

HOLY WEEK FAMILY DEVOTIONAL 2020



THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW



HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

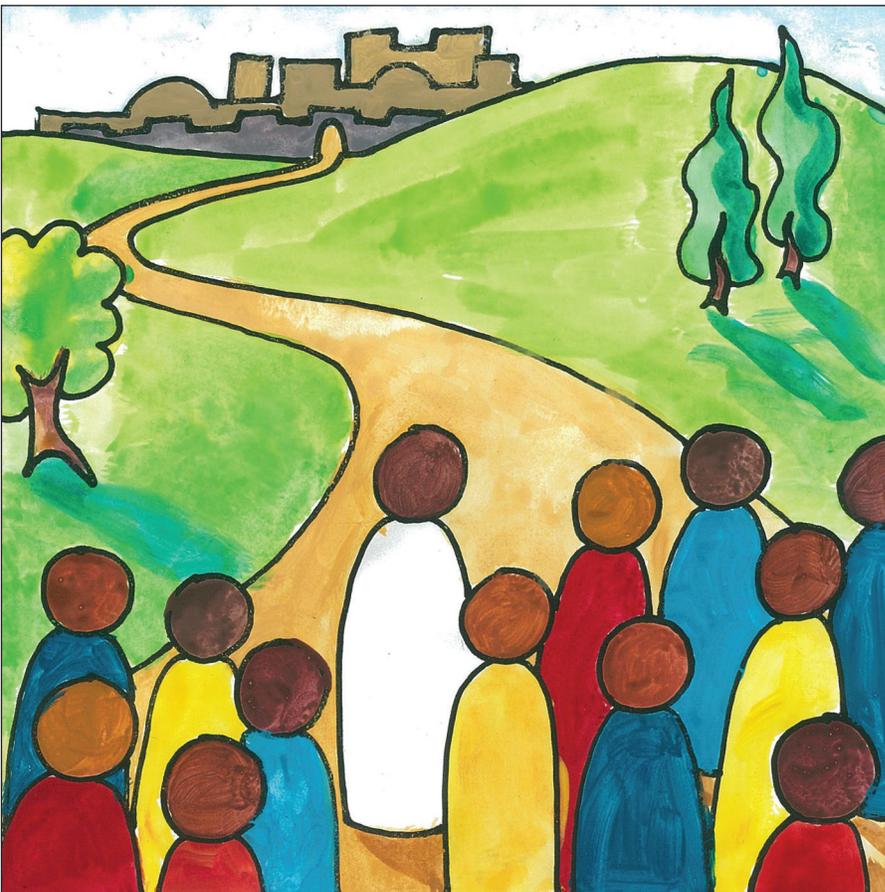
Dear Family,

Holy Week is a very special time for family discipleship. We hope that this resource will be a blessing to you as you prepare for Easter! You may choose to print and use the separate “journey board” pdf alongside the devotional. We suggest you set up the journey board somewhere at home where you’ll see it every day. Use a tea light or small candle to move along the path each day of Holy Week.

You’ll find new episodes of “*Daily Devo with Will & Jer*” at sjvan.org/ events Monday to Friday to accompany this resource. We suggest that you begin by watching the video and then take about 10-15 minutes to complete the day’s material (which is two pages). We recommend using the NIRV, NLT, or another simple to read bible translation. It’s very helpful to have one copy of this book per person in your family.

Each day includes a variety of response options. You don’t have to do them all! However, you’ll enjoy the book most if you take the time together to reflect on the questions and make space for responding through writing, drawing, building, listening, and much more.

There are some suggested prayers in the back of the devotional. Consider beginning and ending your time together with one of these prayers.

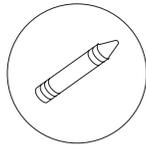


WHAT DO THESE PICTURES MEAN?

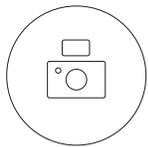
You'll notice these images on every page. They will help you respond to what you're learning. There's no need to rush—make sure you take time to do both pages.



