

## THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE – JESUS' AGONY AND SURRENDER

On the night before His crucifixion, Jesus went to the Garden of Gethsemane with His disciples. Overwhelmed with sorrow, He prayed, "Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will" (Matthew 26:39). His anguish was so intense that His sweat became like drops of blood (Luke 22:44). Though He was fully God, He experienced the full weight of human suffering—fear, loneliness, and the horror of bearing sin.

#### The Meaning of His Struggle:

- 1. **He Felt the Cost of Obedience** Jesus, in His humanity, shrank from the suffering ahead, showing that surrendering to God's will is not always easy—but it is always right.
- 2. **He Chose the Father's Will Over His Own** Despite His dread, He submitted completely, proving perfect obedience (Hebrews 5:8).
- 3. **He Fought Our Battle Before the Cross** His prayer wasn't just about physical pain but the spiritual torment of becoming sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21).

When we face our own **"Gethsemane moments"** times of fear, suffering, or difficult obedience—we can follow Jesus' example:



- Be honest with God (He understands our struggles).
  - Pray with surrender ("Not my will, but Yours").
- Trust the Father's plan, even when the path is painful.

#### Prayer:

Father, in my struggles, teach me to pray like Jesus—raw, honest, and surrendered. Strengthen me to choose Your will over mine. Amen."

Gethsemane shows us that true strength is found in surrender. Jesus' "yes" in the garden secured our salvation at the cross.



## HOLY WEDNESDAY—THE DAY OF BETRAYAL

On this day, two contrasting events took place. Judas Iscariot secretly met with the religious leaders and agreed to betray Jesus for thirty silver coins (Matthew 26:14-16). Meanwhile, in Bethany, a woman (often identified as Mary of Bethany) poured expensive perfume on Jesus' head, anointing Him for burial, an act of extravagant love (Matthew 26:6-13). While Judas chose betrayal, Mary chose to worship.

#### WHAT WE LEARN

Judas chose greed over loyalty, while the woman gave her best to Jesus. We must examine our hearts are we serving God or our desires? Our hearts constantly face a choice to serve self or Christ. Judas' greed led to destruction, but Mary's devotion was remembered forever. AliveTV

#### WHAT WE CAN DO TODAY

Sacrifice something meaningful for God's glory today: time, resources, or your pride.

Examine your heart—are there areas where you've compromised your loyalty to Jesus? Give Him your best today, whether in worship, time, or surrender.

#### **PRAYER**

Lord JESUS, reveal any betrayal in my heart. Help me to give You my best, not my leftovers. Help me to love You like Mary did, Amen.



### MAUNDY THURSDAY—THE LAST SUPPER & **SERVANTHOOD**

JESUS washed His disciples' feet (John 13:1-17) and instituted Communion (Luke 22:19-20), showing humility and covenant love.

On the night before His crucifixion, Jesus shared the Last Supper with His disciples, instituting Communion (Luke 22:19-20). Then, in a stunning act of humility, He gave them a new commandment: \*"Love one another as I have loved you"\* (John 13:34).

#### WHAT WE LEARN

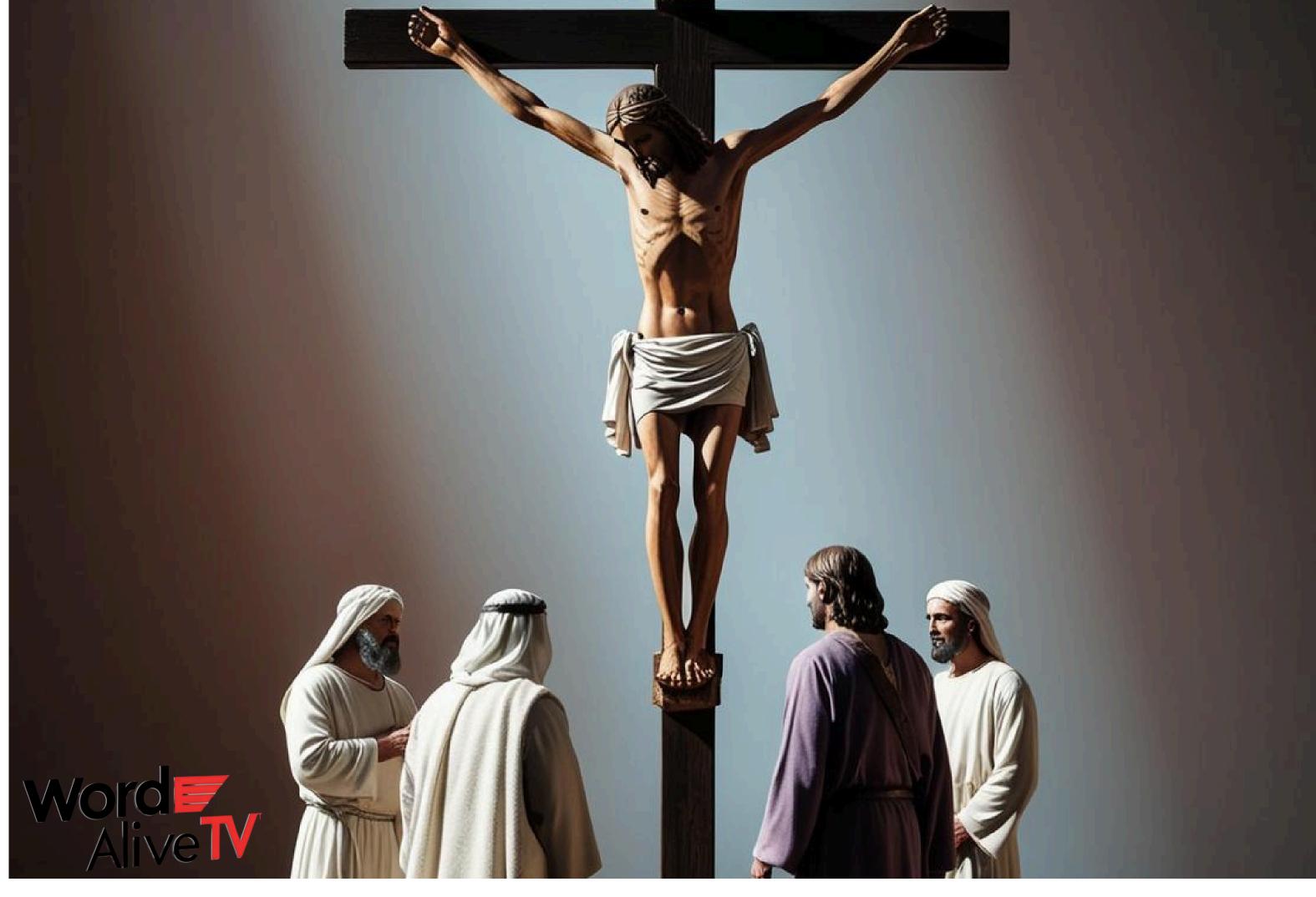
True leadership is servanthood. Jesus calls us to love sacrificially and remember His sacrifice. True greatness is found in serving others. Jesus didn't just preach love—He demonstrated it in Word the most practical way.

