



Family Bible Study

April 7, 2020

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY OUTLINE

Please share your Family Bible Study pictures on social media with the hashtag, #HarvestFamilyBibleStudy!

- **Family Prayer**
- **Family Bible Study**

Topic – What Does Holy Week Mean To Me?

Introduction

- I. Why Do We Have Holy Week?**
- II. Why Is Resurrection Easter Sunday So Important?**
- III. How Can I Participate This Week?**

A. **Fast & Pray-Pray** (Daily) Church Fast (4/7, 12 am to 4/8, 4 pm).

B. **Take Communion** Online Holy Communion Service (4/8, 7 pm)

C. **Invite Someone To Our Online Services** – (4/5 - 4/12)

D. **Donate Food** – Harvest Food Drive (4/12)

E. **Give A Special Offering** – Restoration Seed (4/5 - 4/12)

IV. Final Reflections

V. Prayer of Salvation

VI. Closing Prayer

- **Family Matters (Family discussion time)**
- **Family Activity**

▪ **OPENING PRAYER** (Have someone open up in prayer)

▪ **FAMILY BIBLE STUDY**

Note: All scripture references are from the King James Version (KJV) unless otherwise noted.

▪ **Topic: What Does Holy Week Mean to Me?**

Key Verse:

Romans 5:8 *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

1 Corinthians 1:18 *For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.*

LESSON OUTLINE

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to **Holy Week Family Bible Study!** As we deal with the challenges of COVID-19 with all its information and inconveniences, Holy Week, this year, calls our attention to look to our Lord Jesus' journey to the cross and ascent to heaven with a new perspective.

Today we will be discussing the topic, "What does Holy Week mean to me?" During this week, allow your mind and heart to take the "journey" of appreciation concerning the work of Christ from the cross to the resurrection and beyond. As we go through the next several days, we will be fasting, praying and participating in activities referencing the Lord Jesus' Holy Week passage. It is during special times like this that powerful things happen - such as miracles, deliverance and breakthrough - as we draw closer to God in our worship and gratefulness for His love for us.

I. Why Do We Have Holy Week?

Holy or "Passion" Week is vital because over 2000 years ago, during this week, Jesus Christ changed the course of our lives, spiritually, through His death, burial and resurrection. So each year, Christians all over the world commemorate and celebrate the redemption won through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The history of Holy Week is rooted in remembrance of events leading up to Jesus Christ's death by crucifixion and ultimate resurrection celebrated on Easter morning. According to the four gospels of the Bible (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) these events took place mid-April around 30 A.D. Jesus was present in Jerusalem for the feast of Passover celebrated by the Jews in remembrance of the exodus from Egypt. The gospels record that after Jesus was celebrated into the city (Palm Sunday), He was later tried and convicted unjustly which resulted in a cruel death on the cross (Good Friday).

Christians are encouraged to live this week with spiritual awareness and intensity, as we reflect on Jesus - through the pains of His suffering on Calvary's cross - to the open tomb and

glorious joy where He was resurrected. This week truly demonstrates the love that God has for us through His Son, Jesus Christ. John 3:16 says:

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Why do some call it “Passion Week”?

This week has been labeled “Passion Week” because of the passion with which Jesus willingly went to the cross in order to pay for the sins of His people. Passion Week is described in Matthew chapters 21-27; Mark chapters 11-15; Luke chapters 19-23; and John chapters 12-19. Passion Week begins with the triumphal entry on Palm Sunday on the back of a colt as prophesied in Zechariah 9:9.

Passion Week contained several notable events. Jesus cleansed the Temple for the second time (Luke 19:45-46), then disputed with the Pharisees regarding His authority. Then He gave His Olivet Discourse on the end times and taught the disciples and onlookers many things, including the signs of His second coming. Jesus ate His Last Supper with His disciples in the upper room (Luke 22:7-38), then went to the garden of Gethsemane to pray as He waited for His hour to come. It was here that Jesus, having been betrayed by Judas, was arrested and taken to several unfair trials before the chief priests, Pontius Pilate, and Herod (Luke 22:54-23:25).

Following the trials, Jesus was scourged at the hands of the Roman soldiers, then was forced to carry His own instrument of execution (the Cross) through the streets of Jerusalem along what is known as the Via Dolorosa (way of sorrows or way of the cross). Jesus was then crucified at Golgotha on the day before the Sabbath, was buried and remained in the tomb until He was gloriously resurrected early Sunday morning! Oh what passion God had for us through His Son Jesus Christ!

