



How to Use this Guide

This is a 6-week Bible reading guide (five readings per week) for use during Lent. It's best to find a regular day and time for your "journey" and to have a Bible with you. Then, you're ready for the "journey". Each day's reading follows the *Scripture Union Bible Reading Method*:

PRAY before you read, asking God to help you understand his Word.
READ carefully the Bible passage, perhaps more than once.
REFLECT on the Bible passage using the questions in this Guide.
APPLY what God teaches you from his Word to the situations in your life.
PRAY again asking God to help you live out his Word.

Week One: Jesus' Saving Work Foretold

Day 1:

Pray: Lord, open my eyes and heart to read and obey Your word to me today.

Read: Isaiah 52:13—53:12

Reflect: What parallels do you see in this passage with what you know about Jesus' suffering and death?

Apply: What do you learn about Jesus here that might strengthen your faith? What do you learn about yourself?

Pray: Lord Jesus, how amazed I am at all You did because of Your love for me. Strengthen my love for You.

Day 2:

Pray: Lord Jesus, How thankful I am that You are always with me and caring for me in Your love.

Read: Psalm 22:1-31

Reflect: Jesus quotes verse 1 in his cry from the cross (Mt. 27: 46). What similarities do you see with Jesus' crucifixion?

Apply: Have you ever felt "forsaken" by God How can one overcome that feeling? What gave you hope?

Pray: Lord, when I feel alone and on my own, help me remember Your great love, power and presence with me.

Day 3:

Pray: Lord Jesus, be the light that guides me as I read Your word and live it out today.

Read: Isaiah 9: 2-7

Reflect: What names for the Messiah do you find here? Which are most meaningful to you?

Apply: Recall how Jesus has been a "great light" in your life and thank him. How might he be your "wonderful counselor" today?

Pray: Lord Jesus, as You've led me this far, I pray that I will follow Your loving leading today, also.

Day 4:

Pray: Gracious God, how grateful I am that nothing can ever separate me from Your love (Rms. 8:38-9).

Read: Job 19:23-27

Reflect: What strong conviction do we see Job expressing here?

Apply: During Lent, we remember Jesus' death for our sin. How does Jesus' death and resurrection affect the way you feel about your own death? What difference does it make to how you live each day?

Pray: Risen Lord, show me how to live so I can share the sure hope of the resurrection with others.

Day 5:

Pray: Heavenly Father, I trust You to lead me safely this day through all the challenges that face me.

Read: [Micah 5:2-5](#)

Reflect: Where does Micah, writing many years before the saviors' birth, say Christ will be born?

Apply: How does this prophecy help you trust that Jesus is the promised savior? Thank Jesus for the ways in which he has been a "shepherd" to you.

Pray: Lord Jesus, Savior, I praise You! Strengthen my love and commitment to You today, I pray.

Week Two: Jesus Predicts His Death

Day 6:

Pray: Merciful Lord, forgive my sin now and prepare me to come before You and enjoy Your fellowship.

Read: [Matthew 12:38-45](#)

Reflect: Why was Jesus so angry with these folks?

Apply: What "signs" do people today demand in order to believe in Jesus? What evidence from your own life could you share to help them believe?

Pray: Lord, make my life a clear sign for all to see that You are alive and at work in me each day.

Day 7:

Pray: Father, Your holy word is very precious to me and I am eager to learn from it now.

Read: [Matthew 26:6-13](#)

Reflect: Why did Jesus commend this woman?

Apply: What valuable things could you give to Jesus? What will it cost you? How might this woman be a model for you?

Pray: Lord Jesus, please show me how I, too, can do "beautiful things" for you as did this woman.

Day 8:

Pray: Lord, You know that sometimes I don't understand Your word completely. Open my mind today, I pray.

Read: [Luke 18:31-34](#)

Reflect: Why do you think the disciples didn't understand Jesus?

Apply: Jesus knew what Scripture taught about his suffering. What does it mean to you that he knew all that he'd suffer and went through it anyway?

Pray: Lord Jesus, I'm so grateful for all that You so willingly suffered for me! How awesome You are!

Day 9:

Pray: Lord, what a great and loving God You are! I'm very glad and thankful to be Your child.

Read: [John 12:20-36](#)

Reflect: What does Jesus tell us here about the cost of following him?

Apply: In what ways do you "follow" Jesus, even when it is difficult? How will you (or could you) glorify God with your life today?

Pray: Lord, help me to be willing and able to follow You faithfully through life no matter the cost.

Day 10:

Pray: I thank You, O God, for your word that is so wise, good and trustworthy.

Read: [John 13:18-30](#)

Reflect: Why did Jesus so clearly predict his betrayal?

