

Sunday: Triumphal Entry on Palm Sunday

Step 1... Pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the scripture today

Step 2... Read Matthew 21:1-11

The Triumphal Entry

21 Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵ "Say to the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt,^[a] the foal of a beast of burden.'"

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸ Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" ¹⁰ And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" ¹¹ And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

Step 3... Answer the Following questions

- What does this passage teach us about Jesus' character?
- Why do you think the colt of a donkey is so important to the story?
- What is the meaning of the palm branches that the crowd waved for Jesus?
- What does "Hosanna" mean?
- What prophecy does Jesus quote to the disciples? Why is this prophecy important?

Step 4... Application

- How will you celebrate Jesus as we learn about His death and celebrate His resurrection?
- What are some words you would proclaim if Jesus entered your home like He did the city?
- Intentionally spend some time worshipping Jesus today

Step 5... Pray

- We spend so much time asking God for things... Spend some time in prayer thanking and worshipping Him as a family and by yourself

Family Activity



Monday: Jesus Cleanses the Temple

Step 1... Pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the scripture today

Step 2... Read Matthew 21:12-17

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

¹² And Jesus entered the temple^[a] and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. ¹³ He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

¹⁴ And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying out in the temple, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” they were indignant, ¹⁶ and they said to him, “Do you hear what these are saying?” And Jesus said to them, “Yes; have you never read,

“‘Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies
you have prepared praise’?”

¹⁷ And leaving them, he went out of the city to Bethany and lodged there.

Step 3... Answer the Following questions

- What did Jesus find the people doing in the temple courts?
- Why did Jesus get angry at this?
- What can we learn from Jesus' dramatic response?
- What do we learn about the attitudes and behavior we should display in church?
- What is the purpose for going to church?
- What did the children say about Jesus? Why was the children's response to Jesus important?
- What else did Jesus do at the temple?

Step 4... Application

- How has not being able to go to church affected how you feel about worship with your church family?
- After reading this passage are there things that need to change about what you do or attitudes you have when worshiping at church
- What “things” need to be kicked over and thrown out of your life?

Step 5... Pray

- Ask God to convict you of anything that you need to change to honor and glorify him in your life. Don't just pray and move on. Spend some time listening to what the Lord says.

Family Activity

Cleaning House

So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. John 2:15 (NIV)

Based on John 2:13-16 (NIV)



C W C M C P A S S O V E R U N
H F O B A Y D M O N E Y J A V
A F U F T R K Y G E Q H K M S
N O R G T P K I F F F G E G C
G T T T L U I E C G K L S G A
E E S E E Q N D T T A E N X T
R C O M J D O V E S L I S B T
S R B P S B B G U B L E P R E
H D G L G Z N R A L E E I X R
J L R E Y I E T E Z E I W E E
P E K O T J X S C H F X H W D
E E W T V J N M S E H K I W V
W D I I P E H O U S E G P I Z
N S D R S C D U C O R D S M S
K V C X C H N A T I M E E G G

DROVE
TEMPLE
TIME
SELLING

SCATTERED
COURTS
MARKET
HOUSE

JERUSALEM
DOVES
CHANGERS
TABLES

PASSOVER
SHEEP
JEWISH
WHIP

SITTING
CATTLE
MONEY
CORDS

Tuesday: You Are Invited

Step 1... Pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the scripture today

Step 2... Read Matthew 22:1-14

The Parable of the Wedding Feast

22 And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³and sent his servants^[a] to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.”’ ⁵But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ ¹⁰And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹²And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Step 3... Answer the Following questions

- Who was Jesus speaking to when He gave this parable?
- How did the Pharisees and religious leaders reject the invitation of Jesus?
- Why did they decline attending the marriage feast?
- What is the proper wedding feast attire?
- Why were some considered unworthy?
- What attitudes characterized the responses of people to the invitation?

