



CELEBRATING

Holy Week



DAILY STUDY GUIDE



Champion
Fellowship



“*Hosanna*”

TO THE SON OF DAVID; BLESSED IS
THE ONE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF
THE LORD; HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!”

WHEN HE HAD ENTERED JERUSALEM,
ALL THE CITY WAS STIRRED, SAYING,
“WHO IS THIS?” AND THE CROWDS
WERE SAYING, “THIS IS JESUS THE
PROPHET, FROM NAZARETH IN GALILEE.”

MATTHEW 21:9-11





C E L E B R A T I N G

Holy Week


Holy Week, is the most important time of the year for us as Christians. It's the time when we remember and celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We remember his words, his ministry and his promises that had all been prophesied centuries before by the prophets in the Old Testament. All of it comes together during the last week of his life through a series of events that were a part of God's plan for him to be the perfect sacrifice for us and to pay the price of our sin so that by faith we can be resurrected and have eternal life.

The last week is of utmost importance and it couldn't get any bigger. The events that occur during the last week comprise almost a third of all the gospel narratives. There are at least 29 chapters in the gospels that deal with the last week including almost half of the gospel of John. Nearly a third of the Jesus stories in the gospels take place during the last week. In this study, we can't explore all of the stories and events that occurred in the last days of Jesus' life, but we can look into some of the more important ones primarily in the gospel of John. In church tradition we celebrate certain things on certain days but there is debate about the specific timing of many events and when each event actually occurred. In scripture, it's not always clear exactly when things happened. But for some events, we are more confident.

Hopefully the information in this guide will give you a better understanding of Jesus' last week and provide a greater focus on what he did for us. We pray it will also be a source of encouragement and give you a renewed meaning and greater importance for this time of year.

Worship with us: Sundays at 9:00 and 10:45am. Download our app and follow along each day of Holy Week with Pastor Tim Webb and Dr. David Klingler in the Holy Week Special Edition of Teach Me the Bible Podcast.





*You always
have the pot
with you, but you
do not always
have Me.*

MATTHEW 26:11



SUNDAY, APRIL

2



MARY ANOINTS JESUS

JOHN 12:1-11

¹Therefore, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ²So they made Him a dinner there, and Martha was serving; and Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with Him. ³Mary then took a pound of very expensive perfume of pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples, the one who intended to betray Him, *said, ⁵“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the proceeds given to poor people?” ⁶Now he said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and as he kept the money box, he used to steal from what was put into it. ⁷Therefore Jesus said, “Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of My burial. ⁸For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have Me.”

⁹ The large crowd of the Jews then learned that He was there; and they came, not on account of Jesus only, but so that they might also see Lazarus, whom He raised from the dead. ¹⁰ But the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death also, ¹¹ because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and were believing in Jesus.

FOCUS

At a dinner held for Jesus while He was in Bethany, Mary recognizes that she is in the presence of the King. And while the King is there, she chooses to honor Him by anointing His feet with some very expensive perfume. She realizes there is nothing more important than Jesus. The person of Christ comes first and caring for the poor is second. Sometimes we let our priorities get out of balance and we overlook what’s really important.

In contrast to Mary, there was Judas, who not only questions her actions but also intends to betray Jesus. Also present, were some of the Pharisees who hated Jesus and planned to kill Lazarus (again) because many Jews were going away and following Jesus.

REFLECTION

How can you honor and serve the King?



The background features a gradient from dark blue on the left to light green on the right. Stylized palm leaves are scattered across the top. In the lower half, a dark silhouette of Jesus riding a donkey is visible. Jesus is wearing a robe and has a beard. The donkey is facing right.

"THIS IS

Jesus

THE PROPHET,
FROM NAZARETH
IN GALILEE."

MATTHEW 21:11

MONDAY, APRIL

3



THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

JOHN 12:12-19

¹² On the next day, when the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, ¹³ they took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, indeed, the King of Israel!" ¹⁴ Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: ¹⁵ "Do not fear, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." ¹⁶ These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things for Him. ¹⁷ So the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify about Him. ¹⁸ For this reason also the people went to meet Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign. ¹⁹ So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are not accomplishing anything; look, the world has gone after Him!"

ZECHARIAH 9:9

⁹ Rejoice greatly, daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is righteous and endowed with salvation, humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

PSALM 118

¹ Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; For His mercy is everlasting.
² Let Israel say, "His mercy is everlasting."
³ Oh let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy is everlasting."
⁴ Let those who fear the Lord say, "His mercy is everlasting."
⁵ From my distress I called upon the Lord; The Lord answered me and put me in an open space.
⁶ The Lord is for me; I will not fear; What can man do to me?
⁷ The Lord is for me among those who help me; Therefore I will look with satisfaction on those who hate me.
⁸ It is better to take refuge in the Lord Than to trust in people.
⁹ It is better to take refuge in the Lord Than to trust in noblemen.
¹⁰ All nations surrounded me; In the name of the Lord I will certainly fend them off.
¹¹ They surrounded me, yes, they surrounded me; In the name of the Lord I will certainly fend them off.
¹² They surrounded me like bees; They were extinguished like a fire of thorn bushes; In the name of the Lord I will certainly fend them off.
¹³ You pushed me violently so that I was falling, But the Lord helped me.
¹⁴ The Lord is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.
¹⁵ The sound of joyful shouting and salvation is in the tents of the righteous; The right hand of the Lord performs valiantly.



REJOICE GREATLY,
DAUGHTER OF ZION! SHOUT
IN TRIUMPH, DAUGHTER OF
JERUSALEM! BEHOLD, YOUR

King

IS COMING TO YOU; HE IS
RIGHTEOUS AND ENDOWED
WITH SALVATION, HUMBLE,
AND MOUNTED ON A
DONKEY, EVEN ON A COLT,
THE FOAL OF A DONKEY.

ZECHARIAH 9:9

MONDAY, APRIL

3



THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY [CONTINUED]

- ¹⁶ The right hand of the Lord is exalted;
The right hand of the Lord performs valiantly.
- ¹⁷ I will not die, but live,
And tell of the works of the Lord.
- ¹⁸ The Lord has disciplined me severely,
But He has not turned me over to death.
- ¹⁹ Open the gates of righteousness to me;
I will enter through them, I will give thanks
to the Lord.
- ²⁰ This is the gate of the Lord;
The righteous will enter through it.
- ²¹ I will give thanks to You, for You have answered
me, And You have become my salvation.
- ²² A stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone.
- ²³ This came about from the Lord;
It is marvelous in our eyes.
- ²⁴ This is the day which the Lord has made;
Let's rejoice and be glad in it.
- ²⁵ Please, O Lord, do save us;
Please, O Lord, do send prosperity!
- ²⁶ Blessed is the one who comes in the name
of the Lord;
We have blessed you from the house of the Lord.
- ²⁷ The Lord is God, and He has given us light;
Bind the festival sacrifice to the horns of the altar
with cords.
- ²⁸ You are my God, and I give thanks to You;
You are my God, I exalt You.
- ²⁹ Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
For His mercy is everlasting.

FOCUS

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, His presence stirred the whole city with some asking, "Who is this?" Some worshiped Him and some were jealous of Him. His own disciples did not fully understand the significance of His triumphal entry. There are many reasons the triumphal entry of Jesus was important. It was a fulfillment of prophecy, and a recognition of His role that prepared the way for the events that led to His death and resurrection.

REFLECTION

How do you see Jesus? How would you have responded to His triumphal entry?



