

# Easter Week Bible Study

A One Week Study

The study is broken into four sections: Family Reading, Family Questions, The Jesus Question, and Deeper Study.

**Family Reading:** First, we recommend reading through the passage of scripture aloud as a family. If your kids are able to read, pass the bible around and have them read a few verses each.

**Family Questions:** After reading through the passage, talk through the questions about the passage as a family. Next to each question is a reference verse to help find the answer in the text. Model looking up verses for your kids and show them the book name, the chapter number and the verse number.

**The Jesus Question:** Next, ask each person what they learned about Jesus in today's reading. The entire Bible is about Jesus. He is the main point and this is the most important question to ask and answer each time we read the Bible.

**Deeper Study:** If you would like to dive deeper, there is an additional section at the end of each day that connects the day's reading to other passages of scripture. This has a particular focus on how the Old Testament foreshadows what Christ would do throughout this week, on the cross and in the resurrection. *This part is written more towards adults or older children.*

We hope this short study helps you and your family to know God better through His Word and to worship!

## Palm Sunday Family Reading: Matthew 21:1-11

### Family Questions:

1. What do the people lay on the road for Jesus? (Matthew 21:8)

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2. What do the people shout? (Matthew 21:9, Psalm 118:26)

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- Why is the name "Son of David" important? (2 Samuel 7:12-13)

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3. Who else rode a donkey into Jerusalem in the Old Testament? (1 Kings 1:33)

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- Whose son was he?

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4. Who do the crowds say that Jesus is? (Matthew 21:10-11)

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- Is Jesus just a prophet or is he more than a prophet? (Matthew 21:5, Zechariah 9:9-10)

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### What Did You Learn About Jesus Today?

#### Deeper Study: The Son of David

The title "Son of David" was one that held a lot of weight for the Jews. God had promised David that his offspring would build the house of the Lord and that God would establish his kingdom forever. This was fulfilled in part by David's son, Solomon, but not in full. The kingdom Solomon helped to build was conquered by other nations and the temple he built was also destroyed. This promise God gave David was more fully about the coming Son of David: Jesus.

The Jews believed that the Son of David would come and defeat all of their enemies. In the time of Jesus, that was the Romans. They believed that God would establish an earthly kingdom forever. When they cry out calling Jesus the "Son of David" they hoped he was coming to defeat Rome. What they didn't understand was that their King was coming to die. His coronation would be a cross and his Kingdom was not of this world. He didn't come to defeat Rome, but to defeat sin and death.

- Read and highlight these other places where Jesus is called the Son of David: Matthew 1:1, Matthew 1:6, Matthew 15:22, Matthew 20:30, Romans 1:3, Revelation 22:16.

## Monday Family Reading: Matthew 26:17-29

### Family Questions:

1. What festival are the Jews celebrating? (Matthew 26:17)  
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2. What did Jesus say one of the disciples would do? (Matthew 26:21)  
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3. Who was going to betray him? (Matthew 26:25)  
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4. What does the Passover bread symbolize? (Matthew 26:27-28)  
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5. What does the Passover wine symbolize? (Matthew 26:28)  
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  - o What is Jesus' blood going to do? (Matthew 26:28)  
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### What Did You Learn About Jesus Today?

### Deeper Study: The Passover Lamb

Every year, the Jews would celebrate the Passover meal. In doing so, they remembered when their people were slaves in Egypt and God sent Moses to tell Pharaoh to let his people go. Pharaoh said "no" over and over again, and God sent plague after plague, each with increasing severity. The final one was the 10th plague in Egypt. The firstborn son of each household would die. But, there was a way to be saved. Anyone who put the blood of the passover lamb over their door would be safe. The angel of death would pass over their homes.

- Read Exodus 11-12 and study the first Passover. How does the passover foreshadow the cross?
- What does it mean that Jesus is our Passover lamb?
  - Some verses to think about: 1 Corinthians 5:7, 1 Peter 1:19, and Revelation 5:6.