Step 4... Application

- Based on this parable, what changes in my life does Jesus want me to make?
- Have you accepted the invitation Jesus give for salvation.
- Realize that you can be ready for eternal life when you trust in Jesus

Step 5... Pray

- Thank God for the invitation and free gift of salvation
- If you have never accepted Jesus as your Savior... Accept Jesus as Savior, Believe and place your faith in Him, and confess your sins and Jesus as Lord

Family Activity

The Wedding Banquet

So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. Matthew 22:10

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
P	R	V	G	K	W	S	T	L	X	Q	E	A	D	H	F	B	N	C	O	U	I	J	Y	M	Z

1. 4-21-12-7-8-7 _____
2. 22-18-3-22-8-12-14 _____
3. 14-22-18-18-12-2 _____
4. 1-13-2-13-17-9-12 _____
5. 6-12-14-14-22-18-4 _____
6. 7-12-2-3-13-18-8-7 _____
7. 17-13-18-11-21-12-8 _____
8. 2-12-16-21-7-12-14 _____

INVITED SERVANTS	WEDDING GUESTS	BANQUET PARABLE	DINNER REFUSED
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Wednesday: What Does God Want From You?

Step 1... Pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the scripture today

Step 2... Read Matthew 22:15-22

Paying Taxes to Caesar

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. ¹⁶ And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances.^[e] ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius.^[f] ²⁰ And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹ They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

Step 3... Answer the Following questions

- Why did you think the Pharisees were trying to trap Jesus?
- How would answering this question wrongly get Jesus in trouble?
- Whose image is on the quarter, dime, nickel, and penny? Whose image was on the denarius?
- Read Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."
- Whose image is on you?

Step 4... Application

- Since you are created in God's image... What does that mean God wants?
- How do you need to "render" to God? (your time? your talent? your devotion?)
- Especially during the Easter season how can you devote yourself to God in a more intentional and intimate way?
- Realize that you are God's creation and He wants you!

Step 5... Pray

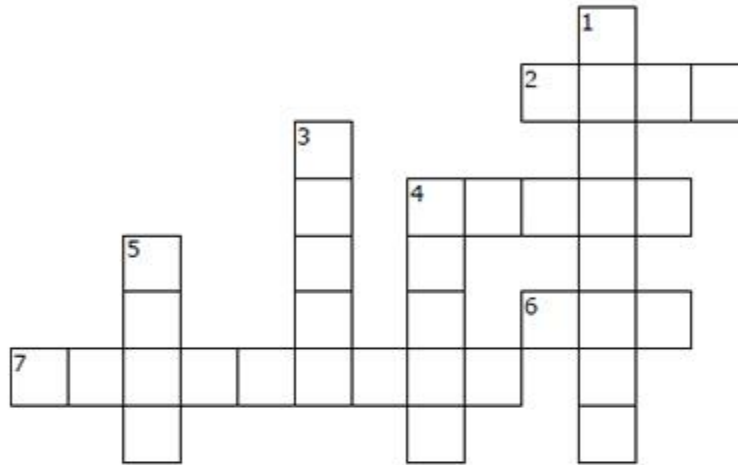
- Ask God to show you and your family ways you can devote yourselves to Him

Family Activity

Paying Taxes to Caesar

Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." Matthew 22:21

Based on Matthew 22:15-22 (NIV)



ACROSS

2. A usually flat piece of metal used for money.
4. A statement that agrees with fact or reality.
6. To give someone money in return for something.
7. A religious group who were strict followers of the law.

DOWN

1. A picture of a person -- usually showing the face.
3. The details of how something is going to be accomplished.
4. Money paid to the government.
5. A situation from which it is difficult or impossible to escape.

TAXES
TRUTH

TRAP
PAY

PORTRAIT
PHARISEES

PLANS
COIN

Thursday: Passover –Last Supper and the Lord’s Supper (Matt. 26:17-26)

Step 1... Pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the scripture today

Step 2... Read Matthew 26:17-29

The Passover with the Disciples

¹⁷Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?” ¹⁸He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” ¹⁹And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.

²⁰When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve.^[a] ²¹And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” ²²And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?” ²³He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.” ²⁵Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.”

Institution of the Lord's Supper

²⁶Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the^[a] covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.”

Step 3... Answer the Following questions

- What does Jesus mean that the bread is His body?
- What did Jesus do before eating of the bread and drinking of the cup? What does he mean that the cup is His blood, poured out for many?
- What is the meaning of the Lord’s Supper? Why should we do it? How often should we do it?

