



PRAYING THROUGH  
HOLY  
WEEK

Daily Meditations  
for Prayer and Reflection

HIGHLAND COUNTRY FELLOWSHIP



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## A HOLY WEEK GUIDE FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

*For followers of Jesus Christ,* the week before Easter, or Resurrection Sunday, is the most significant week of the year. It is known as either Holy Week or Passion Week, and it offers us numerous opportunities to prepare our hearts for the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus.

We pray that as you use this guide, God will move in your life and speak to you as you experience many of the same emotions that were experienced by those who lived them in that very first Holy Week. Palm Sunday, or Jesus' "Triumphal Entry" into Jerusalem, marks the beginning of this week. It begins with immense joy and elation as the people welcome Jesus, thinking He will be establishing a new kingdom on earth and freeing them from the oppressive rule of Rome. As the week unfolds, they begin to experience deep disappointment as they realize Jesus is a far different king, or Messiah, than the one they were expecting and hoping for.

Throughout the week, Jesus spent time giving some final instructions and warnings to His disciples, teaching in the Temple, clearing the Temple of those who had made it a “den of thieves,” and finally, on Thursday, gathering the twelve for a final Passover celebration at which time they experienced the very first “Lord’s Supper.”

On the Friday we now call “Good,” the disappointment of the crowds, combined with the fear, jealousy, and hatred of the Jewish religious leaders, culminated in Jesus’ betrayal by one of His own disciples, His arrest, His subjection to several mock trials, and His eventual crucifixion and death.

On the third day, Jesus was miraculously raised from the dead. On Resurrection Sunday, we celebrate His victory over sin, death, and evil, providing full forgiveness for our sin and a new and abundant life for all who place their faith in Him.



## PALM SUNDAY

*Read Mark 11:1-11*

*Dear Father,* in Your incredibly tender love for me, You graciously and unselfishly sent Your only begotten Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon Himself our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross on my behalf, giving me the most extreme example of humility imaginable. As I consider His humility, may I examine my own heart to determine where and in what ways I need to be changed into His humble likeness. Thank you, Lord, that I am not left to change myself, but that You are even now working in me, making me more like Your Son. In His name I pray. Amen.

### **ADDITIONAL PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION:**

*Matthew 21:12-17, Matthew 11:28-30, Philippians 2:5-11*

[illegible]





## MONDAY

*Read John 12:1-8*

*Dear Heavenly Father,* putting myself in this story in which Jesus is honored and worshiped only days before His crucifixion is challenging. It is difficult to walk through this week without remembering that I know how the story ends. Observing Martha, the serving sister, and Mary, the worshiping sister, reminds me that while both behaviors are important, Mary has chosen what is better. Lord, I often struggle in choosing what is best, when to pour out the precious perfume for Your sake or busy myself with service. I trust that You will lead and guide me this week as I seek to focus on worshiping You. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **ADDITIONAL PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION:**

*Luke 10:38-42*



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## TUESDAY

*Read John 12:20-28*

*Dear Lord*, the message of the cross is difficult to take. How can death give way ultimately to life? How can such weakness be strength? Not once but three times does Jesus tell His disciples that He would be executed. Father, how would I have responded to those revelations? What would I have done? How would I have reacted? Open my eyes and my heart so that I might discover the answer to these probing questions, seeing myself in the midst of these events. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **ADDITIONAL PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION:**

*Matthew 16:21-28, 17:22-23, 20:17-19*

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## WEDNESDAY

*Read Luke 21:37-38, John 12:37-41*

*Heavenly Father,* it is unfathomable to me that even after witnessing so many miracles and hearing so much life changing teaching, people still refused to believe in Jesus as their Lord and Savior. And yet, I must confess my own hardness of heart and lack of faith. It is only by Your grace that I have been drawn to You, and for that I am eternally grateful. May I continue to grow in faith and trust as I see Your work in and around me and hear Your voice through Your Word. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **ADDITIONAL PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION:**

*Mark 9:14-27*

[illegible]



## MAUNDY THURSDAY

*Read John 13:1-11, Mark 14:22-26, John 13:34-35*

*Father God,* You sent Your Son into the world to give His life as a ransom for me, buying me back from the slave market of sin. But before Jesus went to the cross for me, He demonstrated an extreme act of love and humility by washing the feet of His disciples before sharing the Last Supper with them. Father, help me learn from this example and never forget that the world will know me as Your follower by the sacrificial and humble love that I show to other believers. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **ADDITIONAL PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION:**

*John 15:1-17, 1 John 3:16, 1 John 4:19-21*

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## GOOD FRIDAY

*Read John 19:6, 16b-24, 28-30*

*Dear Father,* the unthinkable is happening. The perfect, spotless, unblemished Son of God is giving His life for me and for the sake of the world. Your Word describes the utter anguish He went through on His way to death on a Roman cross. Innocent of every charge, Jesus died for me, for my sin and rebellion. The just for the unjust. Words are inadequate to describe my feelings of guilt on one hand and profound gratitude on the other. How great Thou art! In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **ADDITIONAL PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION:**

*Romans 5:6-11, 2 Corinthians 5:21*

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## SATURDAY

*Read Matthew 27:57-66*

*Merciful and gracious Father*, grant that, as the crucified body of Your dear Son was laid in a borrowed tomb and sealed with a massive stone, I might await with Him the coming third day, remembering that it is only as a seed dies and is buried in the ground that it will bear the fruit of new life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### **ADDITIONAL PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION:**

*Mark 15:42-47*

[illegible]



## RESURRECTION SUNDAY

*Read John 20:1-18*

*O, Father! He is risen!* He is risen, indeed! Hallelujah, Hallelujah! You loved the world, You loved me, so very much that you spared not Your own Son but delivered Him up to death for me. And now, as evidence of His completed work on the cross, He is alive in every way and for all time. Jesus' full and final sacrifice has paid for my sin and His rising assures me of the new life He has promised. Please continue to empower me to walk in Your mighty grace and never be shy to tell of Your good news to those around me. In the name of our risen Savior. Hallelujah and Amen.

### **ADDITIONAL PASSAGES FOR REFLECTION:**

*Revelation 5:11-14*

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**If you would like to know more about Jesus  
or have questions about a life of faith, please contact:**

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