AND WHATEVER YOU
ASK IN MY NAME,
THIS I WILL DO, SO THAT

THE **FATHER**

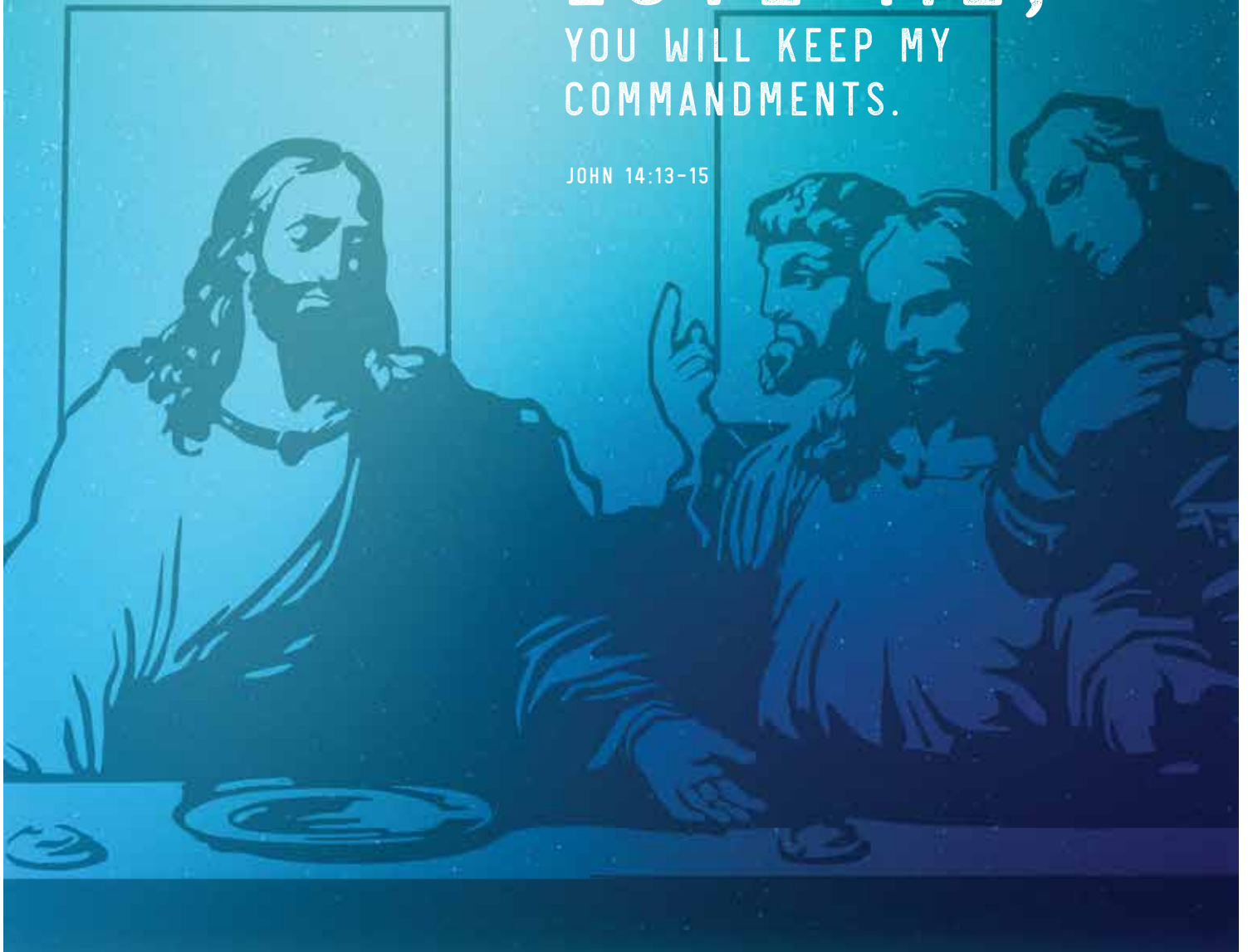
MAY BE GLORIFIED

IN **THE SON**. IF YOU ASK ME ANYTHING
IN MY NAME, I WILL DO IT.

IF YOU **LOVE ME,**

YOU WILL KEEP MY
COMMANDMENTS.

JOHN 14:13-15



TUESDAY, APRIL

4



THE UPPER ROOM DISCOURSE - PART 1

THE LORD'S SUPPER

JOHN 13

¹ Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus, knowing that His hour had come that He would depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. ² And during supper, the devil having already put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, to betray Him, ³ Jesus, knowing that the Father had handed all things over to Him, and that He had come forth from God and was going back to God, ⁴ got up from supper and laid His outer garments aside; and He took a towel and tied it around Himself.

JESUS WASHES THE DISCIPLES FEET

⁵ Then He poured water into the basin, and began washing the disciples' feet and wiping them with the towel which He had tied around Himself. ⁶ So He came to Simon Peter. He said to Him, "Lord, You are washing my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not realize right now, but you will understand later." ⁸ Peter said to Him, "Never shall You wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no place with Me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, then wash not only my feet, but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "He who has bathed needs only to wash his feet; otherwise he is completely clean. And you are clean—but not all of you." ¹¹ For He knew the one who was betraying Him; it was for this reason that He said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² Then, when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done for you? ¹³ You call Me 'Teacher' and 'Lord'; and you are correct, for so I am. ¹⁴ So if I, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I gave you an example, so that you also would do just as I did for you. ¹⁶ Truly, truly I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. ¹⁸ I am not speaking about all of you. I know the ones whom I have chosen; but this is happening so that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats My bread has lifted up his heel against Me.' ¹⁹ From now on I am telling you before it happens, so that when it does happen, you may believe that I am He.

**²⁰ Truly, truly I say to you,
the one who receives
anyone I send, receives Me;
and the one who receives Me
receives Him who sent Me."**



TUESDAY, APRIL

4



THE UPPER ROOM DISCOURSE - PART 1

[CONTINUED]

ISAIAH 52:1-7

¹ Awake, awake,

Clothe yourself in your strength, Zion;
Clothe yourself with your beautiful garments,
Jerusalem, the holy city;
For the uncircumcised and the unclean
Will no longer come into you.

² Shake yourself from the dust, rise up,
Captive Jerusalem;
Release yourself from the chains around your neck,
Captive daughter of Zion.

³ For this is what the Lord says: "You were sold for nothing, and you will be redeemed without money." ⁴ For this is what the Lord God says: "My people went down to Egypt first to reside there; then the Assyrian oppressed them without reason.

⁵ And now, what do I have here," declares the Lord, "seeing that My people have been taken away without reason?" Again the Lord declares, "Those who rule over them howl, and My name is continually reviled all day long. ⁶ Therefore, My people shall know My name; therefore on that day I am the one who is speaking, 'Here I am.'"

⁷ **How delightful
on the mountains
Are the feet of one
who brings good news,
Who announces peace
And brings good
news of happiness,
Who announces salvation,
And says to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"**

ONENESS WITH THE FATHER

JOHN 14:10-15

¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own, but the Father, as He remains in Me, does His works. ¹¹ Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Truly, truly I say to you, the one who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, this I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it. ¹⁵ "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.

THE HOLY SPIRIT

JOHN 14:16-26

¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, so that He may be with you forever; ¹⁷ the Helper is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him; but you know Him because He remains with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ After a little while, the world no longer is going to see Me, but you are going to see Me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I in you. ²¹ The one who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and the one who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will reveal Myself to him." ²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him,



TUESDAY, APRIL

4



THE UPPER ROOM DISCOURSE - PART 1 [CONTINUED]

“Lord, what has happened that You are going to reveal Yourself to us and not to the world?”

²³ Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will follow My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our dwelling with him. ²⁴ The one who does not love Me does not follow My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.

²⁵ These things I have spoken to you while remaining with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and remind you of all that I said to you.

FOCUS

Knowing that He will soon go to the cross, Jesus is in the upper room with the disciples and it is here Jesus prepares them for their ministry after He’s gone. They have heard His words and seen His works but now they are being set apart. During the supper, Jesus gets up and washes their feet as an example of what they need to do, but also as a symbol of being made pure and clean by the washing of the water. They will now be the ones proclaiming the word that gives life and makes clean and makes pure. Jesus also tells them that He will ask the Father to leave them another helper which is the Holy Spirit.

