

# A FAMILY WALK WITH JESUS



Preparing to Celebrate Jesus' Resurrection

INSIDE:

- 3 HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONS
- ACTIVITY PAGES
- NOTES FROM JESUS

# 3 HOLY WEEK DEVOTIONS



## *Palm Sunday Devotion*

**Instructions:** Everyone think about the BEST party you've ever been to. Now, go around the room and share what party you're thinking of and what made it the BEST.

After you're done sharing, you and your family will plan a party for Jesus. It's up to you if you want to make this a *real* party or an imaginary one.

Together, talk about how your family would throw a welcome party for Jesus. Get creative! Write or draw what your party for Jesus would include. Who would you invite? What food would you prepare? Would you have music? Dancing? What kind of decorations would you have?

*Read Luke 19:36-40 to your family.*

### *Talk about it!*

- **What do you think of how people praised Jesus to welcome him when he entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday?**
- **How is our party plan like or unlike how the people of Jerusalem welcomed Jesus?**
- **Why do you think it's important for our family to praise Jesus?**

### *Pray!*

Have someone in your family start the prayer, and then go around the room and let everyone add their own word.

**Dear Jesus, thank you for being here with us every day. I want to praise you because \_\_\_\_\_.**

**In your name, amen.**

### *ABOUT THIS DEVOTION:*

Your family will plan a party for Jesus.

Before you start, gather these supplies:

- Bible
- paper
- markers, crayons, or colored pencils

---

# Good Friday Devotion

---

## Instructions:

*Read Luke 23:44-49 to your family.*

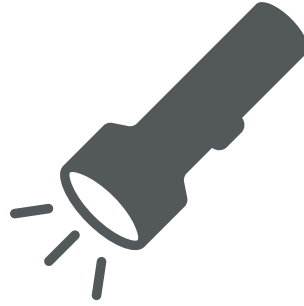
Then, as a family, go into a room where you can be in the dark (if you have little ones who are afraid of the dark, simply stay where you're at and ask everyone to close their eyes).

While you sit in the dark, ask everyone to think about the story you just read from the Bible. Sit in silence, in the dark, for three minutes.

After three minutes, turn on the flashlight.

## *Talk about it!*

- **What was it like to sit in darkness?**
- **Why do you think it got dark when Jesus died on the cross for us?**



## *Read this out loud:*

**The lights didn't just get shut off on the cross. The sun stopped shining. Jesus had died. He never did anything wrong. But he suffered a painful death for us...all of us.**

**But Jesus wasn't finished! Jesus was about to do something amazing. We'll talk about that in our devotion tomorrow.**

## *Pray!*

As you pray, pass the flashlight around. When you get the flashlight, tell Jesus one way you can shine his love on others.

**Thank you Jesus for loving us soooo much that you died for us. For me. I want to help shine your love on others by \_\_\_\_\_.**

**In your name, amen.**

## *ABOUT THIS DEVOTION:*

Your family will go through an experience to help you have a discussion about what Jesus endured before his death.

Before you start, gather these supplies:

- Bible
- flashlight



---

# Easter Sunday Devotion

---

**Instructions:** Give everyone a small rock, and have them put it in one of their shoes and put it on. Set a timer for two minutes.

The rock represents sin. Now walk around the house (inside or out) for the next two minutes with this "sin" in your shoes.

**Stop and read 1 John 1:8 to your family.**

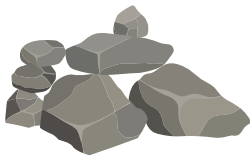
Now, have everyone take the rock out of their shoe and place it in a pile.

**Talk about it!**

- How did the "sin" feel in your shoe?
- In what ways is sin like or unlike having a rock in your shoe?
- Name something that's a sin that either you have done or someone did to you.

**Now read John 1:9 to your family.**

*[Whoever is reading this, without saying anything, put all the rocks in your shoe and put it back on.]*



**Talk about it!**

- Explain what you were thinking when you took the rock out of your shoe.
- How did it make you feel when I put all the rocks in my own shoe?
- How was what I did like or unlike what Jesus did for us on the cross?
- Everyone share what it means to you that Jesus forgives you of all your sins.