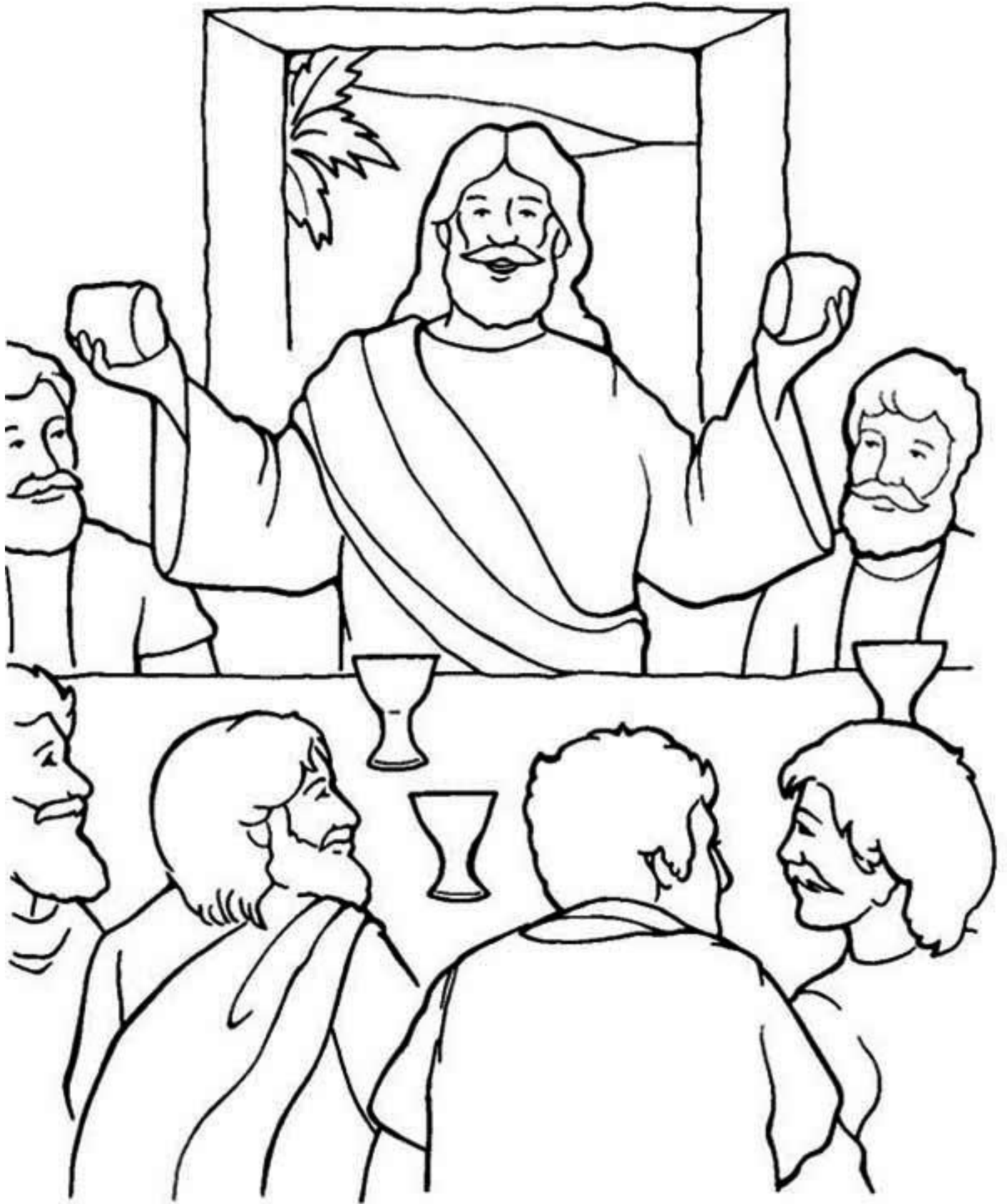
Step 4... Application

- Remember what Jesus did for you on the cross
- Remember the physical pain and sorrow that Jesus endured for you
- Remember that Jesus died for you

Step 5... Pray

- Spend time remembering and thanking Jesus for his broken body and the shedding of His blood for you

Family Activity



Friday: Crucifixion ()

Step 1... Pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the scripture today

Step 2... Read Luke 23

Step 3... Answer the Following questions

- Was Jesus guilty of a crime?
- Why did the chief priests and the religious leaders want to have Jesus executed?
- Who did the crowd choose to release instead of Jesus?
- Who carried the cross of Jesus?
- How did the criminals react to Jesus?
- What did Jesus say on the cross?
- Who gave his tomb for Jesus to be buried in?