REFLECTION

Why was it so important for Jesus to spend so much time with the disciples during His last days?





UPPER ROOM DISCOURSE - PART 2

JESUS IS THE VINE— FOLLOWERS ARE BRANCHES

JOHN 15:1-11

¹“I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, He prunes it so that it may bear more fruit. ³ You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in Me, and I in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself but must remain in the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches; the one who remains in Me, and I in him bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not remain in Me, he is thrown away like a branch and dries up; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. ⁷ If you remain in Me, and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. ⁹ Just as the Father has loved Me, I also have loved you; remain in My love.

¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will remain in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and remain in His love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.

THE HIGH PRIESTLY PRAYER

JOHN 17:1-5

¹“Jesus spoke these things; and raising His eyes to heaven, He said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, so that the Son may glorify You, ² just as You gave Him authority over all mankind, so that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. ⁴ I glorified You on the earth by accomplishing the work which You have given Me to do. ⁵ And now You, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world existed.

JOHN 17:13-24

¹³ But now I am coming to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ I am not asking You to take them out of the world, but to keep them away from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. ¹⁸ Just as You sent Me into the world, I also sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, so that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.

²⁰ “I am not asking on behalf of these alone, but also for those who believe in Me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one; just as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.





UPPER ROOM DISCOURSE - PART 2

[CONTINUED]

²² The glory which You have given Me I also have given to them, so that they may be one, just as We are one; ²³ I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and You loved them, just as You loved Me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

FOCUS

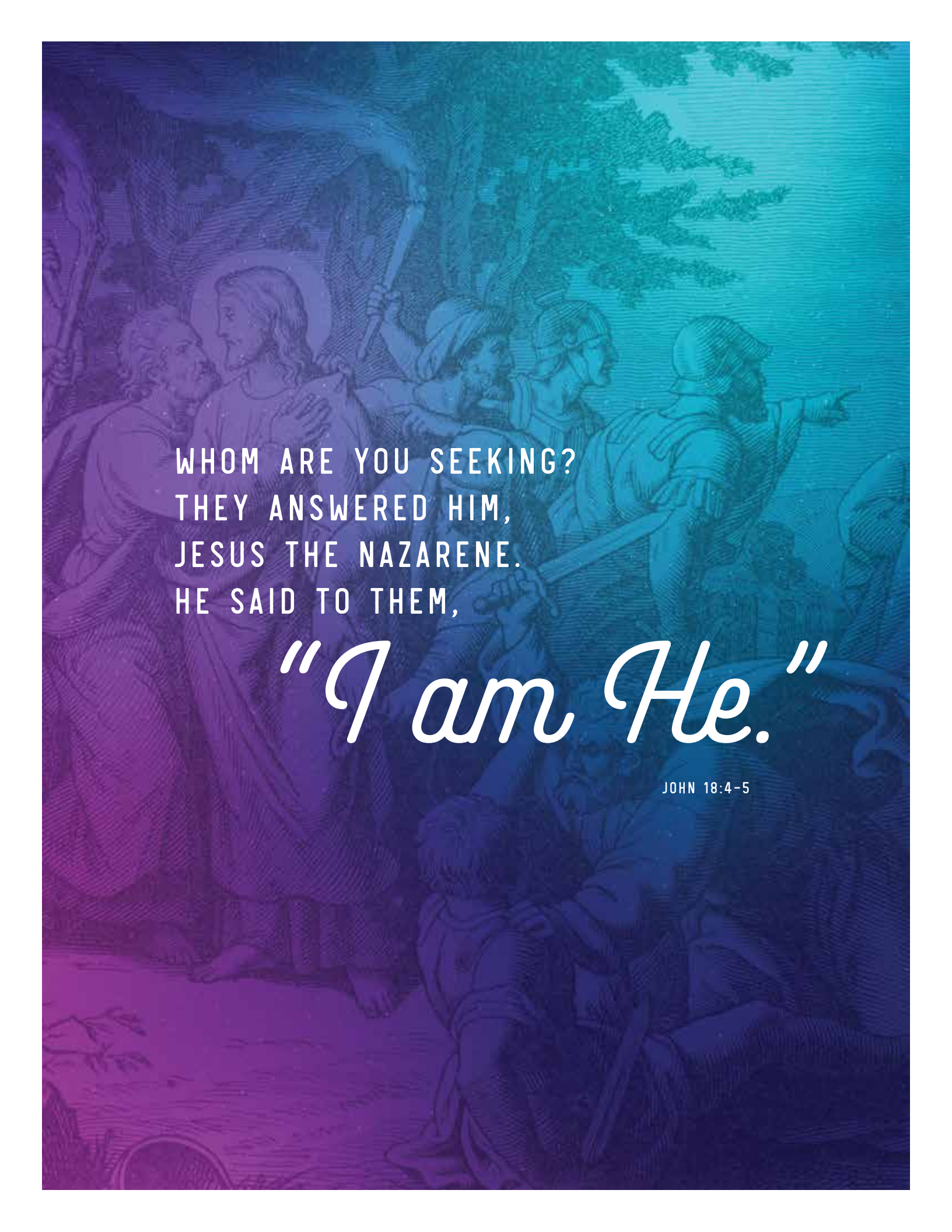
In the last verse of John Chapter 14, Jesus tells His disciples, "Get up, and let's go from here." The Upper Room Discourse then transitions to the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives across the Kidron Valley. It is nearing the time of Jesus' arrest and His betrayal by Judas. He is still teaching the disciples and preparing them for what lies ahead. Here Jesus tells them that He is the vine and they are the branches. Jesus' desire for them is to bear fruit. It was the job of the vinedresser to tend each branch and lift it up if necessary to bear more fruit.

This scene in the Garden is also an important time of prayer when Jesus is praying not only for His disciples who will proclaim the word but also for all of those who will believe in Him through the words of the apostles and prophets. The unity within the body of Christ and their love for one another is important so that the world will know Christ. What unifies us is our belief in the Son and the resurrection. That ought to change everything but unfortunately we find ways to create divisions in the body. We have all been entrusted with the words of the Lord and now it is our turn to walk faithfully and to share the word of the Lord with others as it was handed down to us through the apostles and prophets, the word that gives eternal life.

REFLECTION

The hour has come for Jesus and so many things have happened in the last few days. How does He prepare Himself for such a difficult time that is to come? How do we face the difficult times that come our way?





WHOM ARE YOU SEEKING?
THEY ANSWERED HIM,
JESUS THE NAZARENE.
HE SAID TO THEM,

"I am He."

JOHN 18:4-5

THURSDAY, APRIL
6



JUDAS BETRAYS JESUS

JOHN 18:1-11

¹ When Jesus had spoken these words, He went away with His disciples across the ravine of the Kidron, where there was a garden which He entered with His disciples. ² Now Judas, who was betraying Him, also knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with His disciples. ³ So Judas, having obtained the Roman cohort and officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. ⁴ Jesus therefore, knowing all the things that were coming upon Him, came out into the open and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" ⁵ They answered Him, "Jesus the Nazarene." He said to them, "I am He." And Judas also, who was betraying Him, was standing with them. ⁶ **Now then, when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground.** ⁷ He then asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus the Nazarene." ⁸ Jesus answered, "I told you that I am He; so if you are seeking Me, let these men go on their way." ⁹ This took place so that the word which He spoke would be fulfilled: "Of those whom You have given Me I lost not one." ¹⁰ Then Simon Peter, since he had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear; and the slave's name was Malchus. ¹¹ So Jesus said to Peter, "Put the sword into the sheath; the cup which the Father has given Me, am I not to drink it?"

PSALM 2

¹ Why are the nations restless
And the peoples plotting in vain?
² The kings of the earth take their stand
And the rulers conspire together
Against the Lord and against His
Anointed, saying,
³ "Let's tear their shackles apart
And throw their ropes away from us!"

