

EASTER

DAILY READINGS FROM PALM
SUNDAY TO EASTER SUNDAY



EASTER IS A STORY OF CONTRASTS

It is a story of life and death, heaven and earth, and of God and humanity.

It's a story that leads to contrasting responses. Fear and faith, anger and joy, sorrow or hope.

Each reading explores a contrast in the Easter Story, encourages a response, and is accompanied by a matching Easter Egg - try and find some eggs the right colour to accompany your journey.

Will we have faith and take hold of the joy and hope that comes from the Easter Story?

PALM SUNDAY - THE CROWD AND THE PHARISEES

Read: Luke 19:28-40

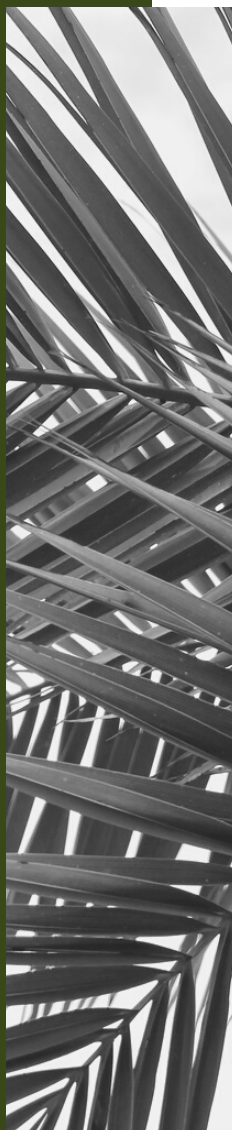
Recognise: How does the crowd respond to Jesus?
How do the Pharisees respond to Jesus?

Respond: Read 1 John 3:13-14 - Should we be surprised if people respond to us like the Pharisees responded to Jesus? How does the message of Easter - passing from death to life - give us hope?

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about the 'unstoppable' Easter message? (v40)

Remember: Eat the **Green Egg** to remember the palm leaves used to welcome Jesus to Jerusalem

“ *I tell you... if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out*



MONDAY - THE WOMAN AND JUDAS

Read: Matthew 26:6-16

Recognise: What does the woman love? What does Judas love?

Respond: Read Matthew 6:22-24 - What are your eyes fixed on - Jesus or Money? What could you do to fix your eyes on Jesus?

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about the 'unstoppable' Easter message? (v13)

Remember: Eat the **Silver Egg** to remember the silver coins with which Judas betrayed Jesus

“*Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her*



TUESDAY - JESUS AND PETER

Read: Mark 14:32-52

Recognise: How does Peter respond to the soldiers?

How does Jesus respond to the soldiers?

What allowed Jesus to have a different response to Peter?

Respond: Read 1 Peter 2:23 - How would entrusting ourselves to God like Jesus did change how we live?

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about the 'unstoppable' Easter message? (v48-49)

Remember: Eat the **Blue Egg** to remember Jesus' sorrow in the garden

“*But the Scriptures must be fulfilled*”



WEDNESDAY - PETER AND THE HIGH PRIEST

Read: Mark 14:53-72

Recognise: What does the High Priest say about Jesus? Why does he tear his clothes?
What does Peter say about Jesus? Why does Peter break down in tears?

Respond: Read Romans 10:9-10 - what should we be saying about Jesus and how should we respond to him?

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about the 'unstoppable' Easter message? (v72)

Remember: Eat the **Orange Egg** to remember the fire by which Peter wept for his sin

“ *Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken to him*



THURSDAY - JESUS AND BARABBAS

Read: Mark 15:1-20

Recognise: What is Barabbas guilty of? What is his punishment? What is Jesus guilty of? What is his punishment?

Respond: Read 2 Corinthians 5:21 - How are we like Barabbas? How will you respond in thanks to God?

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about the 'unstoppable' Easter message? (v5)

Remember: Eat the **Purple Egg** to remember the cloak with which Jesus was mocked

“ *But Jesus still made no reply, and Pilate was amazed*



FRIDAY MORNING - THE MOCKERS AND THE CENTURION

Read: Mark 15:21-41

Recognise: What do the mockers say about Jesus?

What does the Centurion say about Jesus?

Respond: Read 1 Corinthians 12:3 - what leads people to say different things about Jesus? What should we say about him?

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about the 'unstoppable' Easter message? (v38) *Why is the Curtain being torn so important?*

Remember: Eat the **Black Egg** to remember the sky going dark as Jesus died

“*The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom*



FRIDAY EVENING - THE PHARISEES AND JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA

Read: John 19:31-42

Recognise: What do the Pharisees value? What does Joseph of Arimathea value?

Respond: Read Hebrews 10:5-11 - What brings life and makes us truly perfect? The way of religion and endless sacrifice or the way of Christ? How will this change what we value?

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about the 'unstoppable' Easter message? (v36)

Remember: Take and Eat the **Red Egg** to remember the blood of Jesus shed for you

“ *These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled* ”



SATURDAY - TRUTH AND LIES

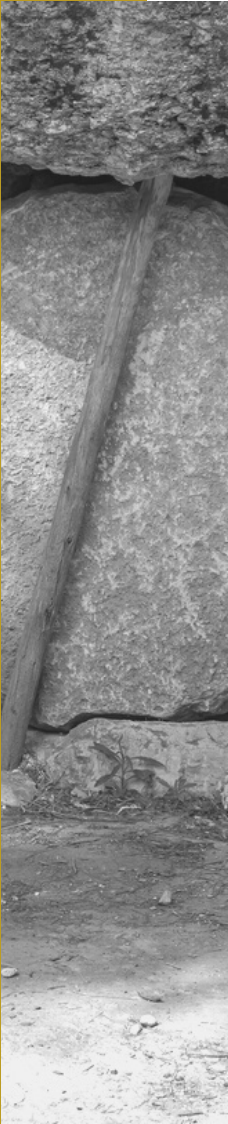
Read: Matthew 27:62-66

Recognise: What do the Pharisees accuse Jesus of being?
What is the lie they think Jesus told?

Respond: Read John 18:37 - If we value truth, how will we respond to Jesus and his claims?

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about the 'unstoppable' Easter message? (v63)

Remember: Eat the **Gold Egg** to remember the seal on the tomb



“ *After three days I will rise again*

SUNDAY - FEAR AND JOY

Read: Matthew 28:1-10

Recognise: Why would the guards and the women have fear? What encouragement do the angel and Jesus give?

Respond: Read 1 John 4:13-19 - How does God's love - shown in the Easter Story - affect our loves and fears? How does Jesus' death and resurrection allow us to cast out our fear and enable us to live with joy?

Reflect: What does this passage teach us about the 'unstoppable' Easter message?

Remember: Eat the **White Egg** to remember the white robes of the risen King Jesus

“ *Do not be afraid... He is not here; he has risen, just as he said*



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For use on Church Central Online