## Tuesday Family Reading: **Matthew 26:30-46**

### Family Questions:

1. What does Jesus predict will happen with the disciples? (Matthew 26:31-32)

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- Where will he meet them? (Matthew 26:32)
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2. Does Peter believe he will fall away from Jesus?

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- How many times will Peter deny Jesus? (Matthew 26:34)
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3. How does Jesus feel while he was praying? (Matthew 26:38)

4. What does Jesus pray? (Matthew 26:39)

5. Do the disciples stay awake with him? (Matthew 26:40)

6. How many times does Jesus go to pray? (Matthew 26:44)

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### What Did You Learn About Jesus Today?

### Deeper Study: The Cornerstone (Psalm 118)

We read in Matthew 26:30 that the disciples sang a hymn before going to the garden. According to Jewish tradition, Psalm 113-118 was a collection called the Hallel (as in “hallelujah”). These psalms were sung at different feasts, such as Passover, and Psalm 118 was likely what the disciples and Jesus sang here. I tend to believe that God inspired David to write this psalm knowing that it would be a source of strength, comfort and encouragement to Christ on the eve of his death as he sang it with his closest friends.

Considering what Jesus is about to do, the amount of suffering he is about to willingly endure on our behalf and his coming resurrection, read through Psalm 118.

- What verses stand out to you?
- What other sections of scripture does this Psalm make you think of?

## Wednesday Family Reading: **Matthew 26:47-75**

### Family Questions:

1. What sign had Judas given the chief priests and elders about who to arrest? (Matthew 26:48)

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2. Why did Jesus allow them to arrest him? (Matthew 26:54, Matthew 26:56)

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3. Where did the disciples go? (Matthew 26:56)

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4. Where did they take Jesus? (Matthew 26:57)

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- Where was Peter? (Matthew 26:58)
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5. What did the high priest ask Jesus? (Matthew 26:63)

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6. How does Jesus respond? (Matthew 26:64)

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- What crime does the high priest accuse Jesus of committing? (Matthew 26:65)
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7. How many times did Peter deny Jesus? (Matthew 26:69-75)

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### What Did You Learn About Jesus Today?

### Deeper Study: The Son of Man (Daniel 7)

The title “Son of Man” is Jesus’ favorite way of referring to himself in the gospels. This title is from Daniel 7:13-14 and, as clearly shown in Jesus’ response to the high priest in Matthew 26:64 and the high priest’s reaction, is a claim to be equal with God, having authority and receiving worship.

- Read Daniel 7:13-14. What will happen to the Kingdom of the Son of Man?
  - Where else have we heard this kind of promise in connection to Jesus? (See Day 1 Deeper Study)
  - In Daniel 7, who will worship and serve the Son of Man? (Revelation 7:9-12)

## Thursday Family Reading: Matthew 27:11-26

### Family Questions:

1. Who did they take Jesus to stand before? (Matthew 27:2)

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2. What does Pilate ask Jesus? (Matthew 27:11)

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3. Does Jesus defend himself? (Matthew 27:14)

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4. Pilate offers to set one man free: Jesus or another man. What was his name? (Matthew 27:17)

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5. Who do the crowds ask to be freed? (Matthew 27:21)

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- Why? (Matthew 27:20)

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6. What punishment do the crowds ask for Jesus? (Matthew 27:22-23)

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7. Does Pilate want this to happen? (Matthew 27:24)

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- Does he stop it?

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### What Did You Learn About Jesus Today?

### Deeper Study: The Suffering Servant (Isaiah 53)

Jesus did not defend himself to Pilate but remained silent. In doing so, he was fulfilling the prophecy in Isaiah 53:7. Read through Isaiah 52:13-53:12. This prophecy is one made about 600 years before Christ, but it speaks clearly about what Christ was doing on the cross on our behalf as he paid the penalty for our sins. "He was pierced for our transgressions." (Isaiah 53:5)

- Read Isaiah 53. In your bible, highlight or underline in RED each reference you see to what Christ did on the cross. You may need to come back to this a few times through the course of the week.

