



Week 2
13 - 19 March 2022

**SMALL GROUP WEEKLY
DEVOTIONAL MATERIAL**

LENT & HOLY WEEK



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

Week 2 – 13 March



JESUS' SORROW FOR JERUSALEM

First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18	Psalm 27	Philippians 3:17-4:1	Luke 13:31-35



Praise and Worship: All I Need Is You - Hillsong United
<https://youtu.be/0iTIInN6FH9I>

Luke 13:31-35

New International Version – UK Jesus' sorrow for Jerusalem

³¹ At that time some Pharisees came to Jesus and said to him, 'Leave this place and go somewhere else. Herod wants to kill you.' ³² He replied, 'Go and tell that fox, "I will keep on driving out demons and healing people today and tomorrow, and on the third day I will reach my goal." ³³ In any case, I must press on today and tomorrow and the next day – for surely no prophet can die outside Jerusalem! ³⁴ 'Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. ³⁵ Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."

Reflection on the Scripture by: THABANG JANUARY

Jesus' ministry in the Gospel according to Luke takes place in 2 locations. The first part of his ministry takes place in Galilee and the last part in Jerusalem where he is ultimately crucified. Luke makes an interesting revelation to show us that not all Pharisees were hostile to Jesus, as some came to warn Jesus about the threats against his life from Herod Antipas. So, they urged him to go somewhere else.

But Jesus wasn't about to be rushed, or to bend to the Pharisees' wishes. He was journeying toward Jerusalem. He had to go there. He knew that death awaited him there, and he had ministry work to do along the way. His mission included driving out demons and healing people as he headed resolutely toward Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is the Holy City, the home of the temple and the sacrificial rituals conducted in accord with Torah law. However, as the center of Godly worship, Jerusalem is also at the center of a cosmic struggle. Jerusalem had killed the prophets Uriah and Zechariah and had tried to kill Jeremiah. One of Jesus' three temptations took place on the pinnacle of the temple, and he will pronounce judgment on the city that had killed the prophets. The chief priests, scribes, and religious leaders of Jerusalem will seek to kill Jesus, and eventually will succeed.

Knowing he'd be killed there as other prophets had been, Jesus spoke of his love for his people. He used the image of a hen who gathers her chicks under her wings. It's a perfect picture of protection.

Jesus' lament shows his sorrow for sinners—Jerusalem's children. Their unwillingness to accept him would lead to judgment and desolation. Then, using words from Psalm 118, he pointed to the day when the enemy will be defeated. There will be rejoicing for all who have accepted Christ's offer of protection, the offer of salvation in his name.



Small Group Questions:

1. Do you think Jesus should have taken the advice of the Pharisees and went somewhere else? Please motivate your answer.
2. What do you think of Jesus response in verse 32?
3. What is the overall message you are getting from this passage? And how does it impact your spiritual life going forward?

Daily Bible Reading, Memory Verse and Prayer:



MONDAY, March 14: [Romans 4:1-12](#)

Memory Verse: "What does Scripture say? 'Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness'" – Romans 4:3

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, may we always have faith in you like Abraham did. **Amen.**

TUESDAY, March 15: [1 Corinthians 10:1-13](#)

Memory Verse: "No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it." 1 Corinthians 10:13

Prayer: Lord, God! We face temptations on daily basis. Thank you for a reminder that you always provide a way out so that we may endure. In Jesus name. **Amen**

WEDNESDAY, March 16: [Luke 13:22-31](#)

Memory Verse: "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to." Luke 13:24

Prayer: Gracious, Loving God – Please strengthen us and empower us with your spirit to be able to enter through the narrow door. **Amen**

THURSDAY, March 17: [Revelation 2:8-11](#)

Memory Verse: “Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s crown.” Revelations 2:1

Prayer: Thank you Jesus for a reminder that persecutions and suffering will not last forever; and a reminder that we will receive a victor’s crown when we remain faithful in our suffering. **Amen.**

FRIDAY, March 18: [Revelation 3:1-6](#)

Memory Verse: “Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy.” Revelations 3:4

Prayer: Lord Jesus, may we hold on to you and walk with you, so that at the end we are also found worthy and walk with you to the end. **Amen**

SATURDAY, March 19: [Luke 6:43-45](#)

Memory Verse: “No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit.” Luke 6:43

Prayer: Heavenly Father – please help us remain in you so that we bear good fruit of your Kingdom. In Jesus’ name. **Amen**



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 JENNY BLAKE – CHILDREN’S PASTOR
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Sunday 13th March 2022

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: [Philippians 3:17-4:1](#) Ask them what they heard.

Discussion:

- Who do you look up to or who you would like to meet. Tell us why you admire this person and would like to meet them?
- What is it about this person that you like?
- What do you think this person has that makes them a good role model?
- Is it how much money they have or followers or that they wear the right clothes?

So, in the reading today Paul is talking about all the false teachers that were telling the people of Philippi how to behave and what to eat. They said that is how they would be proper Christians. Paul says that is not how you are a good Christian. Jesus often spoke out against the rules of the Jews if they were stopping people from helping those in need and if they excluded people who couldn’t carry out the rituals of the time.

Paul tells the Christians of Philippi that they need to follow him, Paul. Sometimes we follow people because we want to be just like them because they have what society values, like money and fame and followers but they are not good role models. Paul tells us not to be tempted by things that will distract us from God.

- Do you think your role model is someone that will bring you to God or take you away from God if you copy what they do?
- Was Jesus a good leader? Why or why not?