

Devotion 5: The Father's Gaze

April 3, 2026

Scripture: *John 3:16–17*

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world through him might be saved.”

Devotion

We've thought about the crowds watching Jesus ride into Jerusalem. We've thought about the angels watching from heaven. But there is one more set of eyes watching every moment of Holy Week—the eyes of God the Father. Imagine the Father on His throne, watching His beloved Son leave the glory of heaven, ride a dusty donkey into a hostile city, and walk step by step toward a cross. Every parent knows what it feels like to watch your child go through something painful. Now multiply that by infinity. The Father watches because He loves—not only His Son, but you. John tells us the reason for it all: “God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son.” The Father didn't send Jesus to condemn us. He sent Jesus to save us. Every step Jesus takes toward the cross, the Father's love is behind it. As we approach Holy Week, we remember that this whole story—the donkey, the palms, the cross, the tomb—is driven by a Father's unstoppable love for His children.

Discussion Questions

1. How do you think God the Father felt watching Jesus go to the cross?
2. What does it tell us about God's love that He was willing to give His only Son?
3. How can knowing the Father's love help us during hard times in our own lives?

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we can barely imagine the love it took to send Your Son to die for us. Thank You for watching over every detail of our salvation. Help us to feel the warmth of Your gaze upon us this Holy Week and always. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Family Action Item: Have each family member write a short note to God the Father thanking Him for sending Jesus. Put the notes together in one place as a family “thank you” offering.