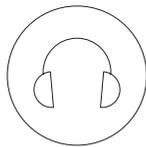
READ



DRAW



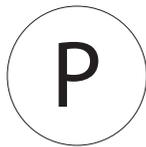
SNAPSHOT



LISTEN



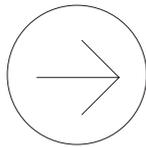
NEW IDEA



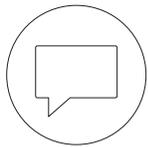
PRAY



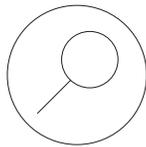
QUESTION



ACT



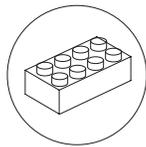
DISCUSS



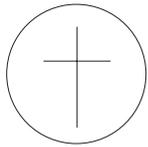
INVESTIGATE



WRITE

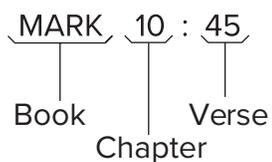


BUILD

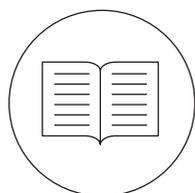
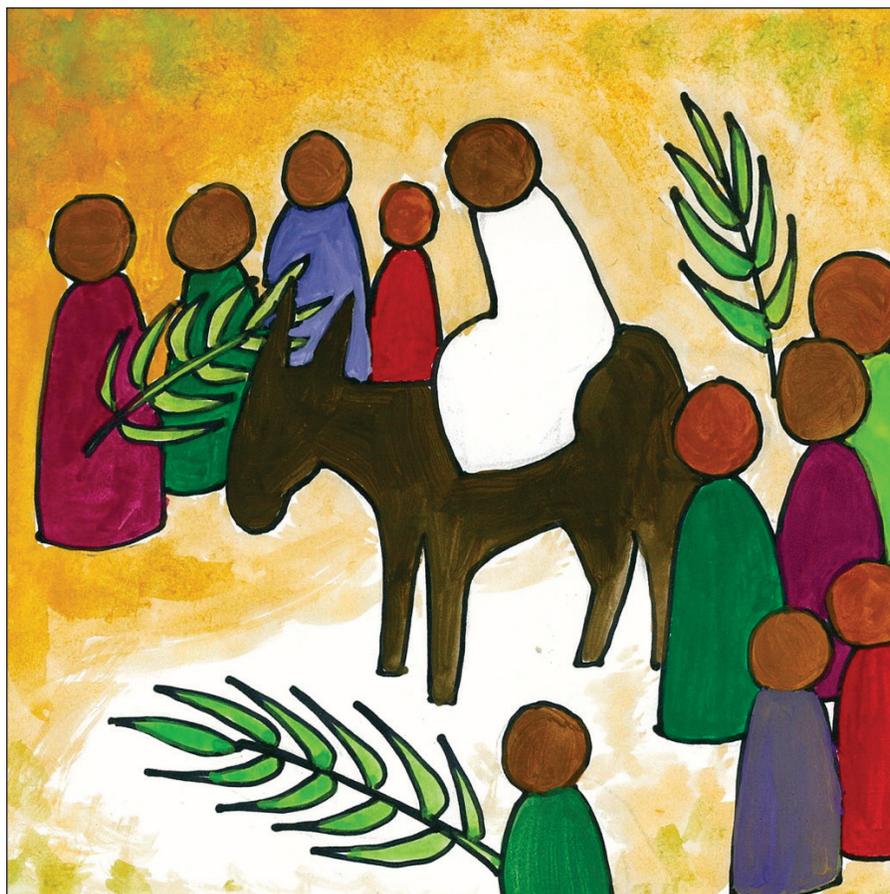


THE GOSPEL

How to find a Bible verse



JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM AS KING



READ Matthew 21:1-11

Here is a simple prayer before you begin:

Heavenly Father,

Open up our ears to listen.

