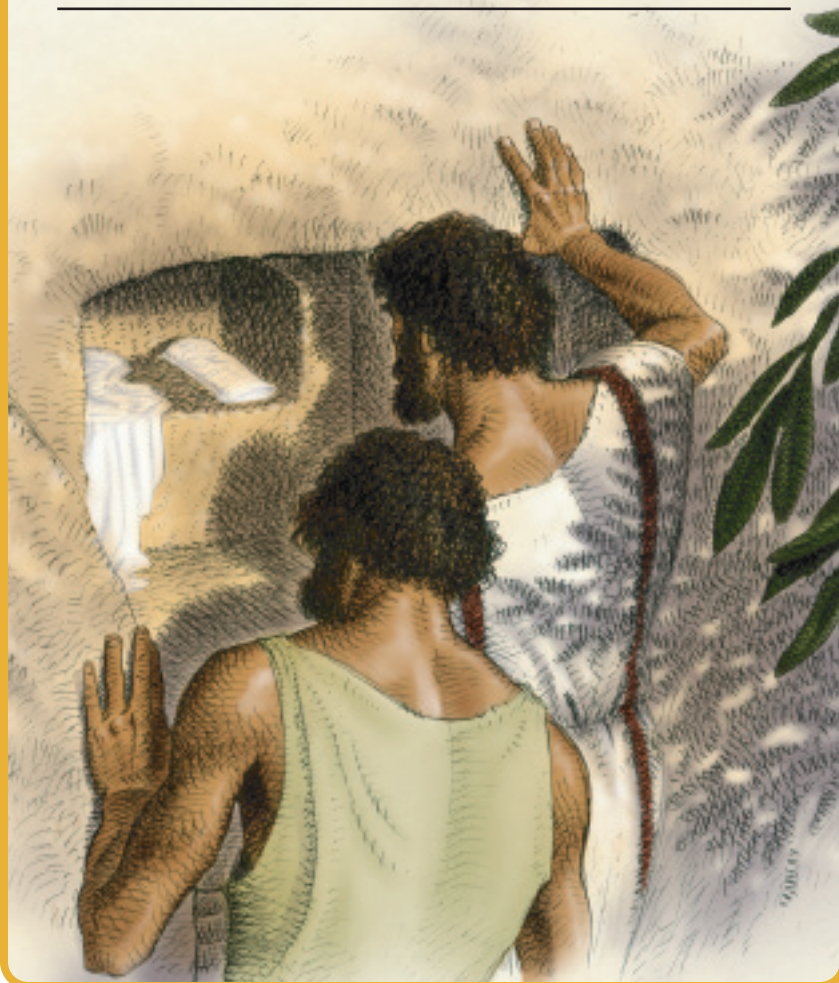


REFLECTIONS & PRAYERS FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY



REFLECTIONS & PRAYERS FOR HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY

Holy Week recalls the events of our Lord's suffering and death. We recall his triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, his giving of the New Commandment on Maundy Thursday, his crucifixion and burial on Good Friday, and the solemn vigil of Saturday night before Easter Sunday.

Use this guide to walk through Holy Week with your loved ones or in solitary devotion. Reflect on the truth of Scripture and pray that the Lord would draw you closer to him during this season.

Palm Sunday

The Triumphal Entry

Maundy Thursday

The Last Supper

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

The Passion: Prayer in the Garden

Betrayal in the Garden

Good Friday

The Trial Before Pilate

The Crucifixion

Holy Saturday

The Burial of Jesus

Easter Sunday

The Empty Tomb

Jesus Appears to Mary

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

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Excerpts from *Bible Blossom Storybook* and *Bible Blossom Storyteller's Handbook*, by Rev. Ryan Carter and Rev. Dr. Don L. Davis, illustrated by Tim Ladwig (Wichita: TUMI Press, 2019.)

Matthew 21:9 (ESV)

And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"



PALM SUNDAY

The Triumphal Entry

READ

Matthew 21:1-11

REFLECT

Our humble King is coming to us as we cry out, "Hosanna," which means, "Save us!"

PRAY

Thank God that he moved towards us in humility through his Son, Jesus Christ, to save us from Satan, sin, and death. Ask the Lord to help you submit to his loving rule.

NOTES

King of Kings and Lord of Lords

Sophie Conty and Nomi Yah, © 1980, Maranatha! Music

King of kings and Lord of lords, glory hallelujah!