II. Why Is Resurrection Easter Sunday So Important?

Mark 16:6 *And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.*

What’s so important about Easter or Resurrection Sunday? This marks the day when our spiritual victory was complete in Christ Jesus. Not only did our Lord Jesus Christ die for our sins in order that we would not have to live under the bondage of penalty, but when He rose on the third day – He made a way for us to rise also! This event is significant because His divinity is clear and the “payment” for mankind was approved! Jesus lives – so we can live through Him! Listen to what He said in the Book of Revelation:

Revelation 1:18 *I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.*

Listen to the account in Luke 24 where the angels confirm the resurrection of Jesus to His followers who had come to the tomb on Sunday morning:

Luke 24:5-7 *And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. And they remembered his words*

Because Jesus Christ rose from the dead and got victory over the grave - He paved the way for all Christians to have eternal life. It was Jesus that died for our sins – paid our penalty and ushered us into new life!

Matthew 1:21 *And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.*

Revelation 1:5 *And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood*

The biblical account of Jesus' death on the cross, or crucifixion, his burial and his resurrection, or raising from the dead, can be found in the following passages of Scripture: Matthew 27:27-28:8; Mark 15:16-16:19; Luke 23:26-24:35; and John 19:16-20:30.

III. How Can I Participate this Week?

Victorious Christians are strong because they have a strong foundation. The following activities are instrumental to help build your foundation in Christ Jesus.

- A. **Fast & Pray** – Pray Daily - Church Fast (4/7, 12 am to 4/8, 4pm).
- B. **Take Communion** in our Online Holy Communion Service (4/8, 7 pm)
- C. **Invite Someone to our Online Services** – (4/5 - 4/12)
- D. **Donate Food** – Harvest Food Drive (4/12)
- E. **Give in Our Special Offering** – \$100 Restoration Seed (4/5 - 4/12)

Family Discussion:

1. **What is Holy Week?**
 2. **Why is the resurrection of Jesus Christ so important?**
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IV. FINAL REFLECTIONS

“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly” John 10:10

Victory for mankind started with God when He decided to save our lives. When our Lord Jesus Christ was on the cross we were on His mind. Now we are able to experience joy and victory because Jesus gave His life on the cross and rose on the third day.

On the cross, God’s Son proclaimed that “It is finished” – denoting the completed work of Christ for the souls of mankind. Now, no matter who you are or where you are in life, God has granted you new opportunities, powerful promises and of course, new life! Things from your past, present and future are in His hands. Let’s take this time to celebrate what God has done! Because Jesus rose - you too can live a “risen” life!

2 Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

Colossians 3:1-2 *If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth*

V. PRAYER OF SALVATION

Does anyone want to receive Christ as your personal Savior right now? (Wait for any responses.) If yes, let’s follow these simple steps:

- 1.** First, confess with your mouth by saying, “Jesus is my Lord.”
- 2.** Next, repeat this **Prayer of Salvation** (Ask them to repeat after you):

“Lord Jesus, I repent and turn from my sins, and I ask for your forgiveness. I invite you to come into my heart and life. Wash me clean and fill me with your Holy Spirit, and I will trust and follow you as my Lord and Savior. Thank you Jesus for saving me and giving me eternal life. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.”

- 3.** Now, declare it! Say, “I am saved!!!!”

Congratulations! You have made the greatest decision of your life...and the best is yet to come!

*If you gave your life to Christ, please send us an email at info@harvestlifechangers.com to let us know!

VI. CLOSING PRAYER (Have someone close out the Bible Study in prayer. Ask if anyone has a special prayer request, like an upcoming test or an issue on the job.)

- **Family Matters** (Special time to just talk!)

So let's talk! What's on your mind? This is a special time to discuss any family matters, concerns, hot topics, etc. Give everyone an opportunity to express themselves and to ask questions – then lead them to an understanding in Christ.

- **Family Activity** (Whatever you choose to do as a family)

Let the games begin! Now that we've had an awesome Bible Study and talked about a few important (or perhaps not so important) family matters, let's continue to spend quality time together as a family! Some suggestions include board games, Uno, play charades, etc. Whatever you do, enjoy yourselves!