Open up our eyes to see.

Plant the seed of understanding.

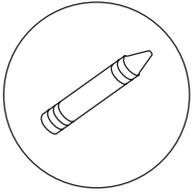
Grow it up like the tallest tree.

In Jesus name,

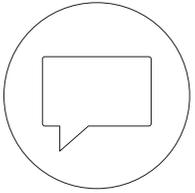
Amen.



What does the crowd cry out as Jesus rides into Jerusalem? WRITE it out in the space below:

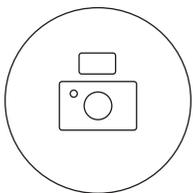
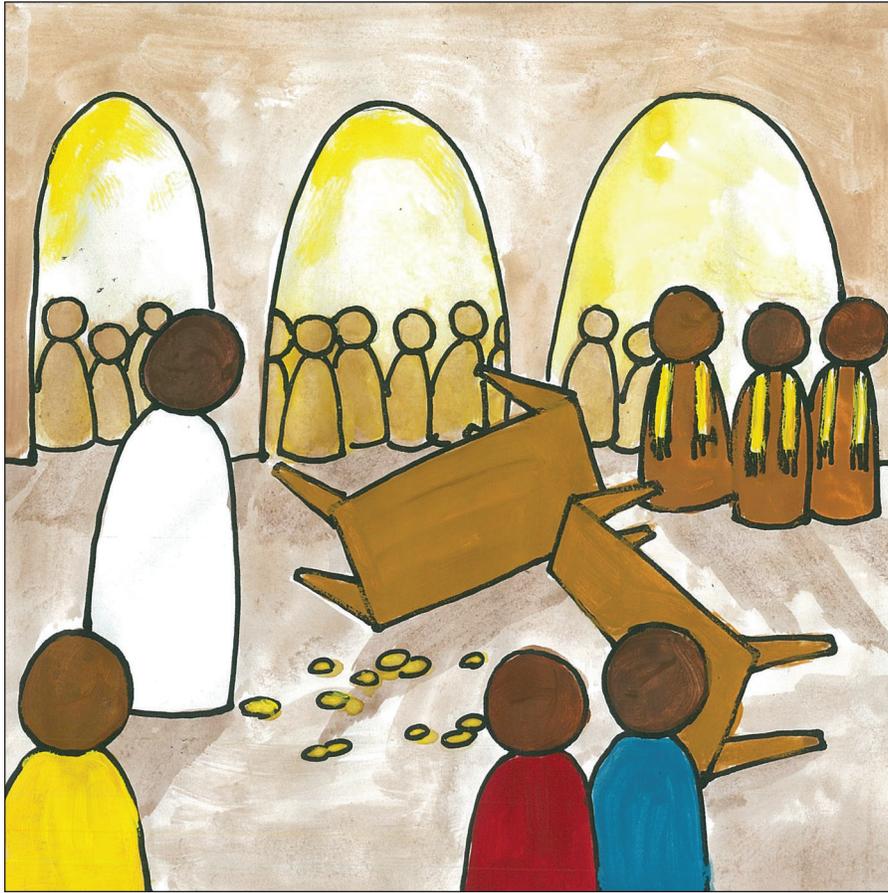


On a separate paper DRAW a picture of Jesus riding a donkey into Jerusalem. Make the scene as colourful as you can!



Look up Matthew 16:21 in your Bible. Discuss together why Jesus is going to Jerusalem. Why would Jesus journey to Jerusalem if it's dangerous for him there?

JESUS TEACHES IN THE TEMPLE



Matthew 21:12-13:

¹² And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. ¹³ He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a den of robbers."



What is happening at the temple that makes Jesus angry? What does Jesus say the temple is for?



