

Meditations for Holy Week

Introduction

Holy week is the last week of Jesus' mortal life. He arrives in Jerusalem on the Sunday (Palm Sunday), Spends a few days in Jerusalem before being arrested on the Thursday, crucified on the Friday and culminating in the joy of His resurrection on the Sunday.

These are momentous events and worth remembering. These meditations are all taken from Matthews's account of this last week. Whether all the events actually happened on the days specified is not certain, but they did happen in this order.

The following meditations are just snippets from the story. Please feel free to read the rest as we go through the week.

Advice on using these Meditations.

- Set aside a quiet time and place to allow yourself to concentrate on the words
- Begin with a prayer asking God to speak to you through the passage.
- Read the passage.
- Sit for a moment, in quiet and just allow yourself to think if anything stands out to you.
- Some questions have been included to prompt your thoughts but don't feel you have to use these if other thoughts come to mind.
- Note down anything that speaks to you.

Sunday - Palm Sunday

Reading: Matthew 21:1-11

1. Why were the people so excited at Jesus' arrival?
2. What were they expecting from Him?
3. Did he give them what they wanted?
4. If Jesus came to Twydall what would you expect of him?
5. Would he give you what you wanted?

Monday - Jesus at the Temple

Reading: Matthew 21:12-17

1. Why was Jesus so angry?
2. Are we ever so busy doing church we forget to spend time with God?
3. Is there anything we do that deters people from coming to God?

Tuesday – Teachings and the Plot against Jesus

Matthew 25:31 - 26:5

1. In the Middle East sheep and goats look very similar. How can you tell the difference?
2. Why were the authorities so upset about Jesus?
3. Does following Jesus ever make us a threat to our society?

Wednesday - Jesus Anointed at Bethany

Reading: Matthew 26:6-13

1. If you were there would you have been embarrassed by this woman's display?
2. Was the disciples concern about waste reasonable?
3. Should we concentrate more on helping the poor or worshipping Jesus?
4. Would you do something extravagant to show your love for Jesus?

Thursday – The Last Supper

Reading: Matthew 26:17-30

1. Why did Jesus include Judas in this special meal?
2. Why does He tell us to do this in remembrance of Him?
3. What does the communion mean to you?

Friday – The Crucifixion

Reading: Matthew 27: 27-55

1. How does it make you feel to know Jesus suffered all this for you?
2. When Jesus cried out, had God forsaken Him?
3. What is the significance of the Temple curtain being Split in two?
4. Why do you think it was the women who stayed by the cross until the end?

Saturday – The Burial of Jesus

Reading: Matthew 27:57- 65

1. Do you think Joseph was brave to put Jesus in his own tomb?
2. Why were the Chief priests so afraid?

Sunday - Jesus Has Risen

Reading Matthew 28:1-10

1. Why did the women go so early?
2. Would you have believed them if they had told you Jesus had risen?
3. What difference does it make to you that Jesus rose from the dead?