

Journeying to Jerusalem

Welcome to this interactive reflection.

You will need:

1. A container large enough to make a small garden in. (Re-use washed aluminium containers or deep plastic trays, or even old metal roasting tins).
2. A candle, Soil/compost, mixed sizes of pebbles, moss, a few flower heads or small plant off-cuts, gravel. 6x short sticks to make into crosses, 3x simple people- shapes in card or paper (to fit on the crosses), red pen
3. A Bible you can pass around to read from.
4. Time to pause, think, pray, and be thankful.

There are also songs selected within the reflection which you can download and sing along with if this helps your reflection. Some of us prefer not to use music in such a time, others find that the songs connect with what we are thinking and feeling. So, use them if it enriches this Reflection on Jesus' journey to die for us. (No spoilers there then!)

On the following pages, the **left-hand column is a family friendly version**



which creates an Easter garden as we walk with Jesus towards the cross and then to his Resurrection. It might look something like this photo to the left – but feel free to make it as you imagine. Everyone can do this.

In the **right-hand-column we have included some additional readings and music** you can include as part of your reflection if you want to.

Let's begin!

You are part of Jesus' disciple group as you make this journey with Him, so imagine yourself with dusty feet, grubby clothes and chatting a lot, all of you looking forward to getting to Jerusalem to enjoy the Passover Feast.

Family friendly version	Additional readings and music for deeper reflection
<p>God's BIG rescue plan</p> <p>ACTION: Light a candle and set it safely on a nearby table in front of those gathered.</p> <p>Pray a simple prayer, asking God to show you afresh what Easter means.</p> <p>Read Isaiah 53:6(MSG) "We are all like sheep who have wandered off and got lost. We have all done our own thing, gone away. And God has piled all our sins, everything we have done wrong on Him, on Him."</p>	<p>Song: From Heaven You Came (Graham Kendrick) (vv1-3 only) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8rh4xEvMVQQ</p> <p>Reading: Isaiah 53:6-11 - God's Rescuer welcomed:</p>
<p>Jesus talks about His own death</p> <p>ACTION: Take the 'garden' tray/dish and pour in the soil/compost.</p> <p>Read Mark 10:32-34 "They will make fun of Him and will beat Him. They will spit on Him and kill Him. But three days later He will be raised from the dead." (v34 NLV)</p>	<p>Reading: Luke 19:28-42 John 12: 23-37 - Rejoicing turns to rejection</p>
<p>The plan to kill Jesus</p> <p>ACTION: Make a hill in your garden. If possible, dribble gravel up it as a path to the top. You could cover it in moss.</p> <p>Song: At the cross https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYj83RuBZqw</p> <p>Read Matthