



The Good Friday (3/25/2016)

John 19:30

"When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

When Jesus said, "It is finished", the enemy was ready to celebrate the ultimate defeat of evil over good. But what the enemy intended to be a cry of defeat, Jesus used to speak eternal victory over death. Once and for all, Jesus used His final words to issue us the victory of saying, "It's not what I can do; It's what He's already done."

- No longer would you have to get your act together to come into the presence of God.
- No longer would you have to strive under your own effort to earn God's love.
- No longer would you have to follow a detailed set of rules and regulations to achieve your spot in Heaven.

The triumph of the cross does not come by human effort. The victory of Jesus is received where you're trying ends. Jesus will never love you any more than He does right now. He's not waiting for perfection before He'll accept you. Jesus has already done everything you need to experience Heaven. He's not waiting for you to achieve the goals you've set for your life. He's not waiting for you to feel sorry for the price He paid. He's waiting for you to be changed. He's waiting for you to completely surrender your will to His.

Reflection & Prayer

Jesus, I surrender to you. I know that you have overcome the world. The grave could not hold you down. You may have died on the cross, but you rose again. And today, Jesus, I receive the life you have made available to me through your victory over death. Lord, change me and shape me into the person you died for me to be.

In Jesus' name, Amen.



Saturday (3/26/2016)

Matthew 27:57-66

He is dead – our Savior. The sacrifice now paid, but that cannot and must not be the end of the story. The Sabbath was about to begin and Jesus had to be buried quickly. A rich man, asked for His body and placed it in a stone tomb. The Romans, fearful that someone would steal the body and claim a resurrection, sealed it with a large stone and set a round-the-clock guard unit to keep anyone away. They did not know the power of God!

Reflection & Prayer

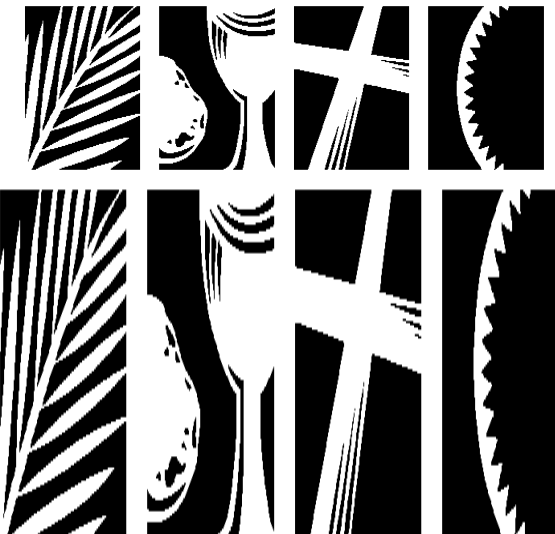
Pray and thank the Lord for His promise of eternal life guaranteed by His resurrection. Pray for missionaries and global missions.



2016

3/20/2016 – 3/26/2016

Fasting & Prayer Guide



H O L Y · W E E K

**First Evangelical Church
Of San Gabriel Valley**



Palm Sunday (3/20/2016)
Matthew 26:36-46

"³⁶Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." ³⁹Going 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." ⁴⁰Then 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." ⁴²He 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." ⁴³When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. ⁴⁵Then 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. ⁴⁶Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Reflection & Prayer:

Dear Jesus, thank you for coming to the world to live among us! Please forgive us that we do not realize what kind of struggles you are in and how burdened your heart would be. We did not even care enough to pray with you. Help us, Lord! Help us to be alert and watchful at all times! Strengthen us so that we are able to pray for your kingdom, your people and this world persistently! Please also help us to overcome temptation and be faithful to you only!

Monday (3/21/2016)
Matthew 24:4-5, 11-13

"⁴And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that no one misleads you. ⁵For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many. ¹¹Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many. ¹²Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold. ¹³But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved."

Reflection & Prayer

As we're getting ready to celebrate the victory of our Savior, Jesus Christ, on the cross, let us also remember parents with under age children. Pray that their love for the Lord will not grow cold as their facing the increased of the lawlessness of this world, that they will not be misled by the glory of this world, and that they will endure their task to the end. Pray that they will be able to make it a priority training their children in God's way and to speak the wisdom of God's Word to their children.

Tuesday (3/22/2016)
Matthew 26:26-29

Song: Nothing But the Blood

- His blood initiates the new covenant
- His blood washes away our sins
- His blood offers forgiveness of our sins

"Sin is so frightful, so destructive to the soul that no human thought or act can any degree diminish its lethal effects. Only God can deal with it successfully; only the blood of Christ can cleanse it from the pores of the spirit." A. W. Tozer

Reflection & Prayer

**What sins do you need cleansing from God?
What guilt and shame are you still carrying from your sins that you need forgiveness from God?
Lord, I need your blood to wash away my sins and set me free from the grip and control of sins in my life.
Lord, thank you for the new covenant relationship with God and I can now confidently draw near to God.**



Wednesday (3/23/2016)
Luke 5:38

"No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins."

Jesus used the example of old wine in new wineskins to illustrate how disciples should have a new life inside out. We should be transformed from the inside out. This is the day the Jews are called God's people, but they failed to experience God's salvation. This is also the reason why many Christians believe in God for years, but still cannot live a new life.

Reflection & Prayer

Holy Spirit, please help us to see what we should be changed today. Have mercy on us so that we do not just follow those religious rules, but to follow the Lord with joyful mind.

Thursday (3/24/2016)
Isaiah 53:5

"He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

Jesus died as a substitute for us. That means he died in our place. We deserved to be pierced, crushed, and crucified for our sin, but Jesus suffered our punishment instead. He was smitten and afflicted by God, taking the judgment for our transgressions. He was crushed for our iniquities. Jesus took our guilt even though he was innocent and totally without sin. And Isaiah tells us the result: Jesus received our punishment so that we could receive peace with God and be healed.

There's a story about a master and servant who took a journey together and were caught in a deadly snowstorm. For days they were missing. Finally the master was found, frozen to death facedown in the snow. Under him, the servant was found alive. The servant lived because the master covered him. The master died in his place.

Praise God—that's what Jesus did for us. Do you believe this?

Reflection & Prayer:

**Father, thank you that Jesus is the perfect substitute for us. We praise you that by faith our guilt became his and his innocence became ours.
In his name we pray. Amen.**