Apply: How might you be tempted to "betray" Jesus? What can help you remain faithful to him?

Pray: Lord Jesus, keep me faithful and loyal to You. I want to be Your follower always.

Week Three: Jesus' Death Prepared

Day 11:

Pray: Holy Spirit, I pray with the boy Samuel today "Speak, Lord for Your servant is listening" (1 Sam. 3:9).

Read: [Luke 9:43b-45](#)

Reflect: Why do you suppose his disciples couldn't understand Jesus?

Apply: How do you "listen carefully" (44) to Jesus? What has he been saying to you lately? What are you doing about it?

Pray: Lord Jesus, help me always to listen carefully to You and then always do whatever You tell me.

Day 12:

Pray: Loving God, thank You for the gift of this day and the security of Your unfailing love for me.

Read: [Mark 14:10-11](#)

Reflect: Why do you think Judas betrayed Jesus?

Apply: How big a role does money play in your life? In what areas do you struggle not to “sell out” Jesus over money issues?

Pray: Lord, please help me to keep my priorities straight so that nothing, including money, ever comes between us.

Day 13:

Pray: Gracious God, I praise You now as I think about Your loving, eternal plan for my salvation.

Read: [Mark 14:12-26](#)

Reflect: What familiar “feast” does Jesus establish here?

Apply: In what sense are we all, like Judas, personally responsible for Jesus’ suffering and death? Confess any sins to God now.

Pray: O Lord Jesus, may I never betray You but always be Your faithful disciple and friend, no matter what!

Day 14:

Pray: Heavenly Father, I marvel at Your grace and love for me! What a wonderful father You are!

Read: [Mark 14:32-42](#)

Reflect: How does this passage demonstrate to you the full humanity of Jesus?

Apply: What role does prayer play for you in resisting temptation? Pray today about any tough temptation you face.

Pray: Lord Jesus, You have strength when I am weak. Stand by me and strengthen me in all my temptations, I pray.

Day 15:

Pray: Lord God, I thank You that I know Your word is true and will one day be completely fulfilled.

Read: [John 18:1-11](#)

Reflect: Why didn’t Jesus resist this unjust arrest?

Apply: What was Jesus’ main concern even as he was being arrested? How does that help and encourage you?

Pray: Lord, I thank You that You always love and care for me. May that give me courage when I’m afraid.

Week Four: Jesus on Trial

Day 16:

Pray: Heavenly Father, teach me more of Yourself and Your ways today so I can be more like Jesus.

Read: [John 18:15-18, 25-26](#)

Reflect: How might a believer “deny” Jesus today?

Apply: What are the pressures on you to deny Jesus? How can your church or fellowship group help you resist them?

Pray: Lord, help me, by Your powerful Spirit, to resist any pressure to deny You. I want to stand for you always.

Day 17:

Pray: Lord, I know You speak only the truth. You are “the way, the truth and the life” (John 14:6).

Read: [John 18: 19-24](#)

Reflect: Why was there no need to question Jesus?

Apply: What are you prepared to tell others about Jesus and his teachings? How would you share that his word is true?

Pray: Prepare me, Lord, in any way I need, to be able to effectively tell others the truth about You.

Day 18:

Pray: I praise You, Lord Jesus, as King of Kings and Lord of Lords! All glory to You!

Read: [Luke 22:66-71](#)

Reflect: What was it about Jesus that so upset the religious leaders?

Apply: The religious leaders refused to believe Jesus. Why do you think some people refuse to believe Jesus today? What convinced you?

Pray: Son of God, use my life and faith as You will to lead others to believe in You as I do.

Day 19:

Pray: Lord, what a faithful God and friend You are to me. I thank You as I come to You now.

Read: [John 18: 28-32](#)

Reflect: Why did his enemies bring Jesus to Pilate?

Apply: What “charges” do unbelievers you know bring against Jesus today? How would you answer them?

Pray: Pray today for any unbelievers in your circle of family or friends, that they may know Jesus, too.

Day 20:

Pray: Father God, I bow before You in worship now. Please prepare me to come and be with You.

Read: John 18: 33-40

Reflect: What do we learn about Jesus here?

Apply: What different “truths” about Jesus do people you know believe today? How can you help them know the real truth about Jesus?

Pray: Lord Jesus, show me more of Your truth each day and show me how I can best share it with others.

Week Five: Jesus Goes to the Cross

Day 21:

Pray: Heavenly Father, go with me as I go through my day, that all I do may please and honor You.

Read: John 19:1-16

Reflect: Why do you think Pilate was afraid to set Jesus free?