**Read this out loud:**

**Sin hurts. It hurts us and it hurts others. But Jesus took the punishment for our sins even though he didn't deserve it. That's how much he loves us!**

**Pray!**

Have someone in your family start the prayer, and then go around the room and let everyone say the name of a person they want to know Jesus.

**Dear Jesus, thank you for your incredible gift of forgiveness. I want to share your gift with \_\_\_\_\_.**

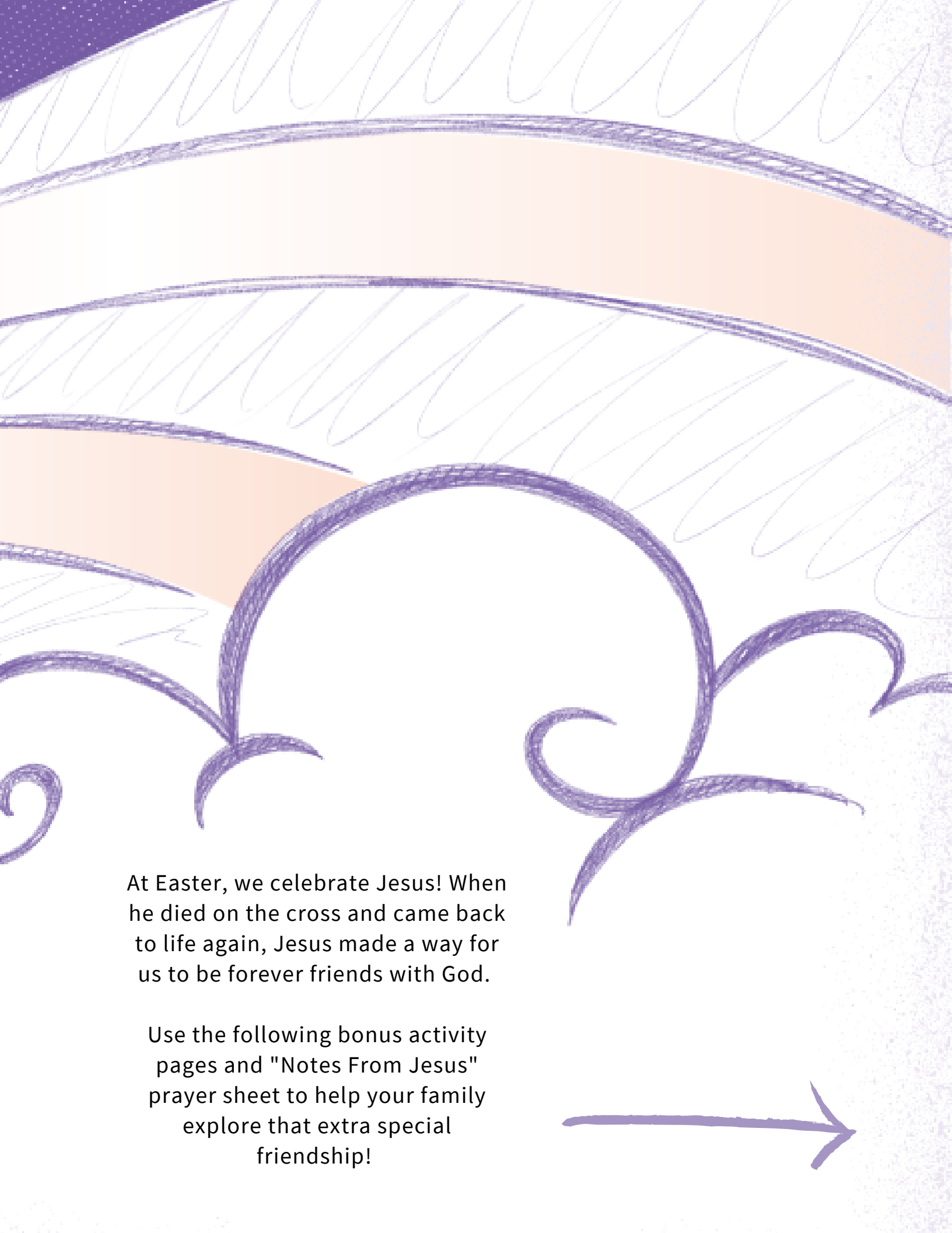
**Help our family to share your gift with the people on our hearts today. In your name, amen.**

## *ABOUT THIS DEVOTION:*

Your family will take a simple walk that gives everyone great insight about Jesus' sacrifice.

