

# INTRODUCTION

Throughout the history of the church, Christians have remembered and celebrated the last days of Jesus' earthly life. Often called Holy Week, it's celebrated the week leading up to Easter or Resurrection Sunday.

This simple guide explains how each day of Easter Week matters for your life and give prompts to help you worship Jesus with joy, intentionality, and love during Easter Week.

We've structured this guide so that each day you can:

- Read the Bible and remember Jesus' last week on Earth
- Pray in response to what each day celebrates
- Sing or listen to a song that celebrates the Jesus' activity on each day of Easter Week
- Share with someone in your life what each day teaches us about Jesus.

We specifically encourage you to use these truths as you share the gospel with those who do not know or follow Jesus (yet or regularly).

If you have kids, we have provided activities and conversation suggestions to help you explain each day and to participate as a family.

We hope that this resource will help you better understand and trust in what Jesus accomplished on the cross. We hope that this guide will help you respond to the grace of God by worshiping him in every area of your life.

Have a blessed Easter Week!







# SUNDAY March 24



Easter Week begins with Palm Sunday, the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey in fulfillment of Zechariah 9:9.

Upon his arrival, the crowds greeted him with palm branches and shouts of "Hosanna," a plea for God to save them.

# Read

**Matthew 21:1-11** 

### PRAY

Spend time thanking God for sending Jesus, the true King that the world so desperately needs.

Praise God for keeping his promise to send us a King who would deal with our sin problem once and for all.

## SING

"Hosanna" [Spotify] [Apple Music] Brooke Ligertwood

# SHARE

Palm Sunday reminds us that Jesus is the King who came to deliver us from our sin.

#### EXPERIENCE

Over dinner, discuss reasons why you can praise Jesus. Create a praise list and continue to add to the list throughout the week as more reasons come to mind.







On Monday, Jesus entered the temple at Jerusalem and found it full of traders and money-changers who most likely were ripping off those who needed to purchase animals for sacrifice. In purifying the Temple, Jesus declared that ALL people - regardless of age, race, or ethnicity, those with physical disabilities and spiritual needs - should be able to come and worship God.

## Read Matthew 21:12-17

#### PRAY

- Give God thanks for including ALL people in his kingdom and for not showing partiality.
- Confess to God ways you may have shown partiality or favoritism to others.
- Pray for God to help you show the same compassion to others that Jesus shows us.

#### SING

"Sunday Is Coming" [Spotify] [Apple Music] Phil Wickham

## SHARE

Monday of Easter Week reminds us that Jesus is the perfect worshiper who worships the Lord in purity and gave his life to purify us.





Take a Family Prayer Walk through your neighborhood. Before the walk, explain that God loves everyone and wants ALL people to worship him. As you walk, pray over each house and ask that God would use the season of Easter to lead your neighbors to Jesus. Extra: Make cards for your neighbors to drop off as you walk and pray.







On Tuesday, Jesus again entered the temple and began preaching. The chief priests and authorities approached him and questioned his authority to teach (21:23), to disrupt the money-changers (vv. 12-13), and to heal (v. 14). Jesus in turn trapped them with his response.

## Read

Matthew 21:23-27

## PRAY

- Take time to consider that, in Jesus, God himself has taken on a human body and understands firsthand what it's like to live in this fallen world.
- Pray that God would help you to submit to Jesus' authority each day.

# SING

"King Of Kings" [Spotify] [Apple Music] Chandler Moore

# SHARE

Tuesday of Easter Week reminds us that Jesus is the true teacher who tells us how to have eternal life through faith in him.

## EXPERIENCE

Share what Jesus has been teaching you with someone. Text them and tell them. Invite them to join you this Easter in worship to learn more







This day is sometimes referred to as "Silent Wednesday" since the Bible doesn't explicitly mention any of Jesus' activities on this day. This may have been when his opponents plotted to kill him.

## Read

Matthew 26:3-5 Psalm 2

#### PRAY

Confess even small ways that you, too, have considered Jesus' authority as a threat to your own plans for your life.

# SING

"Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me" [Spotify] [Apple Music] CityAlight

## SHARE

Silent Wednesday reminds us that the world hates God and his people, but God has great love for sinners.

