



**EASTER  
DEVOTIONAL**

# PALM SUNDAY

Jesus Triumphant Entry | Matthew 21: 6-9; Mark 11:7-10; Luke 19:35-28

## BIG IDEA

When it was time for the Passover celebration, Jesus and His disciples traveled to Jerusalem. As they came near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent His disciples to find a donkey for Him to ride.

As Jesus rode into the city, a large crowd gathered. The people were excited because they believed Jesus was the Savior God had promised long ago. They welcomed Him like a king! They waved palm branches and laid their coats on the road in front of Him while shouting “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!” The word Hosanna means “Save us now!”

For many years, God’s people had been waiting for the Savior He promised. The Bible had foretold that this Savior would come. When the people saw Jesus, they believed He was the one God had sent.

## ASK

How can we praise Jesus today like the people did that day?

## PRAY

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Amen.

## DO

Create your own palm branches using construction paper, streamers, or even branches from outside. Wave your palm branches and practice saying “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

# MONDAY

**Cleansing the Temple | Matthew 21: 12-13; Mark 11:15-17; Luke 19: 45-48**

## BIG IDEA

During the Passover Celebration, Jesus and His disciples went to the temple—the special place where people came to worship God. But when Jesus arrived, something was very wrong.

Instead of people quietly praying and worshiping, the Temple had become very noisy and busy like a marketplace. People were buying and selling animals, and money changers had set up tables to exchange coins. This was not what God’s house was meant to be.

Jesus cared deeply about honoring God. When He saw what was happening, He became very upset. He turned over the tables of the money changers and stopped the selling that was happening inside the Temple! Then Jesus said something very important: “My house will be called a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of robbers.”

Jesus was teaching everyone that the Temple was meant to be a place where people could pray, worship, and come close to God—not a place to make money. After this, Jesus stayed in the Temple and continued teaching the people every day. Many people listened carefully to what He said because they knew His words were important.

## ASK

Why do you think Jesus was angry at the people who were selling things and exchanging money?

## PRAY

Dear God, thank You for loving us and teaching us how to honor You. Help us make time to pray and worship You every day. Amen.

## DO

Make a list of ways your family can worship Jesus together as a family. Pick 1-2 items on the list to do together today.

# TUESDAY

**Jesus Teaches in the Temple | Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Joshua 22:5; Matthew 22: 34-40; Mark 12:28-34**

## BIG IDEA

Long before Jesus came to earth, God taught His people what mattered most, to love the Lord with all their heart, soul, and strength. Many years later, when Jesus was teaching, some religious leaders asked Him: Which commandment is the greatest?

Jesus answered by quoting truth from the scriptures “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.” Then Jesus added a second commandment that is closely connected: Love your neighbor as yourself.

Jesus wants people to love God totally and completely along with loving others as much as they love themselves.

## ASK

Is it harder to Love God with all our heart, soul, strength & mind or to love others as much as we love ourselves?

## PRAY

Dear God, help us love You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Help us also love others the way You want us to. Amen.

## DO

Create hearts with your hands. Talk about ways we can show our love for God to Him, and how we can show love to the people around us.

# WEDNESDAY

**A Woman Worshipped Jesus | Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9**

## BIG IDEA

Jesus was eating in a friend's home one evening when a woman approached Him carrying a bottle of expensive perfume. The woman started pouring the perfume in Jesus' hair in a worshipful way. Some people watching, including the disciples, thought she was wasting the expensive perfume. Jesus asked His disciples why they criticized the woman for her act of worship and love.

In our culture, it isn't common for perfume to be used or thought of as an act of love, honor or worship, but it was in Bible times. People in Bible times often used perfume when someone died, pouring the perfume on the body before it is buried. The woman in today's Bible story likely didn't know that Jesus would be crucified in a few days, but Jesus did. He knew that in an important way, she was getting Him ready to be buried.

## ASK

What is one special thing you could give to Jesus to show Him you love Him?

## PRAY

Dear God, help me give you my best, as an act of worship, because I love you. Amen.

## DO

Fill a cup with water. Take turns passing the cup of water around the table and pouring a little bit onto a plate or tray while saying something you want to give to Jesus.

# THURSDAY

Jesus' Last Supper | Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:14-20

## BIG IDEA

Each year, God's people celebrated Passover to remember how He saved them long ago. They remembered the story from the Scriptures. God's angel had passed over the houses in Egypt that were marked with the lamb's blood, keeping the firstborn children safe. That's why this celebration is called Passover—it reminds God's people of His love, protection, and faithfulness.