**⁴ He who sits in the heavens laughs,
The Lord scoffs at them.
⁵ Then He will speak to them in His anger
And terrify them in His fury, saying,
⁶ "But as for Me, I have installed My King
Upon Zion, My holy mountain."**

⁷ "I will announce the decree of the Lord:
He said to Me, 'You are My Son,
Today I have fathered You.
⁸ Ask it of Me, and I will certainly give the nations
as Your inheritance,
And the ends of the earth as Your possession.
⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron,
You shall shatter them like earthenware."
¹⁰ Now then, you kings, use insight;
Let yourselves be instructed, you judges
of the earth.
¹¹ Serve the Lord with reverence
And rejoice with trembling.
¹² Kiss the Son, that He not be angry and you
perish on the way,
For His wrath may be kindled quickly. How
blessed are all who take refuge in Him!





NOW THEN, YOU KINGS, USE
INSIGHT; LET YOURSELVES BE
INSTRUCTED, YOU JUDGES OF THE
EARTH. SERVE THE LORD WITH
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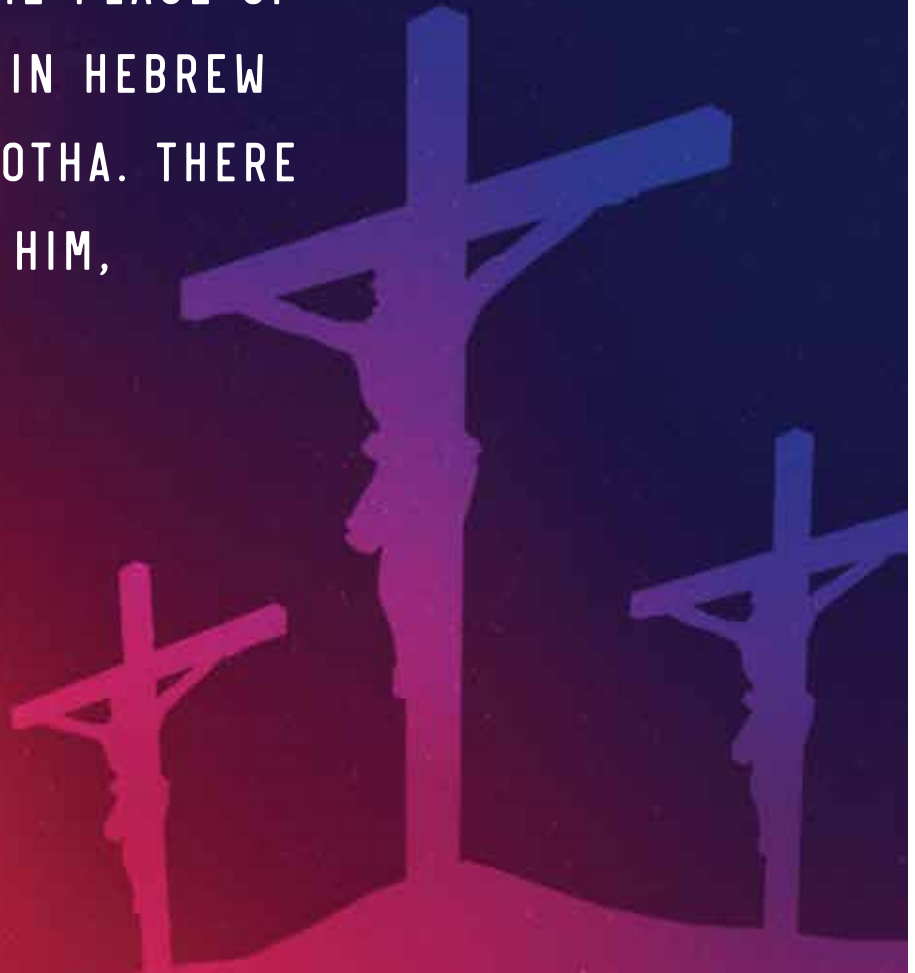
refuge in Him!

PSALM 2:10-12



SO HE THEN HANDED HIM OVER
TO THEM TO BE CRUCIFIED.
THEY TOOK JESUS, THEREFORE,
AND HE WENT OUT, CARRYING
HIS OWN CROSS, TO THE
PLACE CALLED THE PLACE OF
A SKULL, WHICH IN HEBREW
IS CALLED, GOLGOTHA. THERE
THEY CRUCIFIED HIM,

JOHN 19:16-18



FRIDAY, APRIL

7

THE CRUCIFIXION - GOOD FRIDAY

ISAIAH 42:1-9

**¹ “Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold;
My chosen one in whom My soul delights.
I have put My Spirit upon Him;
He will bring forth justice to the nations.**

**² He will not cry out nor raise His voice,
Nor make His voice heard in the street.**

³ A bent reed He will not break off
And a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish;
He will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴ He will not be disheartened or crushed
Until He has established justice on the earth;
And the coastlands will wait expectantly for
His law.”

⁵ This is what God the Lord says,
Who created the heavens and stretched
them out,
Who spread out the earth and its offspring,
Who gives breath to the people on it
And spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶ “I am the Lord, I have called You in
righteousness,
I will also hold You by the hand and watch
over You,
And I will appoint You as a covenant to
the people,
As a light to the nations,

⁷ To open blind eyes,
To bring out prisoners from the dungeon
And those who dwell in darkness from
the prison.

⁸ I am the Lord, that is My name;
I will not give My glory to another,
Nor My praise to idols.

⁹ Behold, the former things have come to pass,
Now I declare new things;
Before they sprout I proclaim them to you.”

ISAIAH 49:1-13

¹ Listen to Me, you islands,
And pay attention, you peoples from afar.
The Lord called Me from the womb;
From the body of My mother He named Me.

² He has made My mouth like a sharp sword,
In the shadow of His hand He has concealed Me;
And He has also made Me a sharpened arrow,
He has hidden Me in His quiver.

³ He said to Me, “You are My Servant, Israel,
In whom I will show My glory.”

⁴ But I said, “I have labored in vain,
I have spent My strength for nothing and futility;
Nevertheless, the justice due to Me is with the Lord,
And My reward is with My God.”

⁵ And now says the Lord, who formed Me from the
womb to be His Servant,
To bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel might
be gathered to Him
(For I am honored in the sight of the Lord,
And My God is My strength),

⁶ He says, “It is too small a thing that You should
be My Servant
To raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the
protected ones of Israel;
I will also make You a light of the nations
So that My salvation may reach to the end of
the earth.”

**⁷ This is what the Lord, the
Redeemer of Israel
and its Holy One,
Says to the despised One,
To the One abhorred by the nation,
To the Servant of rulers:
“Kings will see and arise,
Princes will also bow down,
Because of the Lord who is faithful, the
Holy One of Israel who has chosen You.”**



FRIDAY, APRIL

7

THE CRUCIFIXION - GOOD FRIDAY [CONTINUED]

⁸ This is what the Lord says:
“At a favorable time I answered You,
And on a day of salvation I helped You;
And I will watch over You and make You a
covenant of the people,
To restore the land, to give as inheritances the
deserted hereditary lands;
⁹ Saying to those who are bound, ‘Go free,’
To those who are in darkness,
‘Show yourselves.’
They will feed along the roads,
And their pasture will be on all bare heights.
¹⁰ They will not hunger or thirst,
Nor will the scorching heat or sun strike
them down;
For He who has compassion on them will
lead them,
And He will guide them to springs of water.
¹¹ I will make all My mountains a road,
And My highways will be raised up.
¹² Behold, these will come from afar;
And behold, these will come from the north
and from the west,
And these from the land of Aswan.”
¹³ Shout for joy, you heavens!
And rejoice, you earth!
Break forth into joyful shouting, mountains!
For the Lord has comforted His people
And will have compassion on His afflicted.

