

**Week 5**  
21 March - 27 March 2021

## SMALL GROUP WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL



# JESUS predicts his DEATH

**LECTIONARY YEAR B**  
17 Feb 2021 - 3 April 2021

Daily Bible readings, a memory verse and a prayer for individual contemplation  
Weekly worship song, reflection and small group questions

### THIS WEEK AND UPCOMING WEEKS:

Lectionary year B - Lent and Holy Week – 17 Feb to 3 April

**WEEK 5** Sunday 21 March to Saturday 27 March – Jesus predicts His death – Thoko Mbense

**WEEK 6** Sunday 28 March (Palm Sunday) to Saturday 3 April (Holy Week) – The death of Jesus – Lusi Badi



**THIS WEEK:**  
**WEEK 5: JESUS PREDICTS HIS DEATH**  
Sunday 21 March to Saturday 27 March

START YOUR DAY WITH  
*Devotionals Daily*

|               |                 |                       |                       |                             |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b> | <b>22 March</b> | <b>Psalm 119:9-16</b> | <b>Isaiah 43:8-13</b> | <b>2 Corinthians 3:4-11</b> |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|

**Memory Verse:** For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory (II Cor 3:11).  
**Prayer:** Father, there is no salvation outside of You, no Lord other than You. Help us daily to declare You as our Saviour and Lord. Amen

|                |                 |                       |                      |                     |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Tuesday</b> | <b>23 March</b> | <b>Psalm 119:9-16</b> | <b>Isaiah 44:1-8</b> | <b>Acts 2:14-24</b> |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|

**Memory Verse:** I am the first and the last; beside me there is no god (Isaiah 44:6)  
**Prayer:** Father, may the thirteenth for your word be never ceasing in every day. Teach us and guide us into a life that delights in obedience. Amen

|                  |                 |                       |                            |                      |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>24 March</b> | <b>Psalm 119:9-16</b> | <b>Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23</b> | <b>John 12:34-50</b> |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|

**Memory Verse:** Be strong and work; my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear (Haggai 2:4-5)

**Prayer:** Father as we live and work in Your presence and strength, keep us in Your light we pray. Amen

|          |          |               |                    |                    |
|----------|----------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Thursday | 25 March | Psalm 118:1-2 | Deuteronomy 16:1-8 | Philippians 2:1-11 |
|----------|----------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|

**Memory Verse:** If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind (Phil 2:1-2)

**Prayer:** Father teach me Your way of being united with You through assembling on Your Sabbath day.



|        |          |               |                 |                     |
|--------|----------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Friday | 26 March | Psalm 118:1-2 | Jeremiah 33:1-9 | Philippians 2:12-18 |
|--------|----------|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|

**Memory Verse:** I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me (Jer 33:8).

**Prayer:** Dear Father, continue Your work in me through Your Spirit so that my will and actions may be sourced in your strength. Amen

|          |          |               |                   |                      |
|----------|----------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Saturday | 27 March | Psalm 118:1-2 | Jeremiah 33:10-16 | Mark 10:32-34, 46-52 |
|----------|----------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|

**Memory Verse:** Whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be the servant of all (Mark 10:43-44)

**Prayer:** Father we thank you for Your love – a love that endures forever. Amen

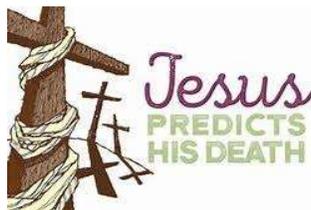
## Sunday 21 March

First Reading: [Jeremiah 31:31-34](#)  
Psalms: [Psalm 51:1-12](#)  
Second Reading: [Hebrews 5:5-10](#)  
Gospel: [John 12:20-33](#)



### Jesus predicts his death

<sup>20</sup> Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. <sup>21</sup> They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. 'Sir,' they said, 'we would like to see Jesus.' <sup>22</sup> Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. <sup>23</sup> Jesus replied, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. <sup>25</sup> Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me. <sup>27</sup> 'Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. <sup>28</sup> Father, glorify your name!' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.'



<sup>29</sup> The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. <sup>30</sup> Jesus said, 'This voice was for your benefit, not mine. <sup>31</sup> Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up<sup>[a]</sup> from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' <sup>33</sup> He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.



### WORSHIP:

Every knee shall bow

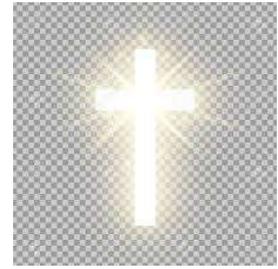
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQUq5rwodVo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQUq5rwodVo)

## FOR REFLECTION:

### DAILY DEVOTIONS, REFLECTIONS AND SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS WRITTEN BY REV GAVIN LANDERS

“And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself.”

There are many interpretations of this statement Jesus makes. Some understand it to be a drawing together of all people to Himself through being lifted up on a cross. Others argue that it refers to the exalted and risen Christ who got there via the cross! I think the truth lies in both understandings and in fact beyond just these two understandings. Jesus' whole life, teachings, death and resurrection are agents for drawing people to God. Christ is a Cosmic Christ. The Gospel story is that the good news is for the whole world – it is so far reaching that no-one is left out. This is what Jesus how Jesus lived. This is what Jesus taught. This is the achievement of the cross. This is the conviction of a risen Christ – that every knee will bow and ever tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.



## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Share an incident or moment where you felt Jesus' life, teaching, death or resurrection was drawing you closer to God.
2. In what way can Jesus' life, teaching, death or resurrection draw you closer to God currently?
3. Which one person you know needs to be drawn closer to God through Christ. How can this be done and do you or someone else need to do something in order for this nearness to God to become a reality?
4. Read Colossians 1:15-20 prayerfully, responding to it as God's Word.



It is important for parents to take time to lead the conversations of family time and to be honest with their children in these conversations.

**BY THABANG JANUARY – YOUTH PASTOR**  
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**Pray daily:** Set up family time for prayer and devotions and stick to this arrangement. All devotions should always begin by with a prayer. Ask a family member to pray or one of the children.

**Scripture Reading:** [John 2:13-22](#)

Allow children/teens to read out loud for the family.

**Activity/Family Moment:**

Begin your celebration of the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem by:

- Using palm branches (or other) leaves and have your own triumphal procession to the dinner table.
- Putting a small statue of Jesus or the Cross in the center of your dinner table.

**Talk about it:** Over dinner, talk about how Jesus is the center of our lives and our faith. How do we feel when we make Jesus the center of our lives?



**Next Week...**

WEEK 6

Sunday 28 March (Palm Sunday to Saturday 3

April (Holy Week)

THE DEATH OF JESUS

Contact NADJA to join a small group near you! [nadja@bmc.org.za](mailto:nadja@bmc.org.za) / 011 463 2333