King of kings and Lord of lords, glory hallelujah!

Jesus, Prince of Peace, glory hallelujah!

Jesus, Prince of Peace, glory hallelujah!

MAUNDY THURSDAY*

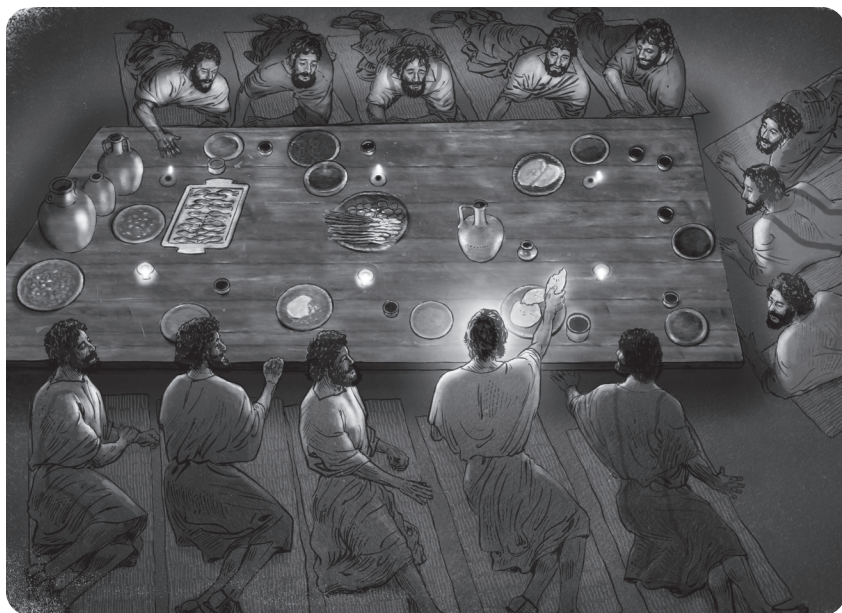
The Last Supper

READ

Luke 22:7-23

REFLECT

Jesus, the true Passover lamb, will soon give his body and shed his blood as a sacrifice for our salvation.



* Maundy Thursday is also called Holy Thursday. The word *maundy* comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, which means *commandment*. It refers to the new commandment that Jesus gave during his last supper with his disciples.

Luke 22:19-20 (ESV)

And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

PRAY

Ask God to help you remember his loving sacrifice for you and thank him for planning your salvation.

NOTES

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

READ

John 13:1-20

REFLECT

In humility, servanthood, and love, Jesus washed his disciples' feet just as he would wash away their sins through his death.



PRAY

Praise God for his goodness and generosity. Ask him to help you humbly love those around you – even your enemies.

NOTES

John 13:14-15 (ESV)

"If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you."



The Passion: Prayer in the Garden

READ

Matthew 26:36-46

REFLECT

Jesus turns to God the Father in his sorrow at what is to come, fully submitting to the Father's will.

Matthew 26:39 (ESV)

And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."



PRAY

Praise God for his compassion and understanding of your struggles. Ask him to give you comfort in your sorrow and the obedience needed to follow him.

NOTES

Lead Me to Calvary

Jennie Evelyn Hussey, 1921

*King of my life, I crown Thee now,
Thine shall the glory be;
Lest I forget Thy thorn-crowned brow,
Lead me to Calvary.*

(Chorus)

*Lest I forget Gethsemane,
Lest I forget Thine agony;
Lest I forget Thy love for me,
Lead me to Calvary.*

*Show me the tomb where Thou wast laid,
Tenderly mourned and wept;
Angels in robes of light arrayed
Guarded Thee whilst Thou slept.*

*Let me like Mary, through the gloom,
Come with a gift to Thee;
Show to me now the empty tomb,
Lead me to Calvary.*

*May I be willing, Lord, to bear
Daily my cross for Thee;
Even Thy cup of grief to share,
Thou hast borne all for me.*

