

JOURNEY TO



JOURNEY TO

at
ALIVE
CHURCH

**FORMATION
JOURNAL**



Dear Alive Church Family,

I'm so excited about this eight-day journey that is before us. Over the past several years, taking time to pause and dig deeper into the significant truth around Church history has only caused me to love Jesus more. As followers of Jesus, we are consistently instructed in Scripture to live set apart from the culture we live in—to place our foundation in the truth of God's Word and nothing else. One of the ways we can make this a practice for our life is setting aside time to not live like everyone else. Holy Week (or as we are referring to it here, Journey to Easter) is one of those great opportunities. I am praying for you and believe by faith that you will experience and encounter God in a meaningful and significant way this week, that you will hear Him speak to you through His Word, and that you will be changed. In order for this to happen, we all must adjust our schedules this week. Do some kind of fast (e.g. Daniel fast, no meat or sweets, liquid only, etc.) that takes you out of your normal flow and fully invest in the Scriptures and activities of this week. All of this culminates on Easter Sunday, the day we celebrate the resurrection. During this week, as we experience what Jesus and his followers went through about 2000 years ago, it only makes us more aware and more thankful for what Jesus has done for us and why we must do everything we can to bring people with us to experience this Jesus who loves and saves us from mediocrity, that we might live fully alive.

Let's go on this journey together as we pray for a great harvest of people to put their faith in Jesus on Easter Sunday, for revival in the days ahead, and to see as many people as possible living fully alive.

Pastor Michael

INTRODUCTION

Holy Week is a week that followers of Jesus commemorate His final week on Earth from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday. The accounts of Holy Week are included in the four Gospels of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. These Scriptures contain some of the most important events of Jesus' ministry on Earth, including His death, burial, and resurrection.

What we commemorate during Holy Week has meaning and significance for our lives. We don't want to just go through the motions, but instead we want to truly encounter God. Our journey this week will help give us a greater understanding of what Jesus did and why it has significance for us today.

This formation journal will guide you through this journey to help you develop habits and bring transformation. Each day will have Scriptures relating to the final week of Jesus' life on earth. The One Year Bible Scriptures are included as well to read daily. You will utilize the SOAP method, which is outlined in this journal, to reflect on the Scriptures. Space is provided for you to write down notes from each service to prompt you to continue in reflection throughout the week. The journal will also include a section of action that you can take each day.

DAILY SCHEDULE

April 10: Palm Sunday

Begin seven-day fast concluding on Saturday

April 11: Monday

Spend time with those close to you

April 12: Tuesday

Weekly Prayer happening at all campuses at 7:00AM

April 13: Wednesday

Midweek Service happening at the Western Branch Campus and St. Louis Campus at 7:00PM

April 14: Thursday

Spend at least 30 minutes in silence and solitude

April 15: Friday

Good Friday Service happening at all campuses at 7:00PM

April 16: Saturday

Spend at least 30 minutes in silence and reflection

April 17: Sunday

Attend Easter Services

FAMILY HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONAL

Scan the QR Code to access the Family Holy Week Devotional to journey together as a family this week.



bible.com/en/reading-plans/24340

SOAP INTRODUCTION

Throughout this Journal you will see sections labeled SOAP. This is a Bible reading and journaling method that helps us process, reflect on, and apply God's Word to our lives. We don't read the Bible just to read the Bible, we read the Bible to be transformed by God's Word. As you study God's Word, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to do a transformative work in you. Let the Word speak to you, challenge you, comfort you, convict you, and change you.

S—Scripture

O—Observation

A—Application

P—Prayer

SCRIPTURE

Start with prayer, asking God to speak to you through His Word, then read through the passage of Scripture slowly. As you read, ask God to highlight a verse(s) and write it in your journal.

OBSERVATION

Write down some observations about this verse or passage. This can be simple observations or go into much deeper study.

Questions to consider:

- What is the background or the setting?
- Notice things like repetition, comparison, and contrast.
- What is the overall theme of this passage?
- What questions arise as you read and study?

APPLICATION

Write down how you can apply this Scripture to your life.

Questions to consider:

- What does the passage/verse teach me about God?
- What does this passage/verse teach me about myself?
- How should this change me?
- How does this truth give me a perspective to see the way God sees?
- What should I do in response?
- How does it prompt me to pray, interact, and relate with other people?

