

God's Story Our Story



March 13, 2016

Devotion: Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions. You can do this alone, as a couple, as a family; in the morning, during the day, or at night. Find a routine that works best for you.

Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Spirit of life, inhabit our reflections, our actions, our hope. Guide us to understand all things in light of your great promises. Amen.

Reflect: Reflect on the key verse from Sunday's reading.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Mark 13:31

Study: Study the reading and consider the background.

Across from the temple, great edifices and porticoes of stone, Jesus responded to yet another question from his disciples. "When will we see the end of all things?" No one knows, he says, and many will mistakenly attempt to declare the time, but a disciple's priority is not to predict, but merely to stay alert.

Read: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text. After the reading, ask the follow-up questions.

Sunday, Mark 13:1-8, 24-37, *End of the Age*

Monday, Mark 13:9-13, *Persecution Foretold*

Tuesday, Mark 13:14-23, *The Desolating Sacrilege*

Wednesday, Mark 14:1-2, *The Plot to Kill Jesus*

Thursday, Mark 14:10-11, *Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus*

Friday, Mark 15:1-5, *Jesus before Pilate*

Saturday, Mark 15:6-15, *Pilate Hands Jesus over to Be Crucified*

How do these stories take a dark turn? Why do you think so many were against Jesus?

Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household. Discuss the following questions, or simply check in with "Highs" and "Lows."

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

How are you prepared for the end of all things? How are you unprepared? How are you prepared to live a long, healthy life?

What do you imagine the end of the age will be like? What will happen to the earth? To humanity?

Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Prepare for the future. Make a living will. Read also this document prepared by Thrivent on wills and estate planning.

<https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/files/10193.pdf>

Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God prepare your heart and mind for whatever is to come. Amen.