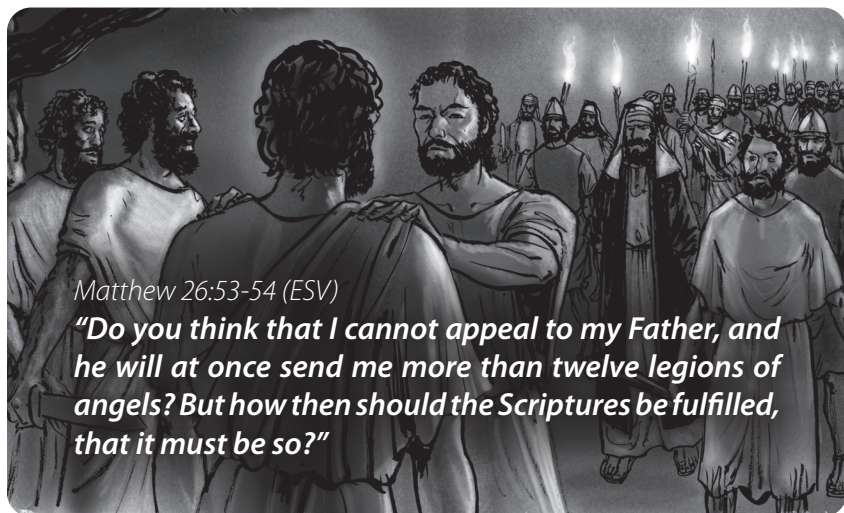
Betrayal in the Garden

READ

Matthew 26:47-56

REFLECT

Judas the betrayer exchanged Jesus for a few coins, and Jesus willingly submitted to arrest knowing it would lead him to the cross.



Matthew 26:53-54 (ESV)

“Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?”

PRAY

Ask God to forgive you for the times you exchange worship of him for worship of created things. Thank him for his willing and sacrificial death on your behalf.

NOTES

Jesus Paid It All

Elvina M. Hall, 1865

*I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all."*

(Chorus)

*Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.*

*Lord, now indeed I find
Thy pow'r and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.*

*For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.*

*And when, before the throne,
I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save,"
My lips shall still repeat.*

