



MON 4-11

- ✓ SCRIPTURE Psalm 145:9
- ✓ THOUGHT "The Lord is good to everyone. He showers compassion on all his creation." [NLT] During Holy Week, we are reminded of the incredible compassion God has shown us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. If it feels like you are alone, or your pain is misunderstood, rest assured we follow a Savior who has endured earthly pain and who cares about our deepest needs.
- ✓ PRAYER God, I give you thanks and praise for your goodness. It gives me comfort to know that you see me through a lens of compassion and grace. Help me to grow in the ways that I follow Christ. Amen.

NOTES: _____

TUES 4-12

- ✓ SCRIPTURE James 1:17
- ✓ THOUGHT "Every good gift, every perfect gift, comes from above. These gifts come down from the Father, the creator of the heavenly lights, in whose character there is no change at all." [CEB] God's character remains a constant presence in our lives. When we live to bring God glory, we will experience true gifts of joy, hope, peace, and love.
- ✓ PRAYER Loving God, in a world full of uncertainty I am thankful for your ever-present help. When my faith is weak, remind me of your strength. Help me to remember to seek your help. Amen.

NOTES: _____

WED 4-13

- ✓ SCRIPTURE 1 John 1:5
- ✓ THOUGHT "This is the message that we have heard from him and announce to you: 'God is light and there is no darkness in him at all.'" [CEB] The disciples who walked with Jesus concluded this truth. God is light and Jesus expressed that light on this earth so we would no longer walk in darkness. What areas of your life could use some illumination? Ask God for the love of Christ to restore every part of your being.
- ✓ PRAYER Glorious God, show me the things in my mind and heart that I need to let go of. I pray that the light of Christ would shine in every way so your love can clearly be seen in me. Amen.

NOTES: _____



THURS 4-14

- ✓ SCRIPTURE John 13:34-35
- ✓ THOUGHT "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." [NIV] On Maundy Thursday, we remember that as Jesus shared a last meal with his disciples, he gave them a new command, the most important command. He demonstrated it that night as he insisted on washing their feet. We, too, must humble ourselves to truly love each other.
- ✓ PRAYER Lord Jesus, I want your example of humility to be my guide as I try to love the people in my life like you do. I am sorry for the ways I have put myself ahead of those around me. Amen.

NOTES: _____

FRI 4-15

- ✓ SCRIPTURE Isaiah 53:4-5
- ✓ THOUGHT "Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins! But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed." [NLT]
- ✓ PRAYER Loving Father, forgive me for the ways I have failed to follow the selfless example of Christ. I am grateful for the mercy you have shown me, and I ask for your restoring touch so I can live as you intend. Amen.

NOTES: _____

SAT 4-16

- ✓ SCRIPTURE Romans 5:6
- ✓ THOUGHT "While we were still weak, at the right moment, Christ died for ungodly people." [CEB] This depth of love is unimaginable. Some might consider sacrificing for a good person, but who considers sacrificing for an evil person? Despite our flaws, Jesus shows us such complete love! Consider your response as you prepare your heart for a resurrection celebration!
- ✓ PRAYER God of love, I want to respond to this perfect sacrifice of Christ by offering you everything I am. I want to partner with you however I can so that everyone in my sphere of influence would experience your love as I have. Amen.

NOTES: _____

DIGGING DEEPER

✓ **Intro** **At different points in our lives, many of us wonder why a good God would allow bad things to happen. And without a clear response, that dilemma could cause us to question God's existence altogether. The Gospel writer John documented an occasion where Jesus not only brought his friend Lazarus back to life but also demonstrated how God can exist in the midst of a world of evil and suffering.**

✓ **Reflect**

- What's a notable real or fictional story that appeared to be heading in a bad direction but ended up turning out well?
- Read John 11:17-45, where the apostle John recounts the story of Jesus raising his friend Lazarus from the dead.
 - What are some details about this story that would lead a reader to believe this actually happened?
 - In verse 35, Jesus showed emotion about this situation. What does the fact that Jesus wept--even knowing Lazarus was about to be raised--say about him?
 - Read verse 43. Imagine for a moment what onlookers would have been thinking after hearing Jesus say this. What words come to mind to describe this scene?
 - What's your biggest takeaway from this story? What is something that sticks out to you about God when reading this?
- In what ways does the story of Lazarus parallel the story of God's relationship with people?
- Do you have a personal example of when something that was tragic helped strengthen your faith? If so, explain.

✓ **Consider** **God not only exists in the midst of a world that has evil and suffering--he chose to engage with it. God didn't eliminate the evil; he placed it on Jesus so we would not perish but have eternal life.**



DIGGING DEEPER

✓ What did I learn? _____

✓ How might it apply in my life? _____

✓ What is a next step I can take? _____

