

BECAUSE  
HE LIVES...

FAMILY DEVOTIONS



**Gospel Family Ministries**  
[www.gospelfamily.org](http://www.gospelfamily.org)



# Because He Lives

## Family Devotions

### 3 DEVOTIONS

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**Friday**

**Good Friday-Good News**

**Saturday**

**Sunday**

**The Power of the Resurrection**



GOSPEL FAMILY

# FRIDAY

Everyone who encounters Jesus responds to Jesus one way or another. On the night that Jesus was arrested and throughout the day of His crucifixion, we see many of these responses. We see those who betray, deny, desert, accuse, question, beat, and we see those who crucify the Son of God. Yet, Jesus was born to die for our sins. The question is, "How will we respond to Jesus today?"

# FAMILY DEVOTION FOR FRIDAY

## Family Time in the Word:

Read Luke 23:26-49

## Family Teaching:

As you read through the crucifixion story, we have provided additional verses on the next page that help you teach on the impact of the cross. This can allow you to discuss the Good News of Good Friday.

For this passage, you and your family can focus on some of the words of Christ. In verse 34, Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Even as He is being crucified and mocked, Jesus is focused on His mission to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). Some of His most beautiful words come in verse 43 just after the thief on the cross asks Jesus to remember him. Jesus responds, "today you will be with me in paradise." His death on the cross makes a way for sinners to live forever with Jesus in Heaven.

**Family Discussion:** Why do we call today, "Good Friday." Why is the Cross "Good News" for us? How should we respond to Jesus' death on the cross? How can we live with Him forever?

**Family Prayer:** Ask each member of your family to share a prayer request and then lead in prayer.

# Good Friday Good News

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

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

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:24)

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Gal. 2:20)

# SATURDAY

After Jesus died on the cross for our sins, He was buried in a tomb that was sealed with a stone and guarded by soldiers. Jesus was buried for three days: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Today, we know that Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday: Resurrection Sunday. But the day after Jesus died, that Saturday, many who had hoped in Jesus found themselves hopeless and discouraged.

# FAMILY DEVOTION FOR SATURDAY

## Family Time in the Word:

Read John 19:38-42

## Family Teaching:

While we don't know much about the events of Saturday, the Bible does teach us about the burial of Jesus. Paul also emphasizes the burial in his proclamation of the Gospel (1 Cor. 15:3-4). In this passage, we find Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus, two of Jesus' disciples, going through the burial customs of their times. This included wrapping the body in linen cloths and covering the body with spices before burial. One of the most significant truths in this passage is that Jesus was truly dead. He died on the cross and His lifeless body was buried.

Joseph buried Jesus in, "a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid." This is a detail emphasized in Scripture, making it clear that if anyone ever walks out of this tomb alive, it would have to be Jesus, for no one else was ever buried in this tomb; it had never been used before.

**Family Discussion:** How do you think the disciples felt that Saturday after Jesus died? (read Luke 24:13-21) How do we know Jesus is with us even when we can't see Him & on the hard days?

**Family Prayer:** Share prayer requests and close in family prayer.

# SUNDAY

Jesus was crucified on a Friday and then buried. He was in the tomb for three days: Friday, Saturday, & Sunday. Then on Sunday, a severe earthquake occurred, an angel rolled away the stone, and Jesus Christ rose from the dead. We now call this Resurrection Sunday, for Jesus is our living Savior. Because He lives, we can be forgiven. Because He lives, we can be saved. Because He lives, He is with us today, He hears our prayers, & He will never leave us.



# FAMILY DEVOTION FOR SUNDAY

## Family Time in the Word:

Read Matthew 28:1-10

## Family Teaching:

The final chapter of the book of Matthew begins with Jesus' resurrection and ends with Jesus telling His disciples, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." This is one of the most powerful chapters in all of Scripture, for it communicates two amazing truths: (1) Jesus is Alive and (2) He is with us forever. In fact, the first chapter of Matthew proclaims the birth of Jesus and teaches, His name shall be Immanuel, which means, "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). The bookends of Matthew, then, are God is with us (Matt. 1) and Jesus is with us always (Matt. 28).

Jesus is with us because He is Risen! He is alive! He has conquered sin and death so that we no longer have to fear sin or death. In this passage, Jesus appears to Mary and Mary and their response is to worship Him (v. 9). Then, with great joy, they run to tell others that Jesus is Risen, setting the stage for the Great Commission.

**Family Discussion:** Do you believe Jesus is with us today? Should we respond to His resurrection the way Mary & Mary responded? Who should we tell about Jesus and His resurrection?

**Family Praise:** Close with a time of Family Praise.

# The Power of the Resurrection

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live. (John 11:25)

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

"Death is swallowed up in victory." (1 Cor. 15:54)

# FAMILY DEVOTIONS FOR HOLY WEEK

## BECAUSE HE LIVES

