

The Final Week of Jesus 9-Day study begins on the Saturday before Holy Week.

Day 1: The Triumphal Entry Read: Matthew 21:1–11

Summary: Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilling Old Testament prophecy. The crowds shout “Hosanna,” recognizing Him as the coming King.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does Jesus’ method of entering Jerusalem reveal about His character and mission?
2. How does the crowd’s excitement compare to their later actions during the week?

Cross-References:

- Zechariah 9:9 (OT prophecy of the king riding on a donkey)
 - Psalm 118:25–26 (Quoted by the crowd: “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord”)
 - Philippians 2:5–11 (Christ’s humility and exaltation)
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Day 2: Jesus Clears the Temple and Teaches Read: Matthew 21:12–27

Summary: Jesus drives out money changers from the temple and teaches with authority. He challenges religious leaders and emphasizes true worship.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does Jesus’ reaction in the temple reveal about the importance of pure worship?
2. Are there areas in your life where Jesus might be calling for cleansing?

Cross-References:

- Isaiah 56:7 (My house shall be called a house of prayer)
 - Jeremiah 7:11 (Den of robbers)
 - 1 Corinthians 3:16–17 (You are God’s temple)
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Day 3: Confrontation and Teaching in Jerusalem Read: Matthew 22:15–46

Summary: Jesus continues teaching and answering challenges from the Pharisees and Sadducees. He emphasizes love for God and neighbor as the greatest commandments.

Reflection Questions:

1. How does Jesus model wisdom and grace when challenged?
2. What does His teaching on love reveal about God’s priorities for our lives?

Cross-References:

- Deuteronomy 6:5 (Love the Lord your God)
 - Leviticus 19:18 (Love your neighbor as yourself)
 - Romans 13:8–10 (Love fulfills the law)
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Day 4: The Last Supper and Jesus’ New Covenant Read: Matthew 26:17–35

Summary: Jesus shares the Passover meal with His disciples, institutes the Lord’s Supper, and predicts Peter’s denial. He speaks of His coming sacrifice.

Reflection Questions:

1. How does the Lord’s Supper deepen your understanding of Jesus’ death?
2. What does Jesus’ grace toward Peter teach you about forgiveness?

Cross-References:

- Exodus 12:1–28 (The original Passover)
 - Jeremiah 31:31–34 (Promise of a new covenant)
 - 1 Corinthians 11:23–26 (Paul’s teaching on the Lord’s Supper)
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Day 5: Prayer in Gethsemane and Jesus’ Arrest Read: Matthew 26:36–56

Summary: In the garden, Jesus wrestles in prayer with the suffering ahead, yet submits to the Father’s will. He is betrayed by Judas and arrested.

Reflection Questions:

1. What can you learn from Jesus’ prayer in times of difficulty?
2. How can you practice surrender in your own spiritual life?

Cross-References:

- Psalm 42 (Crying out to God in sorrow)
- Isaiah 53:3–7 (The Suffering Servant)
- Hebrews 5:7–9 (Jesus learned obedience through suffering)

Day 6: Jesus on Trial Read: Matthew 26:57–75

Summary: Jesus is falsely accused and stands before the Jewish leaders. Peter, overwhelmed by fear, denies knowing Him.

Reflection Questions:

1. How does Jesus' silence and composure during His trial impact you?
2. What does Peter's denial reveal about fear and faith?

Cross-References:

- Isaiah 53:7 (He was oppressed... yet He did not open His mouth)
- Psalm 27:1–3 (The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?)
- 2 Timothy 2:11–13 (Even if we are faithless, He remains faithful)

Day 7: The Crucifixion Read: Matthew 27:11–54

Summary: Jesus is sentenced to death, mocked, and crucified. On the cross, He cries out in agony and ultimately gives His life for the salvation of the world.

Reflection Questions:

1. What part of the crucifixion account moves you most deeply?
2. How does Jesus' suffering show the depth of God's love for you?

Cross-References:

- Psalm 22 (Prophetic Psalm of suffering and abandonment)
- Isaiah 53:4–12 (He was pierced for our transgressions)
- 2 Corinthians 5:21 (He became sin for us)

Day 8: The Burial and the Waiting Read: Matthew 27:55–66

Summary: Jesus is buried in a sealed tomb. The disciples face confusion and grief. The religious leaders take steps to guard the tomb.

Reflection Questions:

1. How do you respond to seasons of silence or spiritual waiting?
2. How might God be working even when you can't see it?

Cross-References:

- Lamentations 3:25–26 (The Lord is good to those who wait for Him)
- Psalm 88 (A psalm of darkness and silence)
- Romans 8:24–25 (Hope in what is unseen)

Day 9: The Resurrection Read: Matthew 28:1–20

Summary: Jesus rises from the dead and appears to His followers. He gives them the Great Commission and promises His presence always.

Reflection Questions:

1. How does the resurrection give you hope in everyday life?
2. What is one way you can respond to Jesus' call to "go and make disciples"?

Cross-References:

- Psalm 16:9–11 (You will not let your Holy One see decay)
- Hosea 6:1–2 (On the third day He will raise us up)
- 1 Corinthians 15:3–8, 20–22 (The resurrection of Christ and our hope)