



# *HOLY WEEK*





## DAY 4: BACKGROUND

The Thursday prior to Jesus' crucifixion fills many pages in Scripture. It began with John and Peter securing the upper room (Matthew 26:17-19). There in that room, Jesus would wash His disciples' feet, explaining He had come to make them clean (John 13:1-20). As they began to eat, Jesus told them that one of them was about to betray Him. Each disciple wondered if He meant them. Meanwhile, Jesus discreetly dispatched Judas to do what he intended (John 13:21-30).

During this last supper, Jesus set apart the Passover bread and cup and reassigned—or better, perfected—their meaning. The bread is His Body. The cup is His blood. This meal would no longer primarily remind them of how God delivered their forefathers from the external tyranny of Pharaoh. Now it would remind them of how Christ delivered them from the internal tyranny of their own guilt and sin against God (Luke 22:14-23).

Then Jesus prayed for them, His friends, and for those who would come to know Him through their testimony. He prayed that His Father would make them one (John 17). After praying, Jesus rose to His feet and asked His disciples to stand with Him to sing a doxology over their suspended, unfinished Passover meal. Jesus led them in the traditional Passover song, Psalm 118, about how the stone the builders rejected had become the cornerstone, and how the steadfast love of the Lord endures forever.

To pause and lead His disciples in a song like this, at this particular moment, shows the strength of Jesus' resolve to face His impending arrest and crucifixion. The Gospel accounts tell us that He started that Last Supper overwhelmed with sorrow, and that later in Gethsemane His sweat became like drops of blood (John 13:21, Luke 22:44). In the middle of that tension, Jesus sang of the faithfulness of God.

(Excerpt from [shereadstruth.com](http://shereadstruth.com))



# DAY 4 - APRIL 9th

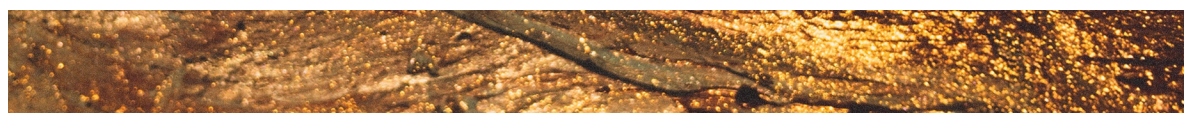
## READ:

### John 16:16-24 NIV

16 Jesus went on to say, "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me." 17 At this, some of his disciples said to one another, "What does he mean by saying, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me,' and 'Because I am going to the Father'?" 18 They kept asking, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We don't understand what he is saying." 19 Jesus saw that they wanted to ask him about this, so he said to them, "Are you asking one another what I meant when I said, 'In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me'?" 20 Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. 21 A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. 22 So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy. 23 In that day you will no longer ask me anything. Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. 24 Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.

### John 16:32-33 NIV

32 "A time is coming and in fact has come when you will be scattered, each to your own home. You will leave me all alone. Yet I am not alone, for my Father is with me. 33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."



# DAY 4 – APRIL 9th

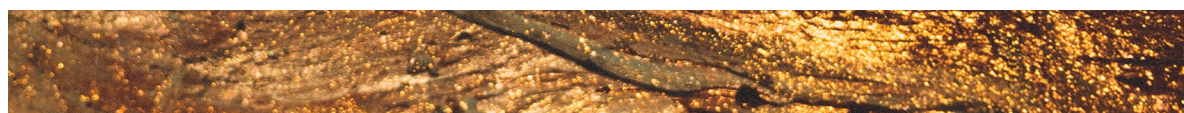
## READ:

### Matthew 26:17-75 NIV

17 On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?” 18 He replied, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, ‘The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.’” 19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover. 20 When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. 21 And while they were eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” 22 They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, “Surely you don’t mean me, Lord?” 23 Jesus replied, “The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. 24 The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.” 25 Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, “Surely you don’t mean me, Rabbi?” Jesus answered, “You have said so.” 26 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.” 27 Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. 28 This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” 30 When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

### Jesus Predicts Peter’s Denial

31 Then Jesus told them, “This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: “‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’” 32 But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.”