GOOD FRIDAY

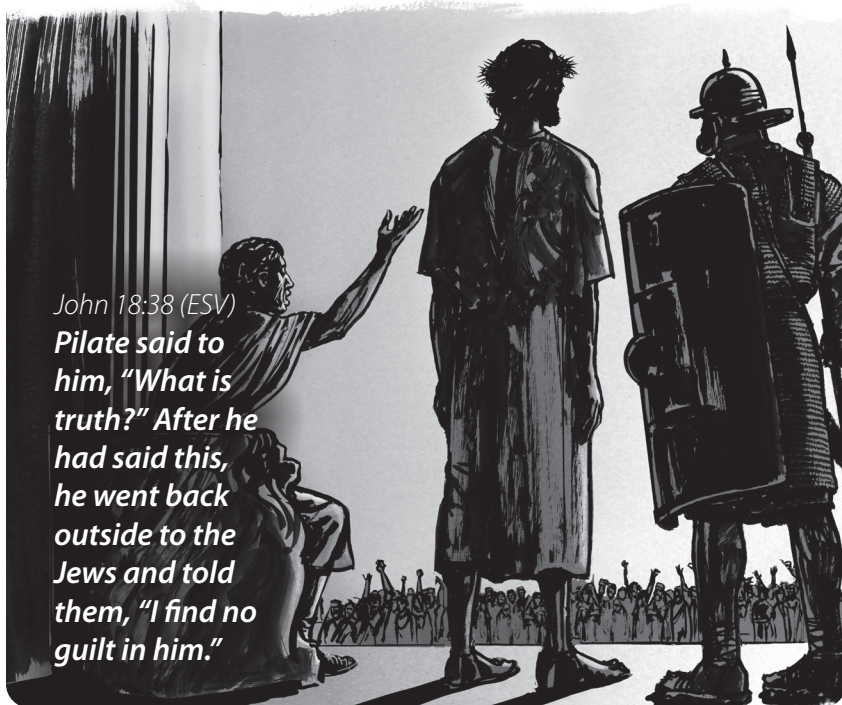
The Trial before Pilate

READ

John 18:28-19:16

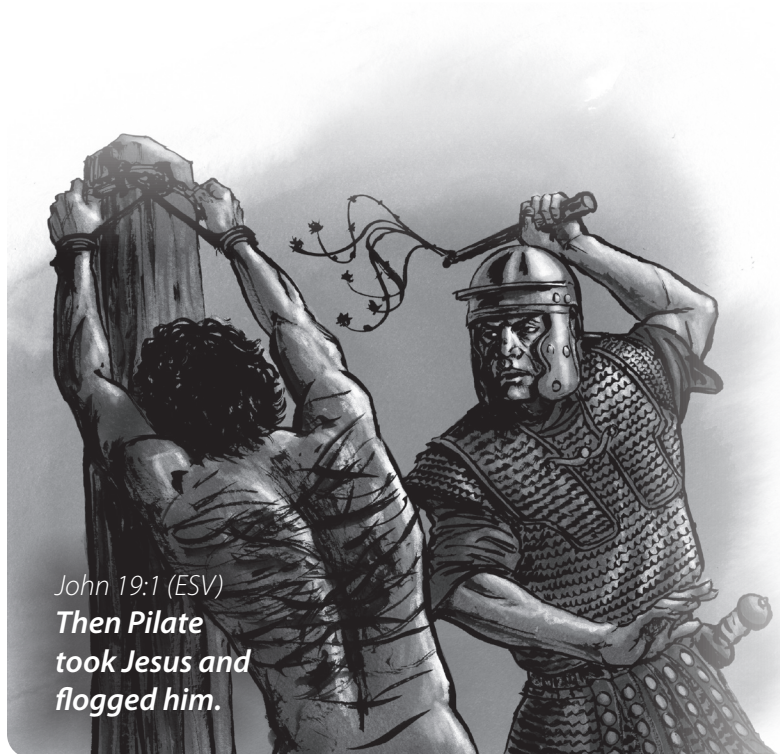
REFLECT

Pilate declares Jesus innocent three times before handing him over to death.



PRAY

Praise God because he is our Deliverer who sent his innocent Son to be our substitute. Ask God to forgive you for your sins. Thank him for his sacrifice.



NOTES

The Crucifixion

READ

Luke 23:32-43

REFLECT

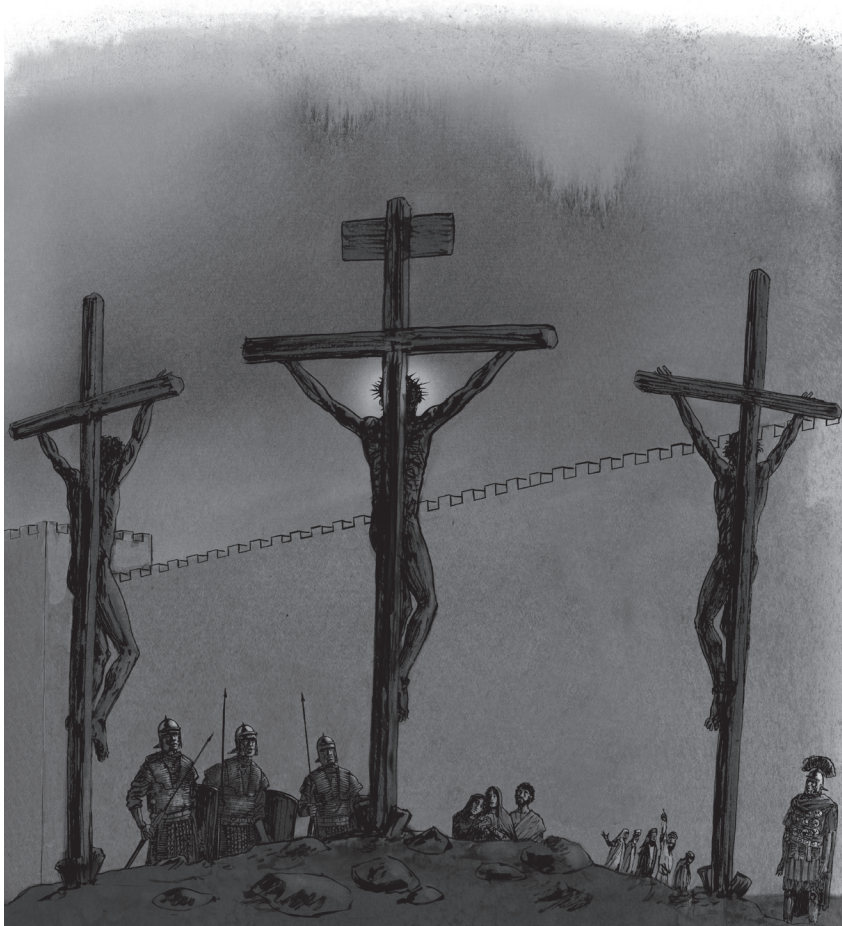
Jesus Christ, fully human and fully God, was killed on a cross to pay the debt owed by you for your sins.

PRAY

Thank the Lord for his sacrificial death. Ask him to help you more deeply understand his love and sacrifice.