ISAIAH 50:1-11

¹ This is what the Lord says:
“Where is the certificate of divorce
By which I have sent your mother away?
Or to whom of My creditors did I sell you?
Behold, you were sold for your wrongdoings,
And for your wrongful acts your mother was
sent away.
² Why was there no one when I came?
When I called, why was there no one to answer?
Is My hand so short that it cannot redeem?
Or do I have no power to rescue?
Behold, I dry up the sea with My rebuke,
I turn rivers into a wilderness;
Their fish stink for lack of water,
And die of thirst.
³ I clothe the heavens with blackness,
And make sackcloth their covering.”
⁴ The Lord God has given Me the tongue
of disciples,
So that I may know how to sustain the weary
one with a word.
He awakens Me morning by morning,
He awakens My ear to listen as a disciple.
⁵ **The Lord God has opened My ear,
And I was not disobedient,
Nor did I turn back.**
⁶ **I gave My back to those who strike Me,
And My cheeks to those who pull out
My beard;
I did not hide My face from insults
and spitting.**
⁷ **For the Lord God helps Me,
Therefore, I am not disgraced;
Therefore, I have made My face like flint,
And I know that I will not be ashamed.**



FRIDAY, APRIL

7



THE CRUCIFIXION - GOOD FRIDAY [CONTINUED]

- ⁸ He who vindicates Me is near;
Who will contend with Me?
Let us stand up to each other.
Who has a case against Me?
Let him approach Me.
- ⁹ Behold, the Lord God helps Me;
Who is he who condemns Me?
Behold, they will all wear out like a garment;
A moth will eat them.
- ¹⁰ Who is among you who fears the Lord,
Who obeys the voice of His servant,
Who walks in darkness and has no light?
Let him trust in the name of the Lord and rely
on his God.
- ¹¹ Behold, all you who kindle a fire,
Who encircle yourselves with flaming arrows,
Walk in the light of your fire
And among the flaming arrows you have set
ablaze.
This you will have from My hand:
You will lie down in torment.

THE EXALTED SERVANT

ISAIAH 52:13-15

- ¹³ Behold, My Servant will prosper,
He will be high and lifted up and greatly exalted.
- ¹⁴ Just as many were appalled at you, My people,
So His appearance was marred beyond that of
a man,
And His form beyond the sons of mankind.
- ¹⁵ So He will sprinkle many nations,
Kings will shut their mouths on account of Him;
For what they had not been told, they will see,
And what they had not heard, they will
understand.

THE SUFFERING SERVANT

ISAIAH 53:1-12

- ¹ Who has believed our report?
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been
revealed?
- ² For He grew up before Him like a tender [a]
shoot,
And like a root out of dry ground;
He has no stately form or majesty
That we would look at Him,
Nor an appearance that we would take pleasure
in Him.
- ³ He was despised and abandoned by men,
A man of great pain and familiar with sickness;
And like one from whom people hide their faces,
He was despised, and we had no regard for Him.



FRIDAY, APRIL

7



THE CRUCIFIXION - GOOD FRIDAY

[CONTINUED]

⁴ However, it was our sicknesses that He Himself bore,
And our pains that He carried;
Yet we ourselves assumed that He had been afflicted,
Struck down by God, and humiliated.

⁵ **But He was pierced for our offenses,
He was crushed for our wrongdoings;
The punishment for our well-being was laid upon Him,
And by His wounds we are healed.**

⁶ **All of us, like sheep, have gone astray,
Each of us has turned to his own way;
But the Lord has caused the wrongdoing of us all To fall on Him.**

⁷ He was oppressed and afflicted,
Yet He did not open His mouth;
Like a lamb that is led to slaughter,
And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers,
So He did not open His mouth.

⁸ By oppression and judgment He was taken away;
And as for His generation, who considered
That He was cut off from the land of the living
For the wrongdoing of my people, to whom the blow was due?

⁹ And His grave was assigned with wicked men,
Yet He was with a rich man in His death,
Because He had done no violence,
Nor was there any deceit in His mouth.

¹⁰ But the Lord desired
To crush Him, causing Him grief;
If He renders Himself as a guilt offering,
He will see His offspring,
He will prolong His days,
And the good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand.

¹¹ As a result of the anguish of His soul,
He will see it and be satisfied;
By His knowledge the Righteous One,
My Servant, will justify the many,
For He will bear their wrongdoings.

¹² Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great,
And He will divide the plunder with the strong,
Because He poured out His life unto death,
And was counted with wrongdoers;
Yet He Himself bore the sin of many,
And interceded for the wrongdoers.

A CRY OF ANGUISH AND A SONG OF PRAISE

PSALM 22

¹ My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?
Far from my help are the words of my groaning.
² My God, I cry out by day, but You do not answer;
And by night, but I have no rest.
³ Yet You are holy,
You who are enthroned upon the praises
of Israel.
⁴ In You our fathers trusted;
They trusted and You rescued them.
⁵ To You they cried out and they fled to safety;
In You they trusted and were not disappointed.
⁶ But I am a worm and not a person,
A disgrace of mankind and despised by
the people.
⁷ All who see me deride me;
They sneer, they shake their heads, saying,
⁸ "Turn him over to the Lord; let Him save him;
Let Him rescue him, because He delights in him."
⁹ Yet You are He who brought me forth from
the womb;
You made me trust when upon my
mother's breasts.
¹⁰ I was cast upon You from birth;
You have been my God from my
mother's womb.



FRIDAY, APRIL

7



THE CRUCIFIXION - GOOD FRIDAY

[CONTINUED]

¹¹ Do not be far from me, for trouble is near;
For there is no one to help.

¹² Many bulls have surrounded me;
Strong bulls of Bashan have encircled me.

¹³ They open their mouths wide at me,
As a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴ I am poured out like water,
And all my bones are out of joint;
My heart is like wax;
It is melted within me.

¹⁵ My strength is dried up like a piece of pottery,
And my tongue clings to my jaws;
And You lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶ For dogs have surrounded me;
A band of evildoers has encompassed me;
They pierced my hands and my feet.

¹⁷ I can count all my bones.
They look, they stare at me;

¹⁸ They divide my garments among them,
And they cast lots for my clothing.

¹⁹ **But You, Lord, do not be far away;
You who are my help, hurry to my
assistance.**

²⁰ Save my soul from the sword,
My only life from the power of the dog.

²¹ Save me from the lion's mouth;
From the horns of the wild oxen You answer me.

²² I will proclaim Your name to my brothers;
In the midst of the assembly I will praise You.

²³ You who fear the Lord, praise Him;
All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him,
And stand in awe of Him,
all you descendants of Israel.

²⁴ For He has not despised nor scorned the
suffering of the afflicted;
Nor has He hidden His face from him;
But when he cried to Him for help, He heard.

²⁵ From You comes my praise in the great
assembly;
I shall pay my vows before those who fear Him.

²⁶ The afflicted will eat and be satisfied;
Those who seek Him will praise the Lord.
May your heart live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth will remember and turn
to the Lord,
And all the families of the nations will worship
before You.

²⁸ For the kingdom is the Lord's
And He rules over the nations.

²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth will eat
and worship,
All those who go down to the dust will kneel
before Him,
Even he who cannot keep his soul alive.

³⁰ A posterity will serve Him;
It will be told of the Lord to the coming
generation.

³¹ They will come and will declare His
righteousness
To a people who will be born, that He has
performed it.



FRIDAY, APRIL

7



THE CRUCIFIXION - GOOD FRIDAY

[CONTINUED]

THE CRUCIFIXION

JOHN 19:16-30

¹⁶ So he then handed Him over to them to be crucified.

¹⁷ They took Jesus, therefore, and He went out, carrying His own cross, to the place called the Place of a Skull, which in Hebrew is called, Golgotha. ¹⁸ There they crucified Him, and with Him two other men, one on either side, and Jesus in between. ¹⁹ Now Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It was written: "JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS."