READ Matthew 21:33-46

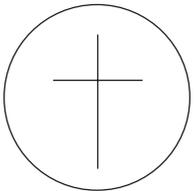


Tell each other one new thing you learned from Jesus' parable. Who do the characters represent in real life?

Tenant = _____

Servants = _____

Son and Heir = _____



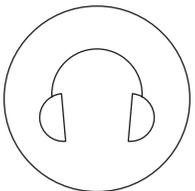
A cornerstone is the foundation on which something important is built.

Look! Here are more verses about Jesus the Cornerstone. Acts 4:8-12:

⁸Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit. He said to them... listen to this, you and all the people of Israel! You nailed Jesus Christ of Nazareth to the cross. But God raised him from the dead. It is through Jesus' name that this man stands healed in front of you. ¹¹Scripture says that Jesus is

“the stone you builders did not accept. But he has become the cornerstone—the most important stone of all.”

¹²You can't be saved by believing in anyone else. God has given people no other name under heaven that will save them.”



LISTEN to “My Hope is Built” recorded by the Norton Hall Band. Here is a link with a video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVE-xXFDOwg>

THE LAST SUPPER



READ Matthew 26:17-30

Here is a simple prayer before you begin:

Heavenly Father,

Open up our ears to listen.

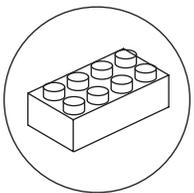
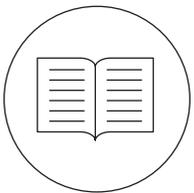
Open up our eyes to see.

Plant the seed of understanding.

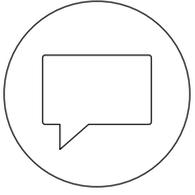
Grow it up like the tallest tree.

In Jesus name,

Amen.



BUILD a scene of the story using Lego, Playmobil or other toys and blocks. Where does this story take place? Who is having supper with Jesus?

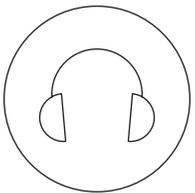


While you are building discuss the following as a family:

What special Jewish meal is Jesus and his disciples celebrating? Why do you think Jesus chose to die during this Jewish festival? Read Exodus 12:1-13 for clues.

WHAT does Jesus tell his friends to DO to remember him? When do we do this as a church?

Jesus tells his friends about the bad things that are going to happen to him. Why is this important? Is Jesus' death just a big mistake or a terrible accident? Why or why not?



LISTEN to the song "Behold the Lamb" by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty. Here is a link to a video with lyrics:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ACHPwx7EGQA>

JESUS PRAYS IN THE GARDEN



READ Matthew 26:36-46

Here is a simple prayer before you begin:

Heavenly Father,

Open up our ears to listen.

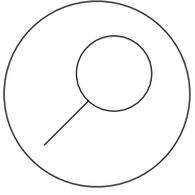
Open up our eyes to see.

Plant the seed of understanding.

Grow it up like the tallest tree.

In Jesus name,

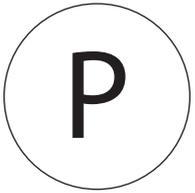
Amen.



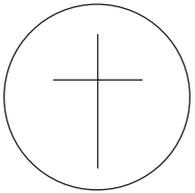
In verse 39 Jesus prays to his Father and says, “My Father, if it is possible take this cup from me; but let what you want to be done, not what I want.”

What does Jesus mean by “take this cup?” What is the cup? (Hint: Isaiah 51:17 and Romans 1:18)

What do verses 39 and 42 teach us about Jesus the Son’s relationship with God his Father?



PRAY together as a family. Let what you’ve learned from these verses shape your prayer time. Finish by saying the Lord’s Prayer together.



Here is the Good News! It’s called ‘The Great Exchange.’ Jesus died in our place so that we might live.

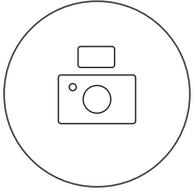
2 Corinthians 5:21

“For our sake God made Jesus who had no sin to be sin for us, so that we can be made right with God because of what Christ has done for us.”

