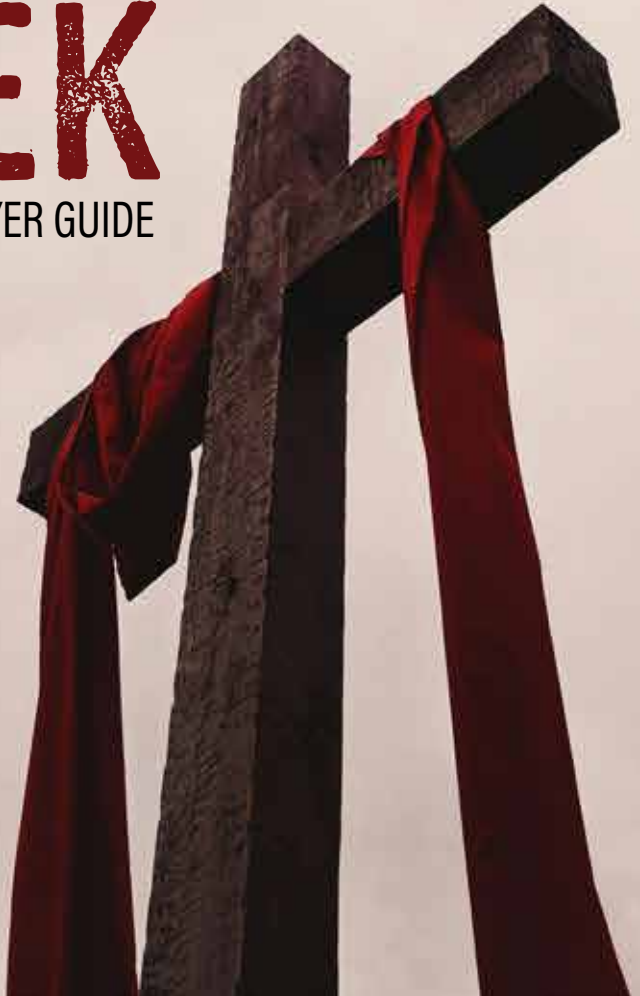


metrotabernacle

PASSION WEEK

DEVOTIONAL & PRAYER GUIDE

24-31
MARCH
2024



The Passion Week starts with Palm Sunday when Jesus enters the city of Jerusalem. This week leads us through the Last Supper, His crucifixion, and ends on Easter Sunday with His resurrection, thus fulfilling many biblical prophecies.

As we walk through these eight days, every significant event recorded, every step taken and every breath breathed toward the cross was deliberated and exhibits God's unfailing and unconditional love for all of us.

For this, we have prepared a short eight days' Reflection and Prayer Guide as you take the journey through some of the significant events during the Passion Week. We hope as you pause, ponder and reflect, you will have a fresh revelation of true meaning of the cross – salvation for all mankind.

Let us set ourselves apart for Him and dedicate our time to give Him all the glory and honor that He deserves.

Truly, Jesus is our Saviour and King!

You can submit your prayer(s) and testimonies here:
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For more general guide and information about fasting and prayer, head here:
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Jesus's Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem

Matthew 21:1-11

Palm Sunday signifies the start of Passion Week, which culminates in Easter Sunday. It commemorates Jesus' triumphant entry in Jerusalem as the Savior and King. However, despite the celebratory nature of this entrance, it also marks the beginning of Jesus' journey towards His crucifixion and death.

The term "*Hosanna*" initially meant "*Save, please!*" and was a plea to God for deliverance. As time went on, its meaning changed to signify "*Salvation has come!*" which served as a reminder of God's promised deliverance through Jesus, our Messiah. Consequently, it became a joyful expression of hope and exultation.

REFLECTION & PRAYER:

Hosanna! Hosanna! We should make it our praise and our confidence as salvation belongs to God! We should enter the Passion week with worship and praise to celebrate Jesus as our King and Saviour. It is also the moment to recommit ourselves to God as we remember how Jesus fulfilled the prophecies in the Old Testament as our Redeemer.

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

Matthew 21:12-17

When Jesus arrived at the Temple in Jerusalem, he found it filled with people exploiting one another and treating the Temple like it was a glorified marketplace. The Temple was originally instituted as a place of worship to the Jehovah God. It was to be a place God and man met for fellowship and communion. It had become a den of thieves through the work of the carnal man.

1 Corinthians 3:16, "*Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?*" Can our carnality quench the work of the Spirit within us as it did in the Temple during the time of Jesus?

REFLECTION & PRAYER:

Consider the works of the flesh as Paul listed them in Galatians 5:19-21. Allow God's Spirit to show you where carnality has crept in. The Spirit never comes to condemn us but to convict us and lead us to turn towards God.

Be willing to confess and forsake these sins that you might be a holy and pure temple unto the Lord.

Jesus' Farewell Sermon

Matthew 25:31-46

At the Mount of Olives, Jesus gave his farewell sermon to his disciples. The discourse cautions us to prepare with utmost diligence for Christ's second coming and the final judgment. Mat 25:35,36 describes the Greek word '*philoxenia*', which literally means "*love of strangers, foreigners, aliens.*"

Jesus will either commend or condemn based upon whether or not people have welcomed "*the least of these.*" Today, may we take time, to feel the heart of Jesus for the forgotten, the unloved, those who have never tasted His love. Can you hear His anguish for the lost? Let's make a decision to spread the love and forgiveness we have so freely received.