# DAY 4 - APRIL 9th

33 Peter replied, “Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.”

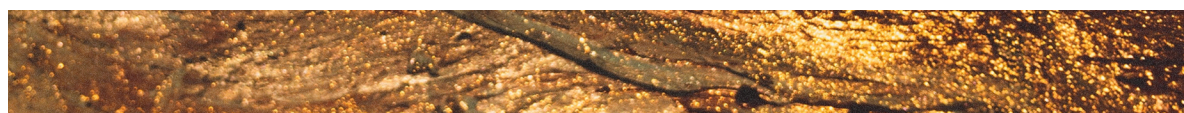
34 “Truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, “this very night, before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” 35 But Peter declared, “Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.” And all the other disciples said the same.

## GETHSEMANE

36 Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” 37 He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38 Then he said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.” 39 Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.” 40 Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Couldn’t you men keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter. 41 “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” 42 He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.” 43 When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. 44 So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. 45 Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. 46 Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!”

## JESUS ARRESTED

47 While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people.



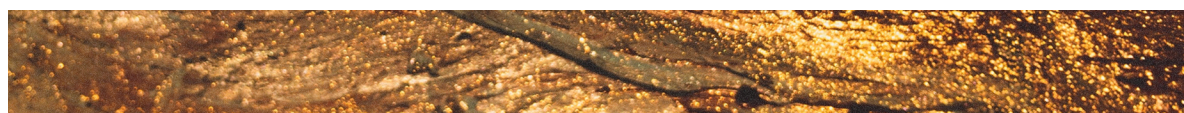


# DAY 4 – APRIL 9th

48 Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him.” 49 Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” and kissed him. 50 Jesus replied, “Do what you came for, friend.” z Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. 51 With that, one of Jesus’ companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. 52 “Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. 53 Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?” 55 In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. 56 But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

## JESUS BEFORE THE SANHEDRIN

57 Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, where the teachers of the law and the elders had assembled. 58 But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome. 59 The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death. 60 But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward. Finally two came forward 61 and declared, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy the temple of God and rebuild it in three days.’” 62 The high priest stood up and said to Jesus, “Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?” 63 But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, “I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.” 64 “You have said so,” Jesus replied. “But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.” v





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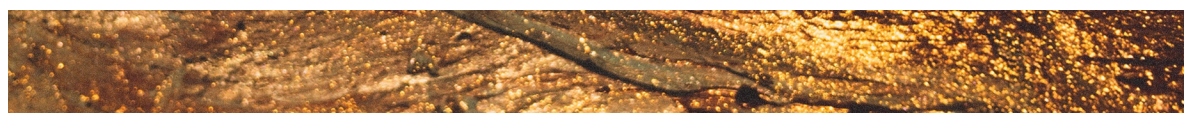
65 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. 66 What do you think?” “He is worthy of death,” they answered. 67 Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him 68 and said, “Prophecy to us, Messiah. Who hit you?”

## PETER DISOWNS JESUS

69 Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. “You also were with Jesus of Galilee,” she said. 70 But he denied it before them all. “I don’t know what you’re talking about,” he said. 71 Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, “This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth.” 72 He denied it again, with an oath: “I don’t know the man!” 73 After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, “Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away.” 74 Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, “I don’t know the man!” Immediately a rooster crowed. 75 Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: “Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.

### Psalm 41:7-13 NIV

7 All my enemies whisper together against me;  
they imagine the worst for me, saying,  
8 “A vile disease has afflicted him;  
he will never get up from the place where he lies.”  
9 Even my close friend,  
someone I trusted,  
one who shared my bread,  
has turned against me.





# DAY 4 - APRIL 9th

10 But may you have mercy on me, Lord;  
raise me up, that I may repay them.

11 I know that you are pleased with me,  
for my enemy does not triumph over me.

12 Because of my integrity you uphold me  
and set me in your presence forever.

13 Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,  
from everlasting to everlasting.

Amen and Amen.

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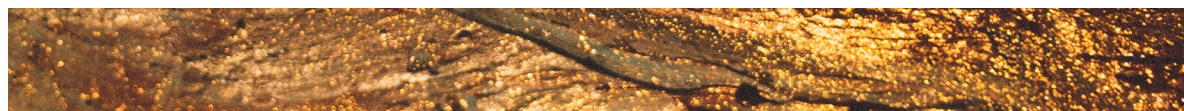
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Amen and Amen.