PRAYER

Write out a prayer thanking and praising God for His truth. Praise God for the attributes of Him that were revealed to you in this passage. Confess any sin that has come to light during this time of studying. Thank Him for His Word and ask Him to continue to work in you. Write down what your heart desires to say to God in response to His Word. Turn the Scripture into a prayer back to God.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10



OVERVIEW

To followers of Jesus, the Sunday before Easter is known as Palm Sunday. This marks the beginning of Holy Week. The name is derived from the palm branches that were used for Jesus' Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem. Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on the back of a borrowed donkey. This was to fulfill a prophecy recorded in Zechariah 9:9 that the Messiah would come to God's people riding on a donkey. Jesus' entrance into the city on a donkey was a massive demonstration of humility. Jesus is King and yet at the start of His final week, He demonstrated once again that His Kingdom would not look like the kingdoms of the world, but that He was a different kind of king. A large crowd welcomed Him into the city with palm branches and shouts of, "Hosanna!" This word "hosanna" means, "God please save (or deliver) us." The crowds were acknowledging their need for a Savior and their hope that Jesus would deliver them from their political oppression.

HOLY WEEK SCRIPTURES

- The Triumphant Entry (Matthew 21:1–11, Mark 11:1–10, Luke 19:29–44)
- Jesus predicts His death (John 12:20–36)
- Jesus visits the temple (Matthew 21:14–17, Mark 11:11)

ONE YEAR BIBLE SCRIPTURES

- Deuteronomy 34
- Joshua 1–2
- Luke 13:22–35
- Luke 14:1–6
- Psalm 79
- Proverbs 12:26

MONDAY, APRIL 11



OVERVIEW

On the Monday before Easter, Jesus had spent Sunday night in a village called Bethany with His friends Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Jesus spent time with many people while on the earth, though it seems that Mary, Martha, and Lazarus were among those Jesus especially enjoyed the company of. Jesus spent this time on Monday with those He chose, knowing He would go to the cross in just a few days. On Monday morning, on His way back to Jerusalem, Jesus cursed a fig tree that had yet to bear fruit. His disciples later saw that the tree had withered, a moment where Jesus taught them the importance of faith in God's ability to do the impossible. On the same day, Jesus entered the temple and drove out those who were buying and selling goods in the temple. He overturned their tables where they had exchanged the goods. Jesus did this to show the importance of God's house being a house of prayer. Afterward, Jesus went back to spend time with His friends in Bethany.

HOLY WEEK SCRIPTURES

- Jesus curses a fig tree (Matthew 21:18–19, Mark 11:12–14)
- Jesus cleanses the temple (Matthew 21:12–13, Mark 11:15–18, Luke 19:45–48)

ONE YEAR BIBLE SCRIPTURES

- Joshua 3
- Joshua 4
- Luke 14:7–35
- Psalm 80
- Proverbs 12:27–28

TUESDAY, APRIL 12



OVERVIEW

On Tuesday Jesus returned to the temple in Jerusalem to confront the religious leaders of His day. The religious leaders confronted Jesus with several theological issues, including authority, taxes, and marriage. Jesus was able to speak with such clarity and insight to the point where “no one dared to ask him any more questions” (Mark 12:34). Later that day, Jesus traveled to the nearby Mount of Olives, where He taught His disciples about the future of Jerusalem and of His own second coming.

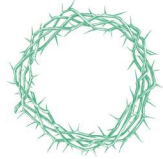
HOLY WEEK SCRIPTURES

- The lesson from the fig tree (Matthew 21:20–22, Mark 11:20–26)
- Jesus teaches in the temple (Matthew 21:23–23:39, Mark 11:27–12:44, Luke 20:1–21:4)
- The Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24–25, Mark 13, Luke 21:5–36)

ONE YEAR BIBLE SCRIPTURES

- Joshua 5
- Joshua 6
- Joshua 7:1–15
- Luke 15
- Psalm 81
- Proverbs 13:1

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13



OVERVIEW

On the Wednesday of Holy Week, the Bible does not specify what Jesus did. Most scholars believe that Jesus spent the day resting with His disciples and friends in Bethany. Jesus modeled the importance of finding rest on this day, demonstrating that no matter what is happening in our lives, we need time to rest. This is believed to be the day Judas agreed to betray Jesus to the authorities.

HOLY WEEK SCRIPTURES

- Judas agrees to betray Jesus (Matthew 26:14–16, Mark 14:10–11, Luke 22:3–6).

