

Bible Readings from Monday 5 March to Easter Day

Around 25% of each gospel is taken up with the last week of Jesus' life, and this year we invite you to join Jesus on his journey to the Cross, following his footsteps, his teaching and his suffering through that last week. You may want to choose to follow one gospel – but you may also like to read more than one, to build up a fuller picture of Jesus' final days. An interesting idea would be to choose one of Matthew, Mark & Luke – and then read the daily passages from John as well. That would give a broad understanding of all that happened.



'Lectio Divina'

We encourage you to use this ancient practice of 'Lectio Divina', whose 4 components are

- Reading
- Meditation
- Prayer
- Contemplation
- Pray before you begin – *something like: Holy Spirit, author of scripture, breathe afresh on your living Word, bringing it alive to us in new ways; that our hearts & minds may receive fresh insight, encouragement, challenge and direction from it.*
- Read the passage through twice at normal reading speed
- Pray again and then read it again much more slowly
- Meditate on what you've read, mentally noting anything which strikes you
- Read it again, this time underlining or making notes of anything which strikes you – you may
 - be reminded of a long-known truth
 - see something you've never noticed before – scripture is endlessly rich
 - find that God highlights a particular phrase or even one word which speaks to a particular situation you are facing at the moment.

Some groups may find it helpful to read the passage aloud – and don't forget that we'll be reading Mark's account of the last week of Jesus' life at 9 am on the 5 Saturday mornings leading up to Easter, starting this Saturday, 3 March in Jacobs Well.

Underline words or phrases that speak to you – make notes as you read of anything you think the Lord might be highlighting or saying. Don't worry initially about understanding – just try to be attentive to what comes to mind. There's nothing wrong with 'practising' our spiritual disciplines – just as we would practise any skill we are learning in life – and therefore there's no problem with mistakes as we learn!

Then pray in what you learn.

Questions as you read, pray and meditate through each passage

- Why is this in the Bible? What 'general' truth does it reveal?
- What shines out to me?
- Does this passage raise any questions?
- Where do you see Jesus in this passage and what do you learn about him?
- Personal application – what is the Lord saying to me in this passage?
- Is there something I need to share with others?



BUILDING TO EASTER

To help immerse us all in Jesus' final days, below you will see the 4 gospel accounts of the last week of Jesus' life in dated portions from 5th March to Easter Day.

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Mon 5th March	21:1-11	11:1-11	19: 28-44	12:1-11
Tue 6th	21:12-17	11:12-25	19:45-47	12:12-19
Wed 7th	21:18- 27	11:27-33	20:1-8	12:20-36
Thur 8th	21:28-32	12: 1-12	20:9-19	12:37-50
Fri 9th	21:33-46	12:13-17	20:20-26	13:1-17
Sat 10th	22:1-14	12:18-27	20:27-40	13:18-38
Sun 11th	22:15-33	12:28-34	20:41-44	14:1-14
Mon 12th	22:34-46	12: 35-37	20:45-47	14:15-31
Tue 13th	23:1-12	12:38-40	21:1-4	15:1-25
Wed 14th	23:13-39	12:41-44	21:5-11	15:26 16:15
Thur 15th	24:1-35	13:1-8	21:12-24	16:16-24
Fri 16th	24:36-51	13:9-19	21:25-38	16:25-33
Sat 17th	25:1-13	13:20-31	22:1-6	17:1-5
Sun 18th	25:14-30	13:32-37	22:7-38	17:6-19
Mon 19th	25:31-46	14: 1-11	22:39-46	17:20-26
Tue 20th	26:1-16	14:12-26	22:47-53	18:1-14
Wed 21st	26:17-35	14: 27-31	22:54-62	18:15-27
Thur 22nd	26:36-46	14:32-42	22:63-71	18:28-40
Fri 23rd	26:47-56	14:43-52	23:1-25	19:1-16
Sat 24th	26:57-68	14:53-65	23:26-43	19:16b-27
Sun 25th	26:69-27:10	14:66-72	23:44-49	19:28-37
Mon 26th	27:11-26	15:1-5	23:50-56	19:38-42
Tue 27th	27:27-31	15:6-15	24:1-12	20:1-10
Wed 28th	27:32-44	15:16-20	24:13-24	20:11-18
Thur 29th	27:45-56	15:21-32	24:25-35	20:19-23
Fri 30th	27:57-66	15:33-41	24:36-43	20:24-31
Sat 31st	28:1-15	15:42-47	24:44-49	21:1-14
Sun 1st April	28:16-20	16:1-20	24:50-53	21:15-25

More information is available on the church website including all scriptures hyperlinked to www.biblegateway.com and hard copies are also available from the InfoHub.