#### WHAT WE CAN DO TODAY

Serve someone today humbly, without expecting anything in return. Who can you serve today? Look for ways to humbly love others, even when it's inconvenient.

#### **PRAYER**

Lord Jesus, teach me to serve like You. Let me love others as You have loved me. Lord Jesus, teach me to love like You sacrificially and without pride. Help me serve others as You served me. Amen.



## TETELESTA!!!! JESUS ON THE CROSS FOR US GOOD FRIDAY—THE SACRIFICE

After a night of trials, beatings, and mockery, Jesus was crucified at Golgotha (John 19:17-30). Darkness covered the land as He bore the weight of humanity's sin. His final words, "It is finished," declared the completion of God's redemptive plan.

#### **WHAT WE LEARN**

Salvation came at the highest cost, the life of the sinless Son of God. We are called to take up our cross daily (Luke 9:23), dying to self and living for Him. Salvation costs everything, and we live surrendered to HIM.

#### WHAT WE CAN DO TODAY

Reflect deeply on Jesus' sacrifice. What sin, habit, or attitude do you need to surrender at the cross?

Repent of sin and surrender fully to Him

#### **PRAYER**

Thank You, Jesus, for paying the price for my sins. Help me live in the freedom of Your sacrifice.

Thank You, Jesus, for dying for me. Help me die to myself and live for You. Amen.



# HOLY SATURDAY—THE DAY OF SILENCE AND WAITING

Jesus' body lay in the tomb (Matthew 27:62-66). The disciples waited in grief, unaware of Sunday's coming victory. Jesus' body lay in the tomb, sealed and guarded (Matthew 27:62-66). The disciples were heartbroken, believing all hope was lost. They didn't yet understand that God was working behind the scenes.

#### WHAT WE LEARN

Sometimes God's greatest work happens in silence. Even when we don't see Him moving, He is preparing something miraculous. God is working even in silence.

Trust Him in the "in-between" seasons.

#### WHAT WE CAN DO TODAY

Are you in a season of waiting? Trust that God is still at work, even when you can't see it. Wait with hope. Even in darkness, **God** is preparing resurrection.

#### **PRAYER**

Father, when I can't see Your plan, help me trust You. Prepare me for breakthroughs, Father; in my waiting, strengthen my faith. Help me trust You in the silence, knowing that Sunday is coming. Amen.



### GLORY, HALLELUJAH! JESUS IS RISEN

### EASTER SUNDAY - THE RESURRECTION

At dawn, the women went to the tomb and found it empty! An angel declared, \*"He is not here; He has risen!"\* (Matthew 28:5-6). Jesus conquered death, proving His power over sin and the grave.

#### **WHAT WE LEARN**

Because He lives, we have new life (Romans 6:4). Walk in victory, not fear. We have hope, purpose, and eternal life in HIM (Romans 6:4). We are called to live as resurrection people, bold, joyful, and unashamed of the Gospel.

#### WHAT WE CAN DO TODAY

Share the Gospel boldly. Live with resurrection power! How can you share the hope of the Resurrection with someone today? Live in the power of Christ's victory!

#### **PRAYER**

Jesus, you are alive! Fill me with Your power to live and proclaim Your victory. Jesus, You are alive! Fill me with Your resurrection power and boldness to proclaim Your victory. Amen.