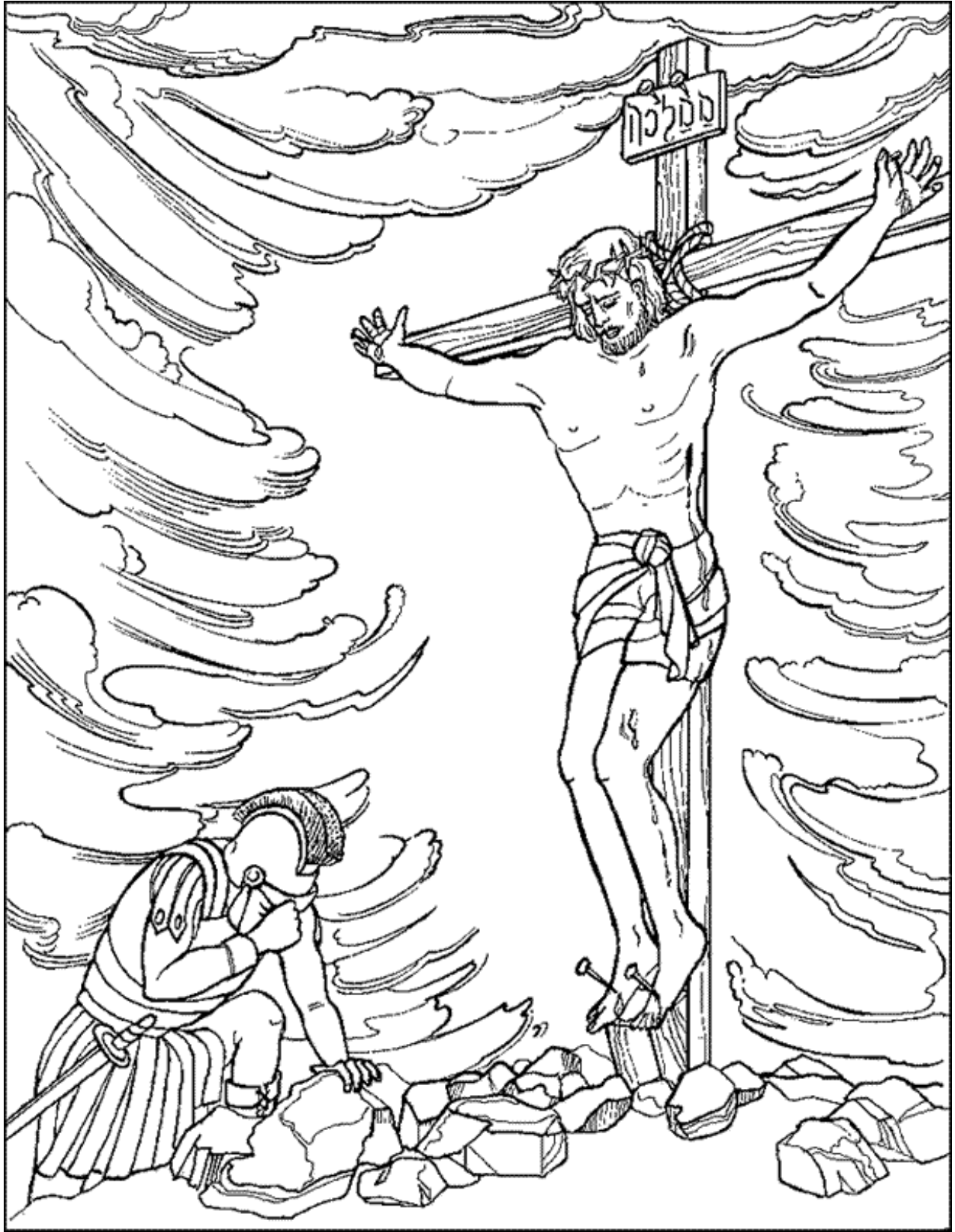
Step 4... Application

- Meditate on the physical abuse Jesus took for you
- Think about the character of Jesus and consider everything Jesus said while on the cross
- Grieve over the thought that it was your sin that Jesus died for and His love for you that held Him on that cross
- Jesus suffered for you, Jesus died for you, and he did all of this because He loves you and desires to give you eternal life