## **Zechariah 13:7 NIV**

7 “Awake, sword, against my shepherd,  
against the man who is close to me!”  
declares the Lord Almighty.





# DAY 4 – APRIL 9th

## RESPOND:

1. What is your favorite meal that you have ever experienced? Why was it special? Was it just the food or those who sat around the table? Why is gathering for a meal carry such weight?
2. Why was the meal that Jesus had with his closest friends so significant?
3. Why is it so significant that even though Jesus knew that friends around his table would betray him, he served them anyway? Why is such a difficult and beautiful posture to walk in?
4. What about Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane stands out the most to you? Why?
5. What about how Jesus handled himself when he was being questioned and beaten stands out to you? Why?

## PAUSE:

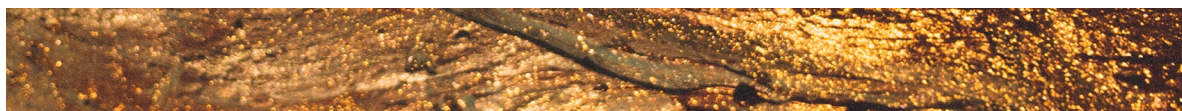
Before we move too quickly, let's take a moment to pray and meditate on what Christ did on our behalf and let that lead us to worship.

## ACTIVITY:

In light of what Jesus did with his disciples in the upper room, let us take our lead from Him in this moment and partake in the Lord's supper together. Jesus did this with his disciples to fulfill the Passover meal with His life and to institute an opportunity for them to remember what He did on their behalf.

## Supplies:

- A loaf of bread, suggested, maybe a loaf from a bakery.
- Grape juice





# DAY 4 – APRIL 9th

## Prep:

- Tear off pieces of the bread, make sure you have enough bread for the people who are eating this meal of remembrance with you
- Prepare the juice in small quantities for those who will be partaking in the meal of remembrance with you.

## READ:

### Matthew 26:26-30 NIV

26 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body.”  
27 Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. 28 This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” 30 When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

## PASS AND EAT:

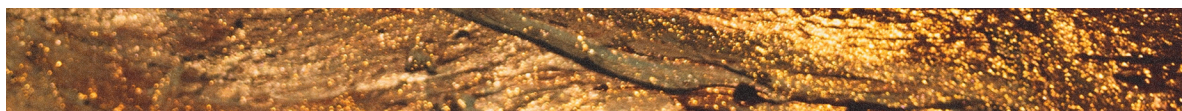
Pass the bread and once everyone has received their portion say: , “Take and eat; this is my body.”

## EAT.

Pass the juice and once everyone has received their portion say: “Drink from it, all of you. 28 This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

## DRINK.

## PRAY:





# DAY 4 – APRIL 9th

## Prayer Of Thanksgiving

Jesus, thank you for the price you paid on my behalf.  
Thank you for your body offered that was broken on my behalf.  
Thank you for your blood offered and shed on my behalf.  
Thank you that your love has changed everything.  
Thank you that you have allowed me a seat at your table that I do not deserve  
Thank you for a love that is big and never ceasing.  
Thank you for being my King and being a King that served well.  
Amen.

## PRE-K ACTIVITY:

### Day 4: The Last Supper

Jesus and His 12 disciples (friends) gathered together for a meal. This was the last supper Jesus would have with them. He gave His friends bread and juice and told them to eat and drink and remember Him.

### Activity – Making Playdough bread and cup

Allow your child to play with playdough. Encourage her as she plays to make a loaf of bread and a cup. Briefly talk about the last supper Jesus had with His friends. Tell her that Jesus wanted them to remember Him.

## KIDS ACTIVITY:

### Day 4: The Last Supper and Jesus arrested

Set out a piece of bread or a few crackers and a cup of juice (something red is best if you have it). Take turns passing these elements around and talking about how they relate with what Jesus said about His body and His blood. Read Matthew 26:26-30 again. Discuss why it was so important for Jesus to take time to be with the disciples in the upper room.