## EXPERIENCE

Take the day to silence yourself, your devices or make space to practice silence for a specific portion of your day (Ex; during your commute to/from work or during lunchtime).







On Thursday, Jesus shared his final meal with his disciples and instituted what we call the Lord's Supper. (The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin word mandatum, or "command," a reference to the command or mandate Jesus gave his disciples in John 13:34 to love one another.)

At First Christian Church, we observe the Lord's Supper or Communion each week to remember the sacrifice Jesus made for us through his broken body and shed blood.

## Read

Matthew 26:17-35

#### PRAY

Meditate on John 13:34: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."

- Ask God to help you love others as Jesus has loved you.
- Take time to confess sin to God. Give thanks to him for the blood of Jesus "which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Matthew 26:28).

### SING

"Thank You Jesus For The Blood" [Spotify] [Apple Music] Charity Gayle







# SHARE

Maundy Thursday reminds us that Jesus is the perfect friend who loved us, served us, and gave his life for us.

# EXPERIENCE

Plan to spend time eating together with family or friends (& even share Communion). Consider a way to serve or show love to each other. This is also a great day for families to use the You've been Egged kits passed out on Sunday at church.







# GOD RRDAY March 29



After a sham trial, Jesus was condemned to death and was crucified on a cross, a common means of execution by the Romans. Because the sinless Son of God died in place of sinful people, the Friday of Easter Week is especially somber.

Christians have therefore traditionally referred to this day as "holy" or "good."

## Read Matthew 27:32-61

#### PRAY

- Meditate on the fact that your own sins were being punished by God on the cross. Give thanks to God for the incredible mercy he has shown you.
- Ask God for strength to endure the suffering that comes with following Jesus.

#### SING

"Man Of Sorrows" [Spotify] [Apple Music] Hillsong Worship

## SHARE

Good Friday reminds us that Jesus died to satisfy the wrath God has against us and our sin.







Start a text chain with anyone who you may need to forgive (or seek forgiveness from)

OR

Make a paper chain together as a family. On each strip of paper, write down a sin, something that you have done that needs forgiveness. Link your paper strips together to form a chain. Talk about how sin is like chains that bind us and keep us from living the life God intended for us. On Easter, celebrate Jesus' resurrection by breaking apart your chain of sins! This is what Jesus does for us—His death and resurrection frees us from the bondage of sin! That's what makes this day good!







On Saturday, the Sabbath day, Jesus' body lay in a tomb. Because of previous remarks by Jesus that he would rise again, the religious leaders set a guard over the tomb.

# Read

Matthew 27:62-66

## PRAY

- · Ask God to increase your desire for Jesus' return.
- Ask him for the strength to endure the trials of this life.

## SING

"Springtime" [Spotify] [Apple Music] Chris Renzema

#### SHARE

Saturday of Easter Week reminds us that even when times are dark, God always keeps his promises.

# EXPERIENCE

Practice Sabbath (resting from work or worry) and pray for God's presence to come bring life to any areas of difficulty or darkness

OR

Color Easter Eggs and discuss all the ways God has brought light and color into your darkness.







On Saturday, the Sabbath day, Jesus' body lay in a tomb. Because of previous remarks by Jesus that he would rise again, the religious leaders set a guard over the tomb.

# Read

Matthew 28:1-10

#### PRAY

- Give thanks to God for bringing Jesus back from the dead. Thank him for the assurance this gives us that our sins are forgiven.
- Pray for someone in your life who does not know Jesus and ask God for an opportunity to share this good news with them.
- Meditate on these verses: "And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins... If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pities." (I Corinthians 15:17,19)
- Ask that God would help you to live each day in the light of the resurrection.

# SING

"Because He Lives" [Spotify] [Apple Music]
The Worship Initiative

"Rattle! (Morning/Evening)" [Spotify] [Apple Music] The Worship Initiative









# SHARE

Resurrection Sunday reminds us that Jesus is truly God and that he can truly save us from our sin!

# EXPERIENCE

Celebrate Jesus' resurrection by attending an Easter Sunday Worship Service at either 8:00, 9:30, or 11:00.