JESUS ON TRIAL

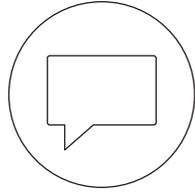


READ Matthew 26:57-68 and 27:11-26
Here is a simple prayer before you begin:
*Heavenly Father,
Open up our ears to listen.
Open up our eyes to see.
Plant the seed of understanding.
Grow it up like the tallest tree.
In Jesus name,
Amen.*



Matthew 26:63-64

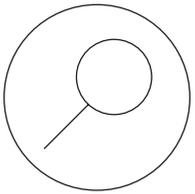
“So the chief priests asked Jesus: ‘Are you the Son of God, then?’ And he said to them, ‘Yes I am.’ Then they said, ‘why do we need any more witnesses? We have heard it from his own lips!’”



Why are the leaders so angry that Jesus says he’s the Son of Man? Who do you think Jesus is?

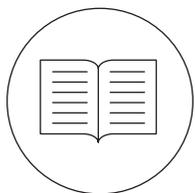
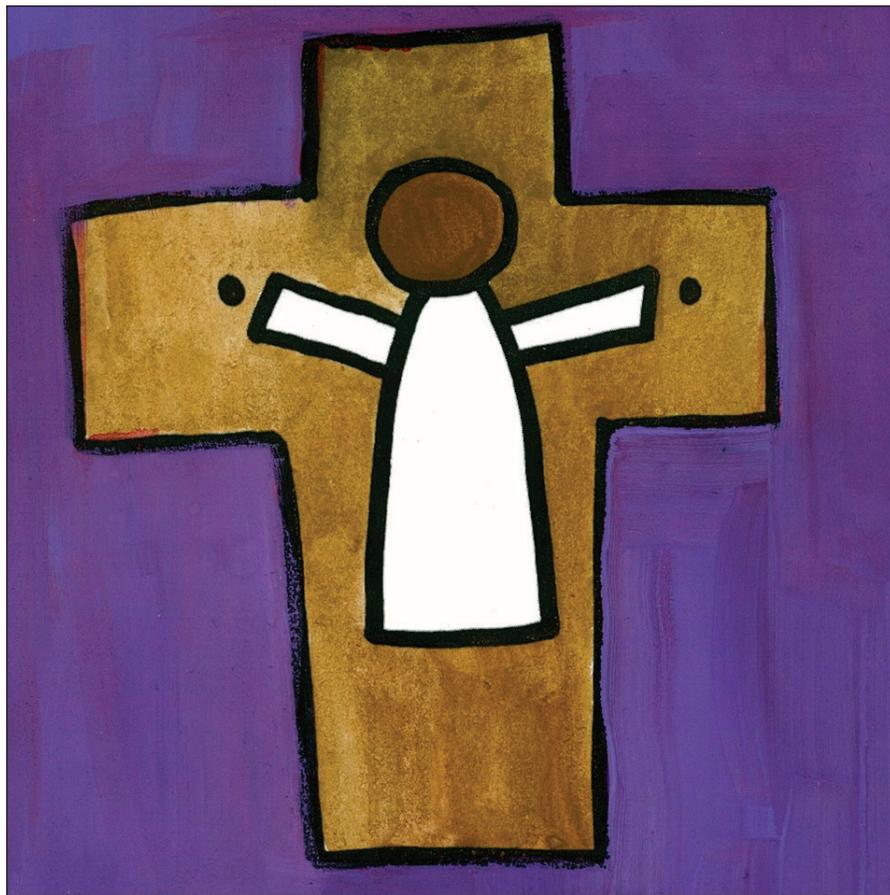


Write down something new you learned from your reading:



What is Pilate’s wife’s message in verse 19? Why doesn’t the crowd choose to release Barabbas rather than Jesus?