²⁰ Therefore many of the Jews read this inscription, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and in Greek. ²¹ So the chief priests of the Jews were saying to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews'; rather, write that He said, 'I am King of the Jews.'" ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

²³ Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His outer garments and made four parts: a part to each soldier, and the tunic also; but the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece.

²⁴ So they said to one another, "Let's not tear it, but cast lots for it, to decide whose it shall be." This happened so that the Scripture would be fulfilled: "They divided My garments among themselves, and they cast lots for My clothing." Therefore the soldiers did these things.

²⁵ Now beside the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ So when Jesus saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷ Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her into his own household.

²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished, in order that the Scripture would be fulfilled, said, "I am thirsty."

²⁹ A jar full of sour wine was standing there; so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a branch of hyssop and brought it up to His mouth.

³⁰ Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.



FRIDAY, APRIL

7



THE CRUCIFIXION - GOOD FRIDAY [CONTINUED]

FOCUS

Jesus is crucified and buried and it seems like all hope is lost. The disciples are hiding, in fear for their lives. The good news is coming, we call it Good Friday because the resurrection is coming. The price has been paid that only Christ could pay, the sacrifice has been made. He has delivered us from the judgment that was due us, not only for the sins of Israel, but our sins past, present and future.

But before we can get to the glory and His name proclaimed among the nations, and before we can get to the kingdom, the Christ has to suffer. He lowered Himself and became flesh and He humbles Himself even to death, death on a cross. But the story isn't over.

In Psalm 22, David the prophet looking forward to this Christ despised by the people, pierced through. "But you o Lord are not far off."

We're heading towards the end that's predicted in this Psalm. In Psalm 59, His name will be proclaimed and He will be the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords, the great, the mighty and awesome Lord.

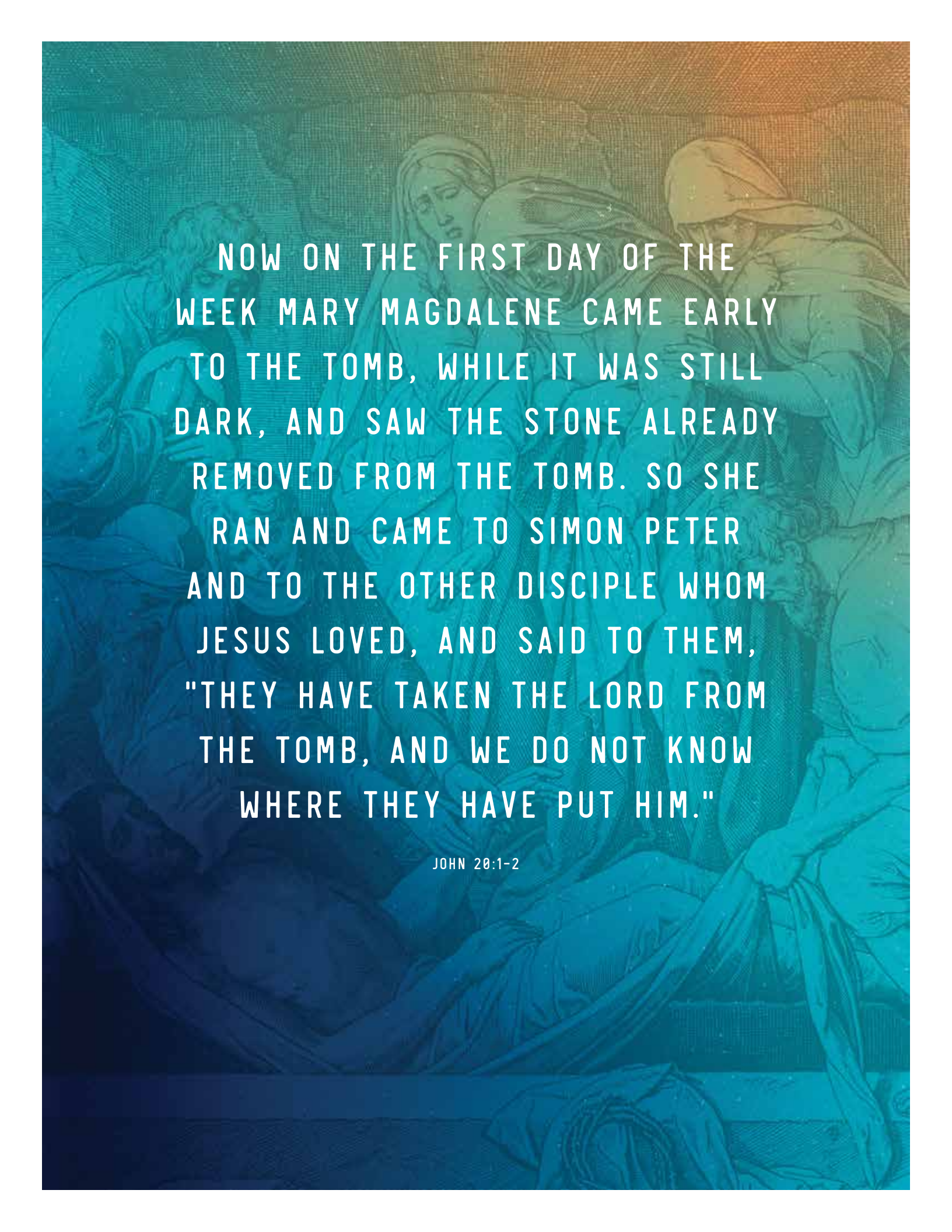
Reading these passages in the old testament help us to see more clearly and understand more fully the sovereign God's plan that was spoken of by the prophets and fulfilled by Christ's crucifixion on the cross.

**Happy Good Friday
because Sunday is coming.**

REFLECTION

Christ has been crucified for our sins and paid the price we could never pay. So, how do we respond?





NOW ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE
WEEK MARY MAGDALENE CAME EARLY
TO THE TOMB, WHILE IT WAS STILL
DARK, AND SAW THE STONE ALREADY
REMOVED FROM THE TOMB. SO SHE
RAN AND CAME TO SIMON PETER
AND TO THE OTHER DISCIPLE WHOM
JESUS LOVED, AND SAID TO THEM,
"THEY HAVE TAKEN THE LORD FROM
THE TOMB, AND WE DO NOT KNOW
WHERE THEY HAVE PUT HIM."

JOHN 20:1-2

SATURDAY, APRIL
8



THE BURIAL OF JESUS

THE EMPTY TOMB

JOHN 20:1-18

¹ Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone already removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we do not know where they have put Him.” ³ So Peter and the other disciple left, and they were going to the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead, faster than Peter, and came to the tomb first; ⁵ and he stooped to look in, and saw the linen wrappings lying there; however he did not go in. ⁶ So Simon Peter also came, following him, and he entered the tomb; and he looked at the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸ So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb also entered then, and he saw and believed. ⁹ For they did not yet understand the Scripture, that He must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ So the disciples went away again to their own homes. ¹¹ But Mary was standing outside the tomb, weeping; so as she wept, she stooped to look into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying. ¹³ And they said to her, **“Woman, why are you weeping?”** She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they put Him.”

¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and yet she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Thinking that He was the gardener, she said to Him, “Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you put Him, and I will take Him away.”

¹⁶ **Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, “Rabboni!” (which means, Teacher).** ¹⁷ **Jesus *said to her, “Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.’”** ¹⁸ **Mary Magdalene *came and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and that He had said these things to her.**



SATURDAY, APRIL
8



THE BURIAL OF JESUS [CONTINUED]

FOCUS

After the crucifixion, the disciples were still trying to figure things out because they did not yet understand the scripture. They must have been extremely discouraged by what had happened and were most likely in fear for their own lives. But on the first day of the week, Mary goes to the tomb and finds the stone removed and the body gone, so she runs to tell the disciples. They also go to the tomb and see that the body is gone. But Mary stays behind and then to her surprise she encounters Jesus. At first, she doesn't recognize him but when He calls her name, she realizes who it is. So it is Mary who carries the message back to the disciples that he was alive. You would expect that Jesus might appear first to the disciples, but instead he chooses to reveal Himself to Mary.