Step 5... Pray

- Thank Him for the cross and for the forgiveness of sins
- Spend time praising Him for his great love for us

Family Activity



Saturday: In the Tomb

Step 1... Pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the scripture today

Step 2... Read Matthew 27:62-66,

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate⁶³ and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.'⁶⁴ Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." ⁶⁵ Pilate said to them, "You have a guard^[1] of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." ⁶⁶ So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 5:8, "but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 10:9, "because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Romans 5:1, "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

John 3:16-17 "For God so loved the world,[a] that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Step 3... Answer the Following questions

- Why was it so important to the chief priest and the Pharisees that the body of Jesus was guarded?
- Did Jesus really die? Does it matter?
- What is the wages of sin?
- If Jesus didn't really die is the debt of sin taken care of?
- Did Jesus die for your sins?

Step 4... Application

- Jesus died!
- Jesus died for you!
- Jesus died for you so that you might have eternal life!
- Jesus died for you so that you might have eternal life and have peace with God!

Step 5... Pray

- Thank God for sending Jesus to die on the cross for you

Family Activity

God So Loved the World

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on John 3:16-17

M L I Z D Q X P T H R O U G H
V D J P Q W T W V L R C I D A
C Y U L I F E O K D D E D B V
I T S H B N R W L Z K O H M V
S H Z N D G G J L G B S E N D
J G O D B M A M R Y F N I L O
S Z E N K D L V M R A W O N
R A J M C P K V E F Q H X V O
Y I V L G C S P L H E O J E U
B W E E B O M E Y I V E O D U
P O J S U N R R K M P V R W Z
X R C V T D P I P F P E R S H
S L S G C E X S Z N I R Z D T
V D B Q G M F H E T E R N A L
U G Y W P N V B E L I E V E S

LOVED
THROUGH
PERISH

GOD
SEND
ETERNAL

SON
WHOEVER
GAVE

CONDEMN
LIFE
HIM

BELIEVES
SAVE
WORLD

Sunday: Resurrection Day

Step 1... Pray that the Holy Spirit will illuminate the scripture today

Step 2... Read Matthew 28

Step 3... Answer the Following questions

- Who was the first to the tomb?
- What did the angel say to the women?
- What lie was told by the chief priests and religious leaders about Jesus?
- What were the two responses of the disciples?
- Why is it so important to understand the “Great Commission” when celebrating Easter?

Step 4... Application

- Jesus defeated death
- How will you respond to that truth? With faith or doubt
- How will you respond to the “Great Commission”?

Step 5... Pray

- Thank God for the power of sin and the grave.
- Thank Him for eternal life
- Thank Him for using you to share the good news of Jesus Christ

Family Activity

Easter Sunrise Surprise

He is not here; he has risen! Luke 24:6a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 24:1-12 (NIV).



Y L X Y P K W G P R X I F L W
D B A R H V N E S P I C E S K
P W V S L I P U E F Z S Z U T
A R W A N U S V T K Q A E F N
G D O R C K T Z O W T J O N A
Y R O L T Q O K M B O D Y L Z
G M O W L D N E B S S T B Q J
Y D B U G E E V N R T H K E Z
W L Z O N Q D U L T W H J M T
F O I Q W D J U F O E R X S C
R R M V R E M E M B E R R S I
J D I E I U D P R E C I E P K
G F E G N N N B D D F C G D O
O D D A H S G C Q A A I X I V
L A T F D T M P J F Y Z T F L

living
women
faces
morning

tomb
first
stone
week

rolled
spices
entered
body

risen
away
ground
fright

dead
bowed
remember
day