NOTES





Luke 23:42-43 (ESV)

And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Isaac Watts, 1707

*When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.*

*See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*His dying crimson, like a robe,
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;
Then I am dead to all the globe,
And all the globe is dead to me.*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.*

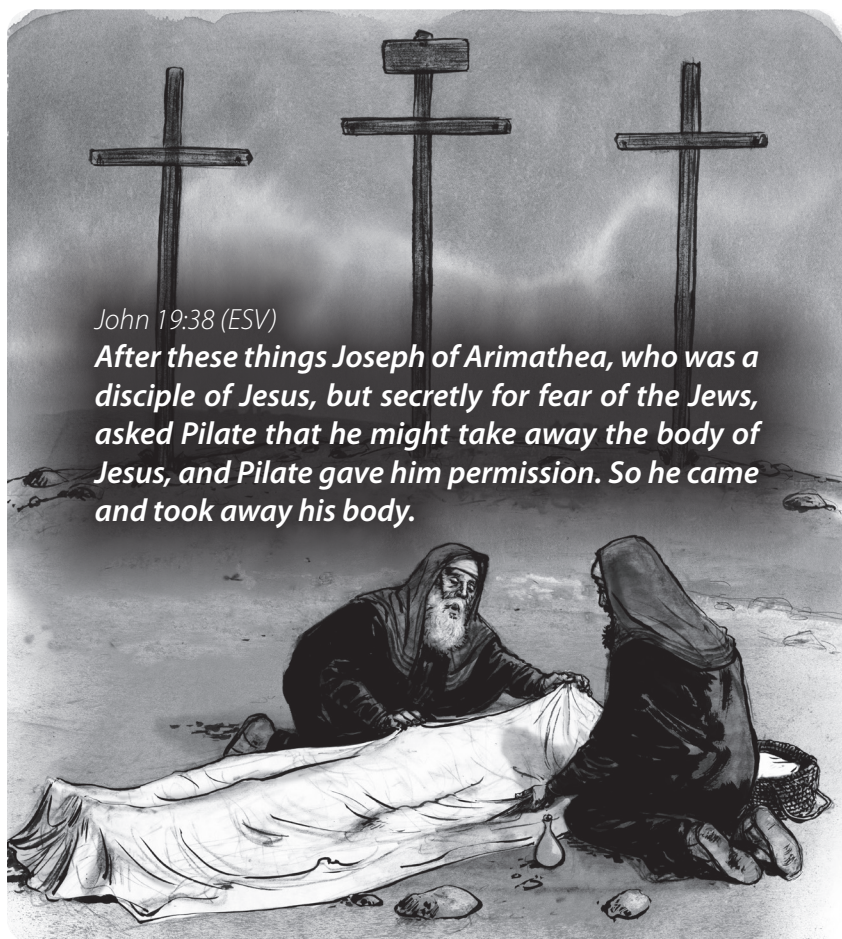
*To Christ, who won for sinners grace
By bitter grief and anguish sore,
Be praise from all the ransomed race
Forever and forevermore.*

HOLY SATURDAY

The Burial of Jesus

READ

John 19:38-42



REFLECT

Two men honored Jesus, our sacrificial lamb, in his death by giving him a burial fit for a king.

PRAY

Praise God for Jesus' perfect life and death on your behalf. Ask him to help you sacrificially worship him in every area of your life.

NOTES

Salvation's Work Is Done

Susanna Harrison, 1780

*Salvation's work is done;
The law is all obeyed:
To God the Father—God the Son,
Be endless honors paid.*

*All glory to His name
Who hung upon the tree:
Let the whole earth repeat the fame:
He bled and died for me!*