When we believe in the Lord, we enter into the community of believers, the body of Christ, but our faith is individual. The Lord loves the church but He calls us individually. He knows us by name, He knows our pain and He knows our sorrows and sufferings. That doesn't mean that we will be delivered from our sufferings today, but deliverance is coming. We don't mourn like those who have no hope, but just like Mary our faith is in the resurrected Christ. Sometimes it may seem as though all hope is gone, but then God can restore our hope in unexpected ways.

There is a day coming when our faith will become sight. The Lord is faithful. Be encouraged. He will restore His disciples and He will restore us.

REFLECTION

What would you have been expecting to find at the tomb that day?

How was Mary's grief turned to joy when she went to the tomb?



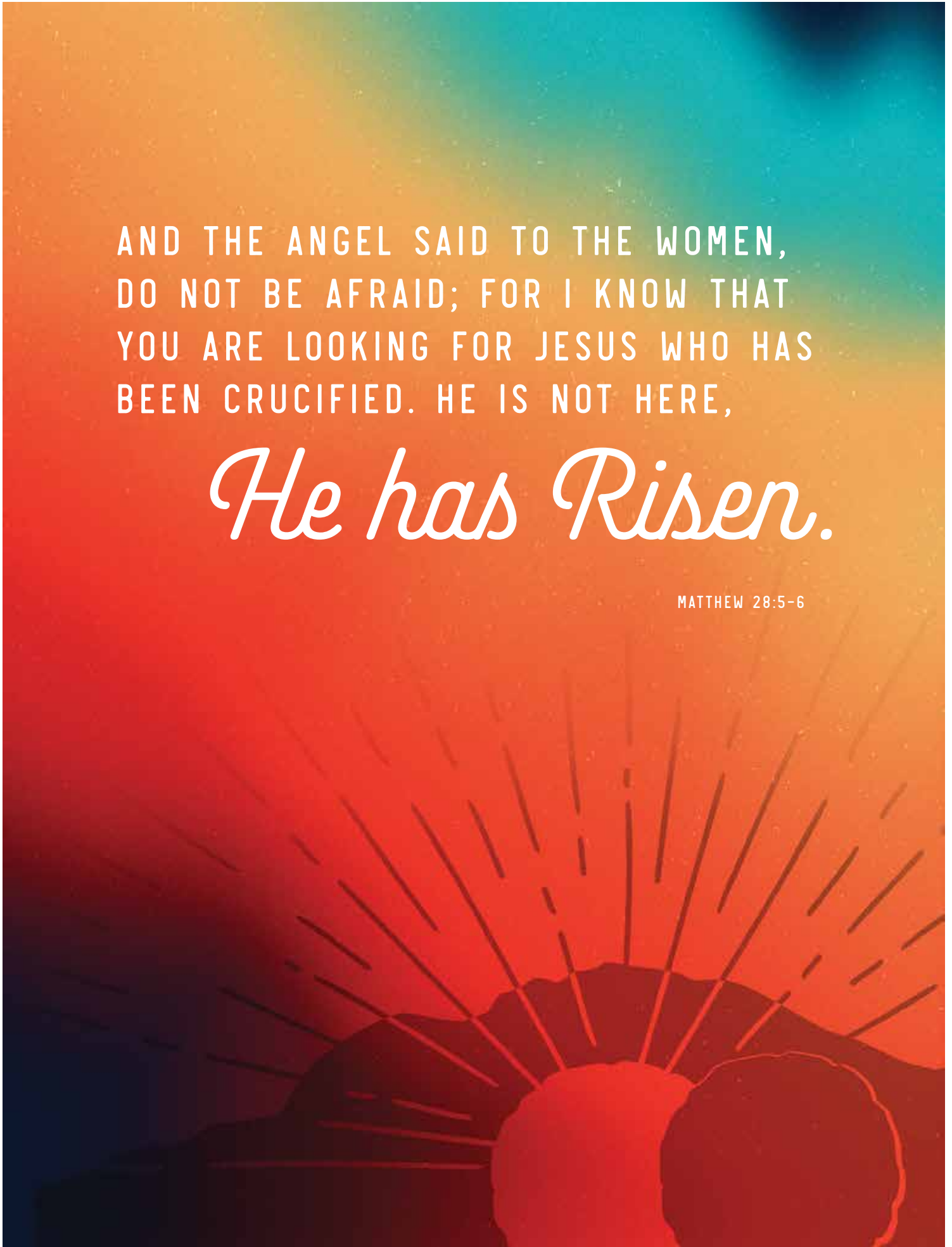
BUT MARY WAS STANDING OUTSIDE THE
TOMB, WEEPING; SO AS SHE WEPT, SHE
STOOPED TO LOOK INTO THE TOMB;
AND SHE SAW TWO ANGELS IN WHITE
SITTING, ONE AT THE HEAD AND ONE AT
THE FEET, WHERE THE BODY OF JESUS
HAD BEEN LYING. AND THEY SAID TO
HER, "WOMAN, WHY ARE YOU WEEPING?"
SHE SAID TO THEM, "BECAUSE THEY
HAVE TAKEN AWAY MY LORD, AND I DO
NOT KNOW WHERE THEY PUT HIM."

JOHN 20:11-13

AND THE ANGEL SAID TO THE WOMEN,
DO NOT BE AFRAID; FOR I KNOW THAT
YOU ARE LOOKING FOR JESUS WHO HAS
BEEN CRUCIFIED. HE IS NOT HERE,

He has Risen.

MATTHEW 28:5-6



SUNDAY, APRIL

9

THE RESURRECTION

JESUS AMONG HIS DISCIPLES

JOHN 20:19-29

¹⁹ Now when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were together due to fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst, and said to them, “Peace be to you.” ²⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, “Peace be to you; just as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas, one of the twelve, who was called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples were saying to him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ Eight days later His disciples were again inside, and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, “Peace be to you.” ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, “Place your finger here, and see My hands; and take your hand and put it into My side; and do not continue in disbelief, but be a believer.” ²⁸ Thomas answered and said to Him,

“My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen Me, have you now believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed.”

³⁰ So then, many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that by believing you may have life in His name.

THE INCARNATE WORD

1 JOHN 1:1-4

¹ What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life— ² and the life was revealed, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was revealed to us— ³ what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.



SUNDAY, APRIL

9

THE RESURRECTION [CONTINUED]

JESUS APPEARS AT THE SEA OF GALILEE

JOHN 21:1-11

¹ After these things Jesus revealed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and He revealed Himself in this way: ² Simon Peter, Thomas who was called Didymus, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are also coming with you." They went out and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing.

⁴ But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ So Jesus *said to them, "Children, you do not have any fish to eat, do you?" They answered Him, "No." ⁶ And He said to them, "cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you will find the fish." So they cast it, and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great quantity of fish. ⁷ Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved *said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" So when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he was stripped for work), and threw himself into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the little boat, for they were not far from the land, but about two hundred cubits away, dragging the net full of fish.

⁹ So when they got out on the land, they saw a charcoal fire already made and fish placed on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have now caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went up and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, 153; and although there were so many, the net was not torn.

JESUS APPEARS AT THE SEA OF GALILEE

JOHN 21:12-14

¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples ventured to inquire of Him, "Who are You?" knowing that it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and the fish likewise. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus revealed Himself to the disciples, after He was raised from the dead.

THE LOVE QUESTION

JOHN 21:15-17

¹⁵ Now when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My lambs." ¹⁶ He said to him again, a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Shepherd My sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was hurt because **He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Tend My sheep.**



SUNDAY, APRIL

9

THE RESURRECTION [CONTINUED]

OUR TIMES ARE IN HIS HAND

JOHN 21:18-25

¹⁸ Truly, truly I tell you, when you were younger, you used to put on your belt and walk wherever you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will put your belt on you, and bring you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹ Now He said this, indicating by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when He had said this, He *said to him, “Follow Me!”