Jesus celebrated this special meal with His disciples. However, Jesus told them new meanings for the celebration. Jesus tore off pieces of bread and called it His body. Then Jesus took a cup and called it His blood. This was Jesus' way of saying God was making a new promise: Everyone who trusts in Jesus would now become part of God's family.

Today, people who trust Jesus as their Savior still celebrate and remember what Jesus did to save us from our sins; we call it the Lord's Supper or Communion. Eating the bread and drinking the juice from the cup are symbols to remind us that Jesus died for our sins.

## ASK

What might God want people to think about as they watch or participate in Communion?

## PRAY

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus, who gave us new meaning to Passover. Please help us remember that Jesus is the One who saves us from our sins. Amen.

## DO

Gather around your table with bread and juice. As you partake in the bread and juice, thank God for sending Jesus to die for us, and rescue us from our sins.

# FRIDAY

**Jesus is Crucified | Matthew 27:27-50, Luke:23:32-46**

## BIG IDEA

Not long after the Passover, soldiers arrested Jesus in the garden where He was praying. They took Jesus to the prison where soldiers beat Him, spit on Him, and made him wear a crown of thorns.

Soldiers made Him carry His cross to a hill called Golgotha. There, He was nailed to the cross between two criminals. As Jesus hung on the cross, many people stood around watching to see Him die.

Some people were mad; they didn't believe Jesus was the Messiah that He said He was. Some people were confused; they believed He was God's son but didn't know why God didn't stop the soldiers from killing Him. Some people were very sad; they loved Jesus and didn't want Him to die. Some people were afraid; they weren't sure if the soldiers would arrest and kill them, too.

None of the people really understood yet that this was just one part of God's plan.

## ASK

If you had been near Jesus on the cross, how would you have felt? Angry, confused, sad, scared etc...?

## PRAY

Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that You had a plan for Jesus to be the Savior. Help us remember His sacrifice every day. Amen.

## DO

Pray together as a family. Thank God for sending Jesus as our rescuer and redeemer. Ask that God will keep your hearts and mind focused on Christ as we get closer to Easter.

# SATURDAY

**Jesus in the Tomb | Matthew 27:57-66; Mark 15:42-46; Luke 23:50-56;  
John 19:38-42**

## BIG IDEA

After Jesus died, a man named Joseph asked the Roman governor for permission to bury Jesus' body. Joseph took Jesus' body off the cross and wrapped it in cloth, placed it in a large tomb, and sealed the entrance to the tomb with a big stone.

The Roman governor placed soldiers in front of the tomb to make sure no one could steal Jesus' body. Jesus' disciples were likely very sad because they thought they would never see Him again.

But that's not the end of the story.

## ASK

How do you feel when you hear how sad Jesus' friends and family were?

## PRAY

Dear God, we are thankful that we know the rest of this story, that Jesus is alive! Help us to be comforted and excited by Your plan. Amen.

## DO

Get a small container (could even be a cup or bowl), paper and something to write with. Allow everyone to draw or write one thing they are worried or sad about and place their paper in the container, representing the tomb, saying quietly, "I give this to Jesus."

# EASTER SUNDAY

Jesus is Alive! | Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-7; Luke 24:1-35; John 20:1-20

## BIG IDEA

On Sunday morning, some of the women who followed Jesus went to His tomb to put spices on His body. When the women arrived, they were surprised- the stone was rolled away, the tomb was empty and angels from the Lord appeared to them. The angels said “Don’t be afraid. Jesus isn’t here! He has risen, just like He promised.” The women were amazed and ran quickly to tell His disciples the good news.

On the way, Jesus met the women and said, “Don’t be afraid. Go and tell everyone I am alive!” They were filled with joy and ran to share the incredible news! Later, Jesus appeared to His disciples who were amazed and rejoiced!

Jesus is alive! His resurrection shows that God’s love is stronger than death, hope is stronger than fear, and nothing can separate us from Him. Because He is alive, our debt is paid, sin has been defeated, and we can share this good news with the world!

## ASK

What does Jesus’ resurrection mean for us and our salvation today?

## PRAY

Dear God, thank You for Jesus!  
We praise You for a perfect redeemer and Savior in Jesus Christ. Give us courage to share the good news of Jesus to others. Amen.

## DO

Worship God together as a family! Pray, sing, read Scripture, or even dance—whatever you do, do it with joy, love and adoration. Offer your hearts and praises to our heavenly Father, remembering that Jesus is with you and that your worship brings Him glory.