## Good Friday Family Reading: Matthew 27:27-56

### Family Questions:

1. What did they put on Jesus? (Matthew 27:28-29)

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2. How are they mocking him? What name are they calling him? (Matthew 27:29)

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3. What man carried the cross for Jesus? (Matthew 27:32)

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4. What did they do with Jesus' clothes? (Matthew 27:35)

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5. What did they nail above his head? (Matthew 27:37)

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6. Who was crucified next to him? (Matthew 27:38)

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7. What does Jesus say from the cross? (Matthew 27:46)

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8. What happened in the temple when Jesus died? (Matthew 27:51)

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### What Did You Learn About Jesus Today?

### Deeper Study: The Crucified Messiah (Psalm 22)

In these times, people would memorize large sections of the Scriptures, if not the whole thing. When Jesus is on the cross, he cries out the first line of Psalm 22 "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" Anyone who heard this would have instantly remembered the rest of the words of this Psalm.

Like Isaiah 53, Psalm 22 is a prophecy about Jesus's death on the cross. It was written about 1000 years before Christ and about 500 years before crucifixion was even invented.

- Read Psalm 22. In your bible, highlight or underline in RED each reference in Psalm 22 that you see to what Christ did on the cross. You may need to come back to this a few times in the next few days.

## Saturday Family Reading: **Matthew 27:57-66**

### Family Questions:

1. Who came to bury Jesus? (Matthew 27:57-59)

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2. What was placed in front of the tomb? (Matthew 27:60)

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3. What were the chief priests and Pharisees afraid of happening? (Matthew 27:63-64)

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4. How did they protect the tomb? (Matthew 27:66)

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### What Did You Learn About Jesus Today?

#### Deeper Study: The Offspring of the Woman (Genesis 3:15)

Jesus' death was prophesied in the opening chapters of Genesis. After Adam and Eve ate of the tree that God had told them not to, there were consequences for their sin. They would be cast out of the presence of God in the garden of Eden to wander in the wilderness. The commands they had been given to have dominion over the earth and to be fruitful and multiply would be hard to carry out. The earth would produce thorns and childbirth would be painful.

There was also a consequence for the serpent. He would crawl in the dust of the earth and that the Offspring of the Woman would crush his head, even as the serpent crushed his heel (Genesis 3:15). From that moment on, mankind was waiting for this offspring. The one who would defeat Satan at the cost of his own body.

This is the body that was buried in the tomb. The Offspring of the Woman. The one with pierced heels and a crown of thorns.

- Read through Genesis 1-3. What other elements do you see there that foreshadow the cross? Highlight them in red.



## Easter Sunday Family Reading: **Matthew 28:1-10**

### Family Questions:

1. Who went to the tomb? (Matthew 28:1)  
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2. Who was there? (Matthew 28:2-3)  
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3. What happened to the stone? (Matthew 28:2)  
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4. What happened to the guards? (Matthew 28:4)  
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5. What does the angel say to the women? (Matthew 28:5-7)  
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6. Where was Jesus? (Matthew 28:6)  
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7. Who did they see along the way?  
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8. Where will Jesus meet his disciples? (Matthew 28:10)  
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### What Did You Learn About Jesus Today?

### Deeper Study: The Resurrected King (Revelation 21)

Christianity stands or falls on the resurrection. In 1 Corinthians 15:14, Paul says that if Christ has not been raised, our faith is in vain. If Jesus stayed in the tomb, we would have no reason to hope. But he didn't stay in the tomb. He is alive. And because he lives, so will those who trust in him for our salvation.

Because of Christ's bodily resurrection, we know that we will be raised from the dead to eternal life.

We will see the New Heavens and the New Earth. We will dwell with God in resurrected bodies.

Christ, who is the Son of David, the Cornerstone, the Son of Man, our Passover Lamb, our Suffering Servant, Our Crucified Messiah, The Offspring of the Woman, and our Resurrected King, will reign.

- Read Revelation 21-22. Consider what Christ has done and what He will do. What part of this are you most grateful for?

**Hallelujah. Blessed is He Who Comes in the Name of the Lord.**

**He is Risen. Happy Easter.**