REFLECTION & PRAYER:

Ask the Holy Spirit to fill your heart with love for those without Jesus. Pray for those coming to you mind at this moment. Ask for the opportunity to show God's love to them and love them like Jesus.

The Last Supper

Matthew 26:26-29

The term "*Last Supper*" refers to the final meal Jesus had with His disciples before His trial and death on the cross. This symbolic meal represents God's unconditional and unfailing love for the world through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. His blood was poured out to forgive our sins. The Lord's Supper signifies God's reign that is both present and yet to come.

We participate in this meal to remember what Jesus did on the cross and to keep Him and His work central in the life and worship of the church, as we often forget what is truly important.

REFLECTION & PRAYER:

The Communion is not an act we do for Jesus; rather, a reflection of what Jesus has done for us and his invitation to us to partake in His grace.

As we partake, let us continue to have Jesus as the center of our lives, and live a life pleasing and in reverence of Him. Ask God to show us the areas in our lives that need forgiveness and repentance. As God forgives, receive your forgiveness by faith as we have entered into a new life with Him.

Day 5 — Thursday, 28 March

Arrest Night at Gethsemane

Matthew 26:36-57

The night Jesus withdrew into the Garden of Gethsemane marks the time when *"the hour had come."* – the climax of His greatest mission on Earth.

The Garden of Gethsemane was a place of great significance to Jesus—a place of anguish prayers filled with grief and sorrows, a place where He sought much-needed strength and consolation from God, the place where He was betrayed and arrested. It was also the place where Jesus fully and wholeheartedly surrendered Himself to God's will to become a curse, a sin, for us - *"Nevertheless, Your will be done."*

REFLECTION & PRAYER:

All of us will have our Gethsemane night sooner or later - a very difficult place to be. It is a place where you find yourself wrestling with God – either our will or His.

As Jesus demonstrated what submission to the Father looks like, let us come to acknowledge His sovereignty and Lordship over our lives by yielding and fully surrendering to His will as He is faithful till the very end.

Day 6 — Friday, 29 March

Crucifixion on Good Friday

Matthew 27:1-50

It was Jesus' final day on earth before his resurrection where He was arrested, put on trial, and subjected to ridicule, mockery, mistreatment, beatings, floggings, crucifixion, and ultimately death. This day was far from being a *"good"* Friday.

His death was terrible, the most excruciating experience that any human being could be subjected to, emotionally, physically, mentally, and spiritually. However, it was a Good Friday because through Jesus' death, He became the ultimate and perfect atonement for our sins. By his sacrifice, Jesus broke the power of death and sin. Without the cross, there will be no resurrection and victory over the enemy. Truly, He is our Saviour!

REFLECTION & PRAYER:

We are truly saved by the amazing grace and love of God. As we observe Good Friday, let us reflect on our lives both before and after being saved, and rejoice in our new lives and eternity with God.

May we continue to ask God for the holy fear and conviction of the power of the Cross and may we work out our salvation in His truth and holiness. Additionally, let us make time to pray for the salvation of your loved ones.

Day 7 — Saturday, 30 March

Saturday in the Tomb

Matthew 27:57-66

After Jesus died on Friday, his body was laid to rest in the tomb. On the Sabbath Saturday, he remained buried in the tomb of a wealthy man, fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah 53:9.

The religious leaders requested for his tomb to be sealed until the third day, fearing that the disciples might steal the body and spread false rumours of his resurrection. It is a fact that Jesus is dead and there is no possibility of Him coming back to life.

REFLECTION & PRAYER:

Let us learn to be still and keep resting in His assurance, peace, and promise, even in our seemingly lifeless situation. Moreover, we should continue to walk in faith, believing that God is constantly working, even when we are unable to perceive it.

We ask God to help us sense His presence in our stillness and place our hope in His resurrected power, which brings breakthroughs and victories, overcoming all fears and doubts.

Day 8 — Sunday, 31 March

Resurrection Sunday

Matthew 28:1- 20

On Resurrection Sunday, Jesus rose from the dead, fulfilling the prophecy in the Bible. Jesus conquered sin and death and rose to give us life for eternity.

After His resurrection, He commissioned His disciples to make disciples of all nations, promising them He would be with them even to the end of the age.

REFLECTION & PRAYER:

Let us worship Him with a heart full of gratitude, acknowledging that Jesus is alive today and we live because of Him. Let us continue to seek God's command and guidance in becoming true disciples, learning and obeying His Word, and allowing His grace, power, and authority to share the Good News with the people around us.

As the Passion Week comes to an end, let us recommit ourselves to living for Jesus. May our lives serve as evidence of the truth of Jesus and point the world to the Cross, His resurrection and His second coming.

THANK FOR GOOD FRIDAY GOD FOR HE IS RISEN

Thanks be to God that Jesus came to earth to die on the cross
to rescue humanity from sin as He defied death and rose again
so that those who believe in Him lives forever.

1 Cor. 15:57; John 3:15

29 MARCH | FRIDAY 8PM
31 MARCH | SUNDAY 10AM

No 5pm Saturday Service on 30th March 2024

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