Before you start, gather these supplies:

- Bible
- 1 small rock per family member
- shoes



At Easter, we celebrate Jesus! When he died on the cross and came back to life again, Jesus made a way for us to be forever friends with God.

Use the following bonus activity pages and "Notes From Jesus" prayer sheet to help your family explore that extra special friendship!



God isn't just something you study or learn about.  
God wants *you* to be his real friend. But how can you  
hang out with someone you can't see or touch?

Think about the things that make a true friendship. Below,  
write the names of human friends who fit each quality.



God is always with you.  
Name one friend you can count  
on to be there for you:

God always cares about you.  
Name one friend who really cares about  
you:

God is always ready to listen to you.  
Name one friend you like talking to:

JESUS DIED TO  
RESTORE OUR  
RELATIONSHIP  
WITH GOD.

*"For since our friendship  
with God was restored by  
the death of his Son while  
we were still his enemies,  
we will certainly be saved  
through the life of his Son."*

Romans 5:10, NLT

*"So now we can rejoice in our  
wonderful new relationship with  
God because our Lord Jesus Christ  
has made us friends of God."*

Romans 5:11, NLT

God wants the best for your life.  
Name one friend who helps you be a better person:

God loves you, no matter what.  
Name one friend who accepts you for who you are:

God loves spending time with you.  
Name one friend you spend a lot of time with:

God gives you good things.  
Name one friend who's given you a gift:

# Just Like Heaven

Someday you'll get to live with me in heaven. What do you think heaven will be like? No one knows for sure, so it's fun to imagine. Draw a picture of what you hope heaven looks like.





**“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has  
imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.”  
(1 Corinthians 2:9)**



# Notes From Jesus...



## I know it's hard when you can't see me.

Your other friends come over and hang out. But me—I'm invisible. That may make it hard to remember that I'm here and that I care. But I AM here. And I love you very much.

I'm even closer than your friends that live down the block. I live in your heart through my Holy Spirit.

When you feel moved to help someone, that's me.

When you see love in the world, I'm behind that.

And when you feel peace even when things are hard...yup, that's me.

## Next time you pray...

Sit facing an empty chair. Imagine I'm in the chair, listening to you. Because I AM! And I will hear every word.

## Let's become even better friends!

Find a comfy place to sit or lay. Get comfortable and then talk to me. Tell me why you picked that spot, and tell me what made you happy today. What made you sad or mad?

## Read this about me...

Pull out your Bible, turn to the New Testament (that's the second half of your Bible!) and find John 3:16-18. Tell someone in your family how this makes you feel.

## You can talk to me whenever!

You can pray with your eyes open...when you're riding your bike, doing dishes, at school, or playing a game. Whenever, wherever!



# EASTER BASKET IDEAS...

You can shop these great gifts on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or [Group.com](https://www.group.com)!

## All Day Long, God Loves Me Gift Set

Little ones will see firsthand how much God loves them as they fly along with Skyler in the bestselling book *All Day Long, God Loves Me*, and a music download card with 10 fun Christian songs kids love. Plus, a bright Skyler tote bag they can carry along wherever they go!

For babies and toddlers.



## Notes From Jesus Gift Set

Complete with the bestselling book *Notes From Jesus*, a music download card with 10 catchy, faith-based songs made just for kids (and a bonus bookmark!), and a fun custom bag.

For kids 6+.



## I Am Friends With God Journal

Kids write, draw, and doodle throughout this creative, 150-page journal. Every activity is designed to help them see God all around them and understand how God wants to be their best friend ever!

For kids 7+.

