

Good Friday Family Worship Guide

Hello Providence Road Church!

This is our Good Friday Worship Guide. We've put this together to help everyone have an intentional and Gospel-centered Good Friday evening.

Traditionally we would gather together as a church, but these COVID-19 moments have changed the way we are living our daily lives. Because of this we wanted to provide an intentional way we as a church can collectively raise our minds and hearts to heaven, enjoy sweet family moments in our homes, and soak our minds in the story of Christ, his death and what that means for us.

In this guide we have Scripture to read, we've chosen a version of the Bible that is easier for children to understand. We'd encourage families to share the reading together.

We also have a section for families to learn together. This section can be tackled in a few ways. You can simply read through the material that we've put together or you can thematically teach through it, using the headings to help you talk through the Gospel with your family. Whatever serves your family best. This moment is a great opportunity for family members to hear the Gospel expounded, not by someone else, but by Dad, or Mom, or Brother or Sister.

If you are home alone this evening and don't have another to read to and talk to, use this moment as a personal devotional moment. Read through the story of Christ and be encouraged by reminders and words of hope.

There is also a song to sing. As Christians we are naturally singers. We're more typically accustomed to sing together as a whole, but these moments have provided the opportunity for us to sing together in smaller family groups — don't allow the uniqueness and potential awkwardness of singing (and therefore being heard) prevent you from missing this great blessing.

And finally we encourage families to have a Jesus-centered movie night. Watch something that is good for your soul. On the last page of this document we list several movies as suggestions and list places to find them. Use this creative multi-media moment to further allow the amazing story of Christ to take hold in your heart.

We love you church.

Your Pastors,

Jose Abella
Alex Comesañas
Jesse Francis Crowley

Read Scripture

Isaiah 53:2-12 (NIRV)

His servant grew up like a tender young plant.

He grew like a root coming up out of dry ground.

He didn't have any beauty or majesty that made us notice him.

There wasn't anything special about the way he looked that drew us to him.

People looked down on him. They didn't accept him.

He knew all about pain and suffering. He was like someone people turn their faces away from.

We looked down on him. We didn't have any respect for him.

He suffered the things we should have suffered.

He took on himself the pain that should have been ours.

But we thought God was punishing him.

We thought God was wounding him and making him suffer.

But the servant was pierced because we had sinned.

He was crushed because we had done what was evil.

He was punished to make us whole again.

His wounds have healed us.

All of us are like sheep. We have wandered away from God.

All of us have turned to our own way. And the Lord has placed on his servant the sins of all of us.

He was treated badly and made to suffer.

But he didn't open his mouth.

He was led away like a lamb to be killed.

Sheep are silent while their wool is being cut off.

In the same way, he didn't open his mouth.

He was arrested and sentenced to death.

Then he was taken away.

He was cut off from this life.

He was punished for the sins of my people.

Who among those who were living at that time

tried to stop what was happening?

He was given a grave with those who were evil.

But his body was buried in the tomb of a rich man.

He was killed even though he hadn't harmed anyone.

And he had never lied to anyone.

The Lord says, "It was my plan to crush him and cause him to suffer.

I made his life an offering to pay for sin.

But he will see all his children after him.

In fact, he will continue to live.

My plan will be brought about through him.

After he has suffered, he will see the light of life.

And he will be satisfied.

My godly servant will make many people godly

because of what he will accomplish.

He will be punished for their sins.

So I will give him a place of honor among those who are great.

He will be rewarded just like others who win the battle.

That's because he was willing to give his life as a sacrifice.

He was counted among those who had committed crimes.

He took the sins of many people on himself.

And he gave his life for those who had done what is wrong."

Learn Together

Our hope here is that families gather together for a moment of story and instruction. We'd encourage Dad's to explain the story of Jesus' final days and to remind your family several true things about Jesus and his death.

We'd encourage those at home alone to remind themselves of these truths and to preach them back to yourself. Read through these things slowly and intentionally.

The Story.

Jesus is our unsuspecting Savior. If you remember, he wasn't born in a majestic way. He was born in a way that didn't draw much attention. Quietly, outside of a home, outside of the local inn, Jesus was born in a stable with animals. People who might have happened to look would see a poor family, impoverished and without much, but they would see Joseph and Mary and a little baby. They wouldn't know it at the time, but that child, under the stars and the moon was in fact its maker and creator who is, after all, our God.

