

easter

FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

Monday

Read: Mark 11:12-25

What happened the day after the triumphal entry? Jesus curses the fig tree, and cleanses the temple. Why was Jesus so upset about what was going on in the temple? What can we do to keep the church a meaningful, worshipful place? Consider if any poor attitudes, disrespectful behavior, or indifference towards church has crept into your family or into your own heart. Ask Jesus to cleanse you and help you regain a fresh love for His bride.

Tuesday

Read: Mark 12:41-44

During this time is also when Jesus told the parable of the Widow's Offering. Talk about this as a family. She gave two small copper coins. Why did Jesus say she had put in more than all the others? They had all contributed from their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had. Similarly, we are to be generous givers, willing to give sacrificially when the Lord prompts us.

Wednesday

Read: Mark 14:1-9

As we read in verse 1, it's now two days before the Passover. The chief priests and scribes were considering ways to arrest Jesus and kill him. Why? Talk about this as a family. Consider the woman with the alabaster box who anointed him with the very costly oil. Why was this important?

Thursday

Read: Mark 14:10-11

Judas is behind the scenes, sneakily making plans to betray Jesus into the hands of the chief priests. Why do you think was he doing this? What was his motivation? Point out that they had promised to give him money in exchange for betraying him. This is a good opportunity to talk about money & wisdom. How do we make good choices with money? How can we steward our money to further God's purposes?

Friday

Read: Mark 14:12-25, Exodus 12:1-14, 26-27, and also Mark 15:16-20

Consider the Passover. What foods are often eaten during Passover? lamb, bitter herbs, unleavened bread, and grape juice. Do you know the meaning of each? What was it like for the Israelites on that first Passover night? In place of spreading blood, like the Israelites did, what could you put on your door as a symbol? (*hang red fabric on the door or tie red ribbon*) Discuss what it means. Depending on the age of your children, spend a few minutes reverently explaining how Jesus was led away, beaten, and crucified. (*If they're very young, children's-themed video might be helpful, like the Greatest Adventure Easter Story; have it ready in advance*).

Saturday

Read Mark 15:42-47

Meditate on Jesus being in the tomb. An activity you could do during today's devotion would be to allow the children to wrap each other up in a blanket, as Jesus's body was wrapped in linen. Also, talk about what you think Mary and the disciples were feeling during this time?