JESUS ON THE CROSS



READ Matthew 27:32-56

Here is a simple prayer before you begin:

Heavenly Father,

Open up our ears to listen.

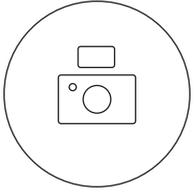
Open up our eyes to see.

Plant the seed of understanding.

Grow it up like the tallest tree.

In Jesus name,

Amen.

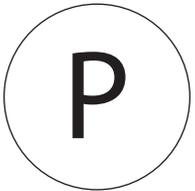


Matthew 27:37

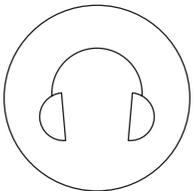
And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

Eugene Peterson says Jesus' coronation as King took place on the cross. How does Matthew show us this in chapter 27?

(hint: look closely at what people say to Jesus while he's on the cross)



PRAY for someone you know who doesn't yet know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Pray that God would give you an opportunity to share the gospel with them that they might receive new life in Jesus name!



LISTEN to "The Wonderful Cross" by Chris Tomlin and Matt Redman. Here is a link to a video with lyrics: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDztJChiHikWHY>

LISTEN to "Last Words (Tenebrae)" recorded by Andrew Peterson. Here is a link to a video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kx3vDBtf78E>

WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE?



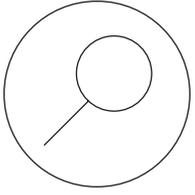
READ Matthew 27:57-66

Here is a simple prayer before you begin:

*Heavenly Father,
Open up our ears to listen.
Open up our eyes to see.
Plant the seed of understanding.
Grow it up like the tallest tree.
In Jesus name,
Amen.*



What did Jesus' friends do with his body after he died?



As a family, investigate how God's Word, the Bible, answers the question: "**WHY did Jesus have to die?**"



Have each person look up at least one of these passages. WRITE one or two words that answer the question: *WHY did Jesus have to die?*

ROMANS 5:8

1 PETER 3:18

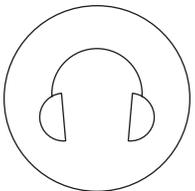
JOHN 3:16

GALATIANS 3:13-14

1 JOHN 4:10

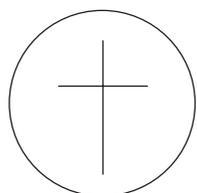
ROMANS 6:23

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

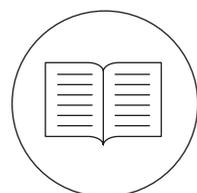


LISTEN to "And Can It Be" recorded by Indelible Grace.
Here is a link to a video with lyrics:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xpfqmlc19is>

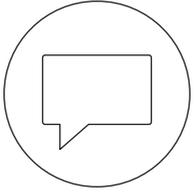
JESUS IS ALIVE!



The Lord is risen!
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!



READ Matthew 28:1-15
Here is a simple prayer before you begin:
*Heavenly Father,
Open up our ears to listen.
Open up our eyes to see.
Plant the seed of understanding.
Grow it up like the tallest tree.
In Jesus name,
Amen.*



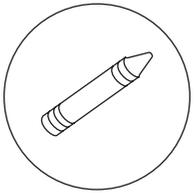
Discuss Matthew 28:1-15

What do the women expect to find at Jesus' tomb?

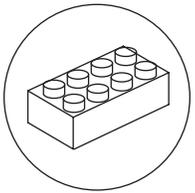
What good news do the angels give them?

What does Jesus tell the women to do after they see him alive?

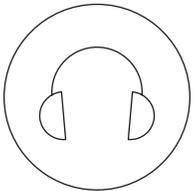
How do we know that Jesus' disciples didn't steal Jesus' body?



DRAW a picture of the angels giving the women Good News at the empty tomb. What did the angels say? Write it on your picture.