²⁰ Peter turned around and *saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them—the one who also had leaned back on His chest at the supper and said, “Lord, who is the one who is betraying You?” ²¹ So Peter, upon seeing him, said to Jesus, “Lord, and what about this man?” ²² Jesus said to him, “If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!” ²³ Therefore this account went out among the brothers, that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, “If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?”

²⁴ This is the disciple who is testifying about these things and wrote these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

²⁵ But there are also many other things which Jesus did, which, if they were written in detail, I expect that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written.

FOCUS

Mary has seen the risen Lord, and now it's evening on the first day of the week. The disciples were living in fear. Jesus came among them and He said “peace be with you.” He showed them His hands and His side and they rejoiced. All of the words that Jesus had spoken probably began flooding back to them. So now, instead of being followers of Christ, they are becoming the sent ones, the apostles who will proclaim the word and testify of the words and works of Jesus. They will need the Holy Spirit to help them recall all that Jesus said to them and understand their new ministry.

Then again after eight days, Jesus appeared again to the disciples but this time with Thomas there to see Him and Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen Me, have you now believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed.”

This is what John is writing about in 1 John, that they have testified what they had seen and heard, and their joy was made complete when they revealed the Son to the believers so that they too could have fellowship with the Father.

John the Baptist's joy was made complete when he revealed the Son, Jesus' joy was made complete when He revealed the Father to the disciples, and now the disciples' joy will be made complete when they reveal the Son to the believers and proclaim the name of the Son.

So, here we are far removed from this scene and the eyewitness accounts, and we've not seen Him, or heard His voice and we've never stuck our fingers in Christ's scars, but we believe because of the words of the apostles and prophets.



SUNDAY, APRIL

9



THE RESURRECTION [CONTINUED]

So, just as Jesus was sent into the world by the Father, Jesus chose His disciples and sent them out into the world so that they would proclaim the word of the Lord that would be handed down from generation to generation.

And now their eyewitness account has been handed to us. We have placed our faith in the resurrected Christ as it was proclaimed by the apostles. The words of the apostles and prophets give us life so that we might believe.

But this is not the end of the story. The resurrected Christ has appeared on two occasions to the disciples but they still don't fully understand what they have been commissioned to do. In Jesus' high priestly prayer in John 17 He says - "I pray not only for these but for all those who will believe in me and proclaim the word."

Finally, in John 21, after all the things that had happened, the disciples go fishing and once again they encounter Jesus. In this last scene, we see Jesus come alongside Peter, who had denied Him on three occasions and Jesus is lifting him up, encouraging him and restoring him. The next time we see Peter after this is in Acts 2 and he is a changed man on fire.

And now, through the words of the disciples that have been proclaimed, through the resurrected Christ, we too have eternal life.

Be encouraged, because, the resurrection changes everything! It should change everything about us and how we view our lives. And so as Jesus was raised, we too shall be raised.

There is nothing more important in the history of all mankind than these events, the resurrection of Christ, His appearing to the disciples, His restoring them, and then sending them out.

Like Peter, we will let the Lord down, but he was restored. And throughout history, God uses broken people. Jesus "lifted up" Peter when he was not bearing fruit. We should be careful when we condemn and criticize, and instead lift up others with the word and redirect them so they can be cleansed and purified. The Lord is loving, compassionate, gracious, abounding in lovingkindness and forgiving.

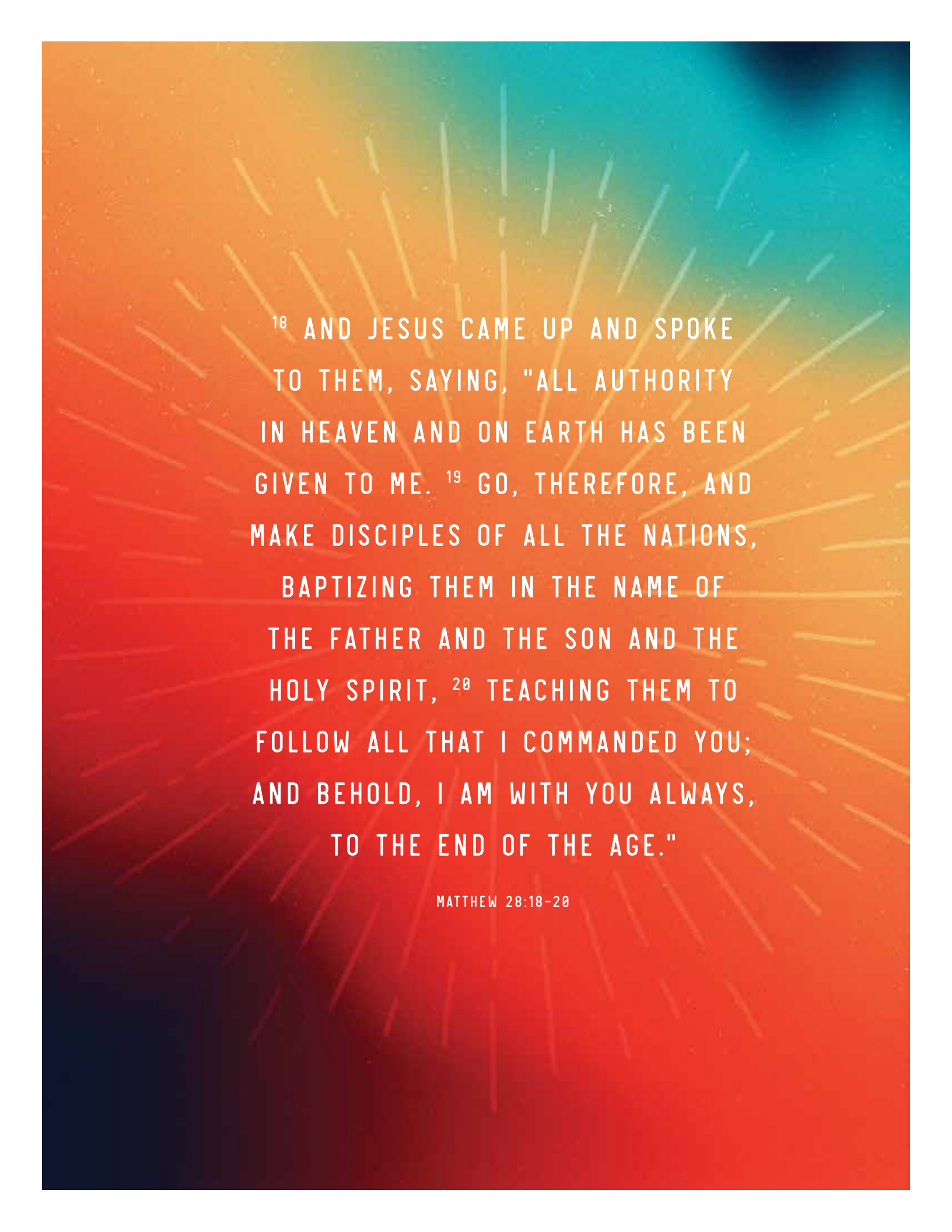
Be encouraged because the King is risen and this changes everything!

REFLECTION

Why is the resurrection so important?

What are you going to do?





¹⁸ AND JESUS CAME UP AND SPOKE
TO THEM, SAYING, "ALL AUTHORITY
IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH HAS BEEN
GIVEN TO ME. ¹⁹ GO, THEREFORE, AND
MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS,
BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF
THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE
HOLY SPIRIT, ²⁰ TEACHING THEM TO
FOLLOW ALL THAT I COMMANDED YOU;
AND BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS,
TO THE END OF THE AGE."

MATTHEW 28:18-20

Holy Week

DAILY STUDY GUIDE



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