ONE YEAR BIBLE SCRIPTURES

- Joshua 7:16–26
- Joshua 8
- Joshua 9
- Luke 16:1–18
- Psalm 82
- Proverbs 13:2–3

THURSDAY, APRIL 14



OVERVIEW

The Thursday before Easter is known as Maundy Thursday. The word, “maundy” comes from the Latin word for “command” and refers to the commandment Jesus gave to the disciples, on that day, to love one another (John 13:34). This Thursday was the Jewish day of Passover, so Jesus celebrated by having a meal with His disciples, known as the Last Supper. In this meal, Jesus instituted the practice of Communion. He also washed the disciples' feet and gave final instructions to His disciples, including the “Maundy.” Later that night, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane with a few of His disciples to pray. That night He was betrayed by Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, and was then arrested.

HOLY WEEK SCRIPTURES

- The preparation for the Passover (Matthew 26:17–19, Mark 14:12–16, Luke 22:7–13)
- The Passover meal (Matthew 26:20–29, Mark 14:17–23, Luke 22:14–30, John 13–17)
- The hymn and departure (Matthew 26:30, Mark 14:26, Luke 22:39)
- Jesus predicts Peter's denial (Matthew 26:31–35, Mark 14:27–31, Luke 22:31–38)
- In the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36–46, Mark 14:32–42, Luke 22:40–46)

ONE YEAR BIBLE SCRIPTURES

- Joshua 10
- Luke 16:19–31
- Luke 17:1–10
- Psalm 83
- Proverbs 13:4

FRIDAY, APRIL 15



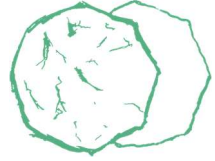
OVERVIEW

To followers of Jesus, the Friday before Easter is known as Good Friday. After being arrested by a mix of Jewish and Roman authorities early Friday morning, Jesus went through several trials before the Jewish Sanhedrin and the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate. During these trials, Jesus was mocked and experienced painful beatings and whippings. Pilate attempted to convince the Jewish leaders to let Jesus go, but they continued to condemn Jesus until Pilate finally agreed to hand Jesus over to be crucified. Jesus hung on a cross for approximately six hours, until He died in the afternoon. On Friday evening His body was buried in a tomb.

HOLY WEEK SCRIPTURES

- Jesus is arrested (Matthew 26:47–56, Mark 14:43–52, Luke 22:47–53, John 18:2–12)
- Jesus meets with the Sanhedrin (Matthew 26:57–68, Mark 14:53–65, Luke 22:63–71)
- Peter denies Jesus (Matthew 26:69–75, Mark 14:66–72, Luke 22:54–62, John 18:15–18, 25–27)
- Jesus delivered to Pilate (Matthew 27:1–2, Mark 15:1)
- Judas hangs himself (Matthew 27:3–10)
- Pilate questions Jesus (Matthew 27:11–14, Mark 15:2–5, Luke 23:1–7, John 18:28–38)
- Herod questions Jesus (Luke 23:8–12)
- Pilate condemns Jesus (Matthew 27:15–26, Mark 15:6–15, Luke 23:13–25, John 18:38–19:16)
- The crucifixion (Matthew 27:27–56, Mark 15:16–41, Luke 23:26–49, John 19:17–37)
- Jesus is buried (Matthew 27:57–61, Mark 15:42–47, Luke 23:50–56, John 19:38–42)

SATURDAY, APRIL 16



OVERVIEW

On the Saturday of Holy Week, Jesus remained in the tomb for the entire day. The Jewish leaders convinced Pilate to place Roman soldiers to guard the tomb, fearing that His disciples would try to take His body. This was a somber day for His disciples. They were without hope and not aware that everything would change on Sunday.

HOLY WEEK SCRIPTURES

- Guards are placed at the tomb (Matthew 27:62–66)

ONE YEAR BIBLE SCRIPTURES

- Joshua 13
- Joshua 14
- Luke 18:1–17
- Psalm 85
- Proverbs 13:7–8

SUNDAY, APRIL 17



OVERVIEW

On Easter Sunday followers of Jesus celebrate the resurrection of Christ. A few women who were followers of Jesus went to see the tomb, where an angel appeared to them and said, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!” (Luke 24:5–6).

HOLY WEEK SCRIPTURES

- The resurrection (Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20–21)

ONE YEAR BIBLE SCRIPTURES

- Joshua 15
- Luke 18:18–43
- Psalm 86
- Proverbs 13:9–10

PRAISE REPORTS

Scan the QR Code to share any good news stories from those you invited to Easter Services or how you were personally impacted this week on this Journey to Easter.



livefullyalive.com/praise



Downtown Suffolk 9:30 & 11:15AM
Western Branch 8:00, 9:30, & 11:15AM
St. Louis 8:30 & 10:15AM

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