Jesus was publicly known for only three years of his life. When he was around the age of 30 he began teaching people in cities and towns the ways of God. He surprised people with his words because he spoke in a way that made sense of the world and of people's lives. Some drew close to Jesus because they knew he was special, others feared him and didn't understand him.

Eventually these people who didn't understand Jesus saw him as a threat and wanted to kill him. But what they didn't know and what was unexpected to all around except Jesus is that it was God's plan that Jesus would die. You see, in God's good plan for the world Jesus was to die on the cross. But, Jesus' death wasn't an end, it was a beginning. When Jesus would die he would carry the sins of the world, he would carry all the wrongs people did on his shoulders. His dying would grant forgiveness to everyone who would look to Jesus as their Savior.

On this Friday we remember Jesus' death. In some ways it's a very sad day. The world with all of its smarts condemned a good man and killed him. But we remember and celebrate this dark day as a good day. We call it Good Friday.

We remember this day as a good day because this is the day our sin debt to God was settled — a good gift to those who believe. Since that day each year, together as families and churches, we mourn the darkness and celebrate the gift.

Jesus Is Our Hope.

When we look to Jesus we're reminded that he is our hope. Outside of Jesus we are under sin and this is a very scary thought! It's scary because the Bible tells us that the "wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).

That's right, death.

But, in Jesus, all our sin is forgiven and in Christ death no longer has a grip. Death is like a rock climber scaling a mountain but his hands are getting tired and he can no longer hold on, he falls. In Christ, death falls away.

When we look to Jesus we see hope.

Jesus Is Good.

When we look to Jesus we're reminded that he is good. It's an amazing thought to think, but Jesus has never had a bad idea, he's never had a sinful thought and he's never had a bad intention. Jesus is fully good because Jesus is God himself, in the flesh and here with us. The word the Bible uses to describe God's goodness is the word "holy." The Bible tells us that God is holy (1 Sam 2:2) and because we know Jesus is himself our God we understand that Jesus is holy.

Another way to think of God's holiness is in terms of light, that's how the Apostle John puts it,

"God is light and in him there is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5).

Jesus' goodness teaches us that he is trustworthy and faithful and worthy.

When we look to Jesus we see goodness in him.

Jesus Died For Us.

When we look to Jesus we're reminded that he died for us. It's probably hard for you to understand — it is for me too, our sin is leading us to our own deaths. But Jesus did something special for us, he found a way, when we knew no way, to give us life again. And that is tremendous news! But it had an even more tremendous cost, Jesus life.

On the day that God appointed, Jesus died on a cross on the top of a hill outside Jerusalem. And when he died, he died for us. But Jesus' death was unlike any death that had ever happened, he wasn't sinful like we were, he wasn't deserving of death like we were — he was God himself. What no one suspected but something God knew all along Jesus death would accomplish something marvelous, it would not stick to Jesus, since he was God and good and it accomplished forgiveness and life for those who trust Jesus as their Savior and God.

So the next time someone says, "Jesus died for sinners!"

Say, "Yes! Yes! Yes!"

When we look to Jesus we see God dying for us.

Sing Together

His Mercy Is More by Matt Papa

Verse 1

What love could remember no wrongs
we have done

Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not
their sum

Thrown into a sea without bottom or
shore

Our sins they are many, His mercy is
more

Chorus

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more

Stronger than darkness, new every morn

*Our sins they are many, His mercy is
more*

Verse 2

What patience would wait as we
constantly roam

What Father, so tender, is calling us
home

He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the
poor

Our sins they are many, His mercy is
more

Chorus

Verse 3

What riches of kindness He lavished on
us

His blood was the payment, His life was
the cost

We stood 'neath a debt we could never
afford

Our sins they are many, His mercy is
more

Chorus

Watch A Movie

[The Passion of the Christ \(2004\)](#) – Free with Amazon Prime Video

[Risen \(2016\)](#) – Amazon Prime Video \$2.99

[VeggieTales: An Easter Carol \(2004\)](#) – Buy in iTunes for \$9.99 O [vudu.com](#) for \$9.99

[Jesus: He Lived Among Us \(2011\)](#) – Amazon Prime Video for \$3.99