EASTER SUNDAY

The Empty Tomb

READ

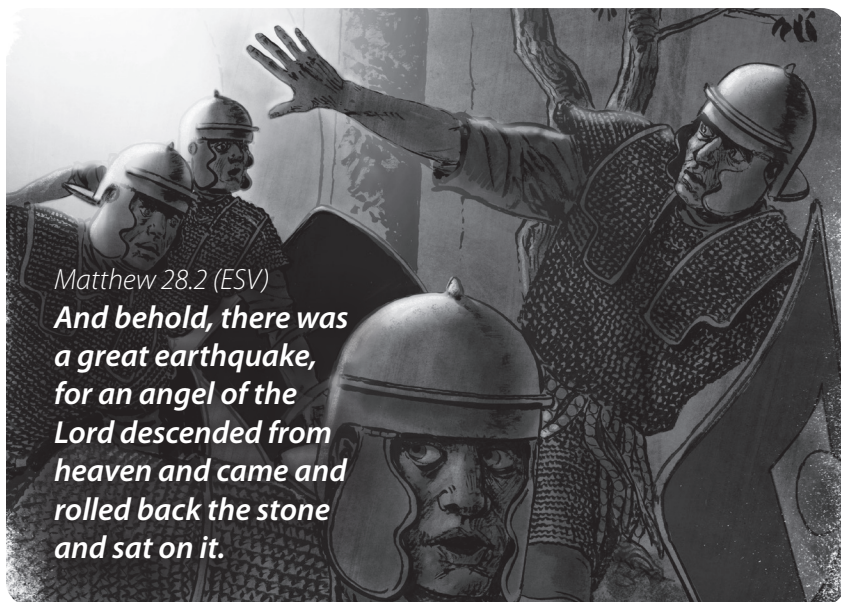
Matthew 28:1-7

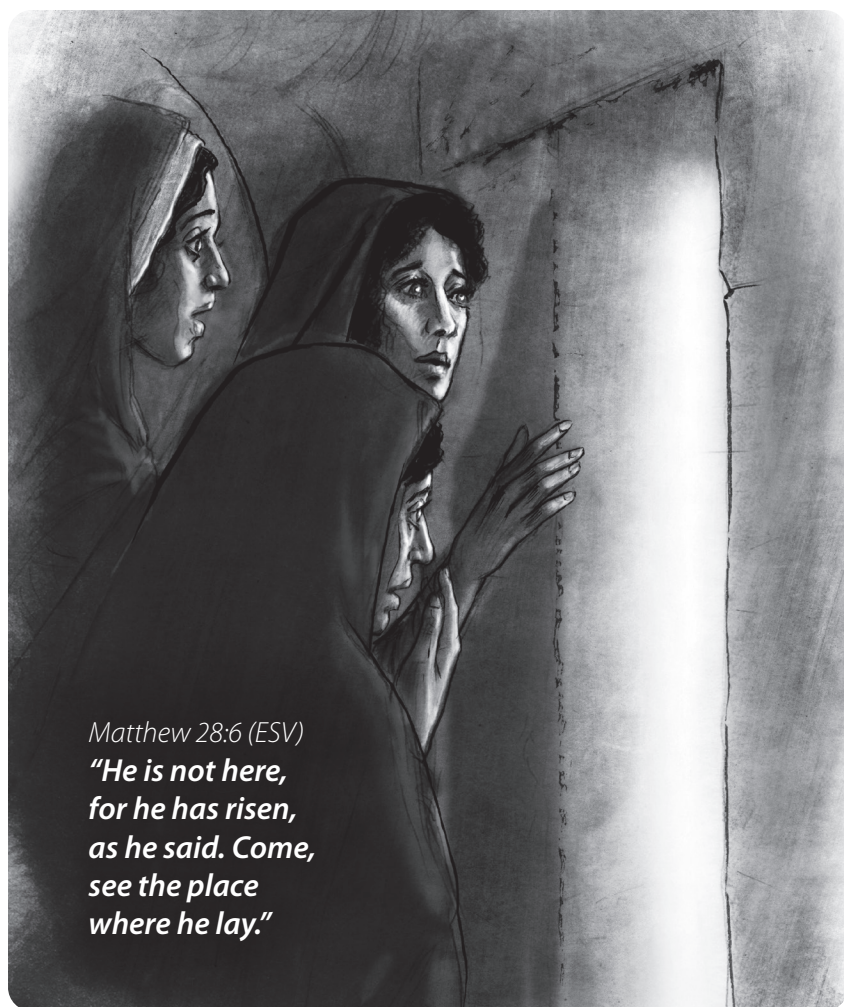
REFLECT

Grieving women witness that the King has risen from the dead and is victorious over death.

PRAY

Praise the Lord that Jesus Christ showed himself as our true King who conquered death when he left the grave. Ask God to help you tell others about this good news.