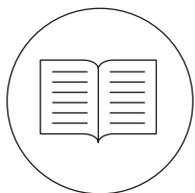
BUILD a scene of Jesus appearing to the women as they run from the tomb. How can you show how excited they were to see Jesus?



LISTEN to "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" recorded by King's College Choir, Cambridge, England. Here is a link to a video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMwPEmUMP7U>

I AM WITH YOU!



READ Matthew 28:16-20

Here is a simple prayer before you begin:

Heavenly Father,

Open up our ears to listen.

Open up our eyes to see.

Plant the seed of understanding.

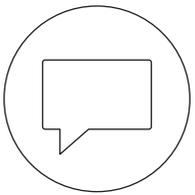
Grow it up like the tallest tree.

In Jesus name,

Amen.

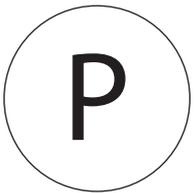


WRITE one new idea you learned from these verses:

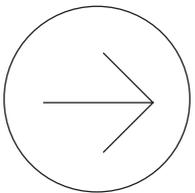


What is Jesus' command for his followers? What do you think it looks like for you to be a disciple of Jesus?

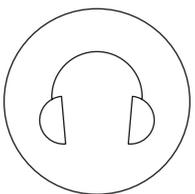
Talk together: Have you ever asked Jesus to be your Lord and King? To forgive your sins so you can have new life in Jesus' name and live with him forever? Do you want Jesus to help you know him, love him, trust him, and follow him? Pray about this together as a family right now.



PRAY together as Holy Week comes to an end. Thank God for sending his Son to rescue us!



Jesus' death and resurrection is the best news in the history of the world! WHO do you know that doesn't yet know Jesus, that you could share this good news with by giving them a copy of this book, or showing them what you've drawn and written in your book?



LISTEN to "Instruments of Mercy" recorded by Beautiful Eulogy. Here is a link to a video with lyrics: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uHZWw3p1o1Q>

EASTER SEASON FAMILY PRAYERS

This prayer was written by St. Augustine, a bishop who lived in North Africa from 354-430 AD. It is a prayer of confession:

My soul is like a house
small for you to enter
but I pray you would enlarge it.
It is in ruins
but I pray you would remake it.
It contains much that you will not be pleased to see;
this I know
and do not hide.
But who is to rid it of these things?
There is no one but you.
Amen.

This prayer is adapted from the Collect, or special prayer, for Holy Week in the Anglican Book of Common Prayer:

Dear God,
You loved us so much that you sent your Son Jesus,
to die for us on the cross.
We pray that you would help us to live now in Christ,
and we know that we will live forever with you
because Jesus rose from the dead.
We pray this in Jesus name,
Amen.

This prayer was written by George Herbert, an Anglican minister who lived in England from 1593-1633 (adapted):

Dear God,
You have given so much to me,
give one thing more—a grateful heart;
not thankful when it pleases me, as if your blessings
had spare days; but such a heart, whose very pulse
may be your praise.
Amen.

This prayer was written by Richard Foster. It is a prayer to say at the beginning of a new day:

Good Morning, Jesus. I greet you. You greet me. The dawning of a new day.

“When morning guilds the skies

my heart awakening cries:

may Jesus Christ be praised!”

I thank you, Lord:

For the stillness of a morning just begun,

For the birds whose songs somehow continue the stillness,

For the warm light that slowly and surely dispels the darkness,

For the hope of new beginnings.

Amen.

This prayer is adapted from the Anglican Book of Common Prayer service for families. It is a good prayer to say at dinner time or at the end of the day:

O MOST merciful Father,

we humbly thank you for all your gifts so freely given to us.

For life and health and safety,

for power to work and leisure to rest,

for all that is beautiful in creation and in the lives of people,

we praise and magnify your holy Name.

But, above all, we thank you for our spiritual mercies

in Christ Jesus our Lord,

for the means of grace,

and for the hope of glory.

Fill our hearts with all joy and peace in believing;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

