for good.

Reflection Questions:

1. How do you feel when faced with moments of silence, sadness, or confusion?
2. How can you trust in God's love and plan during those times?

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for being with us during moments of silence and uncertainty. Help us to trust in your love and know that you are always working for our good, even when things seem dark or confusing. Amen.



Easter Sunday: The Greatest Surprise

Bible Reading: John 20:1-18

Easter Sunday is the day we celebrate the most amazing surprise in history! Early in the morning, Jesus' friends visited His tomb, expecting to find his body still there. But when they arrived, they discovered that the stone had been rolled away, and the tomb was empty!

As they tried to understand what had happened, angels appeared and told them the incredible news: Jesus was alive! He had risen from the dead, just as He had promised. This miracle showed God's power and authority.

Jesus' friends couldn't believe their ears, but soon they saw Jesus for themselves. He appeared to them, talked with them, and showed them the wounds in His hands and feet. This proved that He had truly come back to life, and their sadness turned to joy.

Easter Sunday reminds us that nothing is impossible for God. Jesus' resurrection is the greatest surprise and the ultimate demonstration of God's love for us. Because Jesus is alive, we can have hope, forgiveness, and eternal life with Him.

In our own lives, we can celebrate this amazing surprise by believing in Jesus, sharing His love with others, and living with hope and joy. No matter the challenges we face, we know that Jesus is alive and always with us. We can trust in God's power and love to overcome anything we face.

Reflection Questions:

1. How does knowing that Jesus is alive and loves you give you hope and joy?
2. How can you share the good news of Jesus' resurrection with others?

Prayer: Dear God, thank You for the most wonderful surprise of all – Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday and the chance of eternal life with You! Help us to live with hope, joy, and faith because we know Jesus is alive and promises to never leave us. Amen.



The Journey Continues

Wow, we've come to the end of our Holy Week devotionals!

We hope you've enjoyed this journey with Jesus and learned a lot about the events leading up to His crucifixion and resurrection. We've seen how much Jesus loves us, the incredible sacrifices He made, and the lessons He taught us about faith, love, and hope.

But this isn't the end of our adventure with Jesus! There are many more stories and lessons to discover in the Bible. You can continue to read and learn about Jesus' teachings, the miracles He performed, and the lives He touched.

After Jesus' resurrection, he appeared to many more people, including his disciples and over 500 others. He spent 40 days preparing them before returning to Heaven. He instructed them to wait for the Holy Spirit, which empowered them to spread the Gospel and build the early church. The disciples continued to preach and teach, and the early church grew rapidly. Today, we can continue our adventure with Jesus by studying the Bible, following His teachings, and sharing God's love with others.

Talk to your family, friends, or church community to find more resources and devotionals to help you grow in your faith and understanding. We have lots of free Bible lessons and activities to help you study the Bible at [Truewaykids.com](https://www.truewaykids.com).

Also, remember to share the good news of Jesus' love with others! Tell your friends and family about what you've learned during Holy Week, and show them the love of Jesus through your actions, words, and kindness.

Finally, make time for prayer and reflection in your daily life. As you continue to grow and learn, talk to God about your thoughts, feelings, and experiences. He loves to hear from you and is always there to guide and support you on your journey.

Thank you for joining us on this special Holy Week journey. We can't wait to see where your faith adventure takes you next!