Matthew 28:6 (ESV)
***"He is not here,
for he has risen,
as he said. Come,
see the place
where he lay."***

NOTES

Jesus Appears to Mary

READ

John 20.11-18

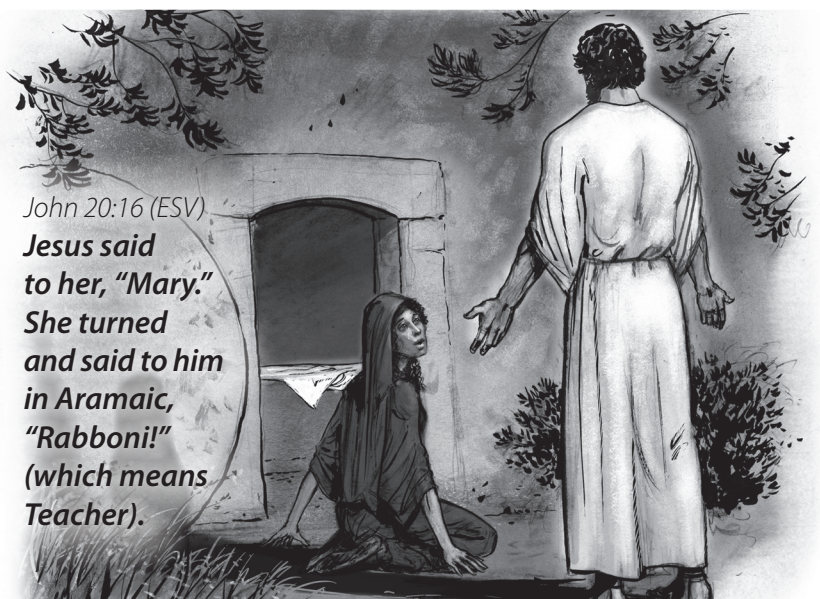
REFLECT

Jesus drew near to Mary Magdalene in her grief at the grave, and she recognized him when he said her name.

PRAY

Thank God that we have a Great High Priest who sympathizes with us in our weakness. Ask him to help you recognize and respond when he calls your name.

NOTES



I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Samuel Medley, 1775

*I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my everlasting Head.*

*He lives triumphant from the grave,
He lives eternally to save,
He lives all-glorious in the sky,
He lives exalted there on high.*

*He lives to bless me with His love,
He lives to plead for me above,
He lives my hungry soul to feed,
He lives to help in time of need.*

*He lives to silence all my fears,
He lives to wipe away my tears,
He lives to calm my troubled heart,
He lives all blessings to impart.*

*He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly Friend,
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.*

*He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.*

*He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives,
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"*

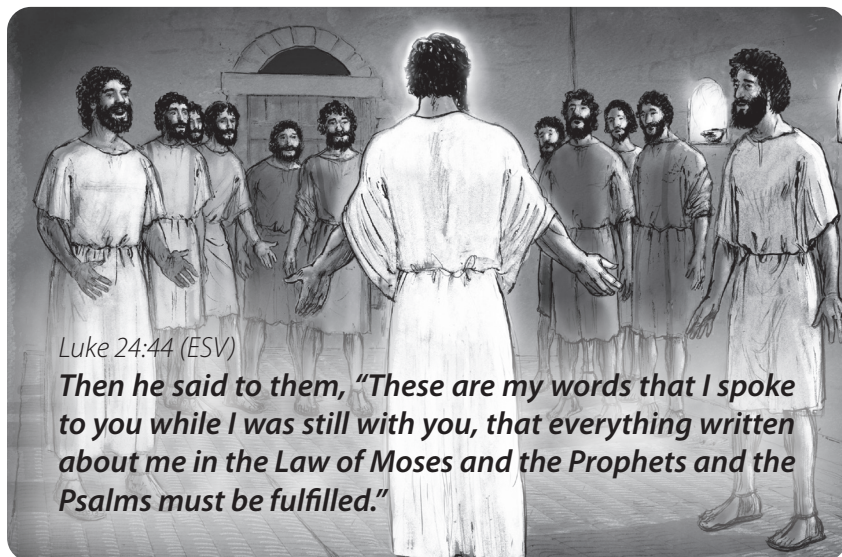
Jesus Appears to the Disciples

READ

Luke 24:36-49

REFLECT

Jesus helps his disciples believe that he is the risen Christ by showing them his body so that they can bear witness.



Luke 24:44 (ESV)

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

PRAY

Ask God to help you in the face of your doubts, to increase your faith, and to open your mind to understand Scriptures. Thank him for his goodness towards you.

NOTES



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Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Charles Wesley, 1739

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!
Earth and Heav'n in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids His rise, Alleluia!
Christ hath opened paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia!
Foll'wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

King of glory, Soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, Thy pow'r to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

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