

# REFLECTION GUIDE

3.24.24

## INTRO

Holy week begins with a Palm Sunday celebration as Jesus enters Jerusalem and ends with his intense suffering and death. The image of God we see in the actions of Christ despite betrayal, pain, and suffering is an astonishing picture of love.

## THOUGHTS

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## PRAYER

Lord Jesus, your example of trust and selfless love in the darkest moment of your life is beyond my understanding. It brings me hope that I can grow and change to live a life that is marked by compassion and deep faith. Thank you for the compassion you have shown me time and time again. Amen.

## DIGGING DEEPER

- What are some go-to activities that bring you comfort when things are difficult in your life?
- Psalm 31:1-5 says, “I take refuge in you, LORD. Please never let me be put to shame. Rescue me by your righteousness! Listen closely to me! Deliver me quickly; be a rock that protects me; be a strong fortress that saves me! You are definitely my rock and my fortress. Guide me and lead me for the sake of your good name! Get me out of this net that’s been set for me because you are my protective fortress. I entrust my spirit into your hands; you, LORD, God of faithfulness—you have saved me.” [CEB]
  - In Luke 23:46, we read that in the final moments on the cross, Jesus recited part of the above Psalm, “Father, I entrust my spirit into your hands.” [NLT] Imagine what it must have been like for Mary to hear her son quote scripture they likely read together when Jesus was growing up. Is there a particular Bible verse that you have memorized that you cling to in times of trouble?
  - Can you relate to the kind of trust in God that Jesus displayed in that moment of pain? Why or why not?
- In his time of suffering, Jesus was concerned about the forgiveness of those who were hurting him. Do you find it difficult to love people who hurt you? How might Jesus’ example influence your future treatment of those who wrong you?