Apply: What fears affect your Christian life? Ask Jesus for help and courage to do what is right in spite of your fears.

Pray: Lord Jesus, You alone are my Lord and King. May my life demonstrate that clearly to everyone.

Day 22:

Pray: Lord, I come to tell You I love You and want to be a pleasing child of Yours always.

Read: Luke 23:1-25

Reflect: What was Pilate’s repeated verdict on Jesus?

Apply: Why do you think some people hate Jesus today? Pray for someone you know who may hate Jesus.

Pray: Lord Jesus, Your love is stronger than any hate. I pray for it to overwhelm all those who hate you.

Day 23:

Pray: O Lord Jesus, I can’t begin to understand how much you love me, knowing all you did for me!

Read: Mark 15: 21-32

Reflect: Why do you think Jesus didn’t come down from the cross?

Apply: How might you have reacted if you were there at the cross? Meditate on that for a few moments.

Pray: Jesus, I’m so grateful You stayed on that cross so that I could be in Your family and live with You.

Day 24:

Pray: Thank You, Lord, that You have prepared a place for me to be with You forever.

Read: Luke 23:26-43

Reflect: What was Jesus’ reaction to those who crucified him?

Apply: Have you ever cried out to Jesus for mercy this way? How might Jesus’ example of mercy here effect your behavior?

Pray: Lord Jesus, thank You for Your great mercy to me. Help me to show that same mercy to others.

Day 25:

Pray: Lord, draw me closer to You and Your great love for me as I read Your Word today.

Read: John 19: 17-24

Reflect: In what ways is Scripture being fulfilled here?

Apply: Jesus’ death is only a few hours away now. Meditate on his great love and his suffering for you.

Pray: Lord Jesus, after all You did for me, help me to be willing to show my love by following You faithfully.

Week Six: Jesus’ Death and Resurrection

Day 26:

Pray: Heavenly Father, I come to You today in deep gratitude for Your loving care for me each day.

Read: John 19: 25-27

Reflect: What is one of Jesus’ final acts before dying?

Apply: How does this loving act of Jesus encourage you to care for others even in the most difficult situations? Is there someone you can care for now?

Pray: Loving Lord Jesus, help me to share Your great love freely with those around me—even today.

Day 27:

Pray: Gracious God, I praise You that because Jesus finished his work on the cross, I am Yours forever.

Read: John 19: 28-30

Reflect: What was “completed” and “finished” by Jesus?

Apply: How has Jesus’ “finished work” affected your daily life and struggles with sin and temptation? Thank him for that now.

Pray: Lord Jesus, help me to live each day overcoming sin and temptation because of Your finished work.

Day 28:

Pray: Father, to You alone I bring my praise and worship. Prepare me now to read Your holy Word.

Read: Luke 23: 44-49

Reflect: What impression did Jesus’ death make on the Centurion who was watching?

Apply: What impression does (or should) your life make on those who observe you each day? How can you make it even greater?

Pray: Lord Jesus, I pray that my life and even my death may both bring honor and praise to You.

Day 29:

Pray: Heavenly Father, I thank You that Your Word, the Bible, is completely true and trustworthy.

Read: John 19: 31-37

Reflect: How and why does John emphasize that he is an eye-witness to Jesus’ crucifixion?

Apply: What difference does it make to you that this is an eye-witness account and that Jesus’ death fulfills what scripture foretold?

Pray: Lord, sometimes it’s hard to believe everything in the Bible. Please strengthen my faith and understanding.

Day 30:

Pray: Lord, my life is in Your hands. You are such a faithful God and father! I trust in You.

Read: John 19:38-42

Reflect: What big risk did Joseph take here? Why do you think he took it?

Apply: What have you risked for Jesus? What might he call you to risk in the future? Would you be willing?

Pray: Lord Jesus, I pray for both the insight and courage to take whatever risks You call me to.

Resurrection Day:

Pray: I praise You, living Lord Jesus! You are risen from the dead and Lord of all forever!

Read: John 20:1-31

Reflect: How would you have reacted if you had been at the empty tomb?

Apply: What convinces you that Jesus is alive? How can you share that “good news” with others?

Pray: Risen Lord Jesus, thank You for this greatest of “good news” that You are alive! Please help me share it!

More Bible Reading Help

Scripture Union publishes daily Bible Reading Guides for all ages: **Discovery** and **Encounter with God** for adults plus **One Up** (ages 11-14) and **Snapshots** (ages 7-10).

To order or to find out more about Scripture Union’s publications and programs, please write or call: Scripture Union, P.O Box 987 #1 Valley Forge, PA 19482, 1-800-621-LAMP. Or visit Scripture Union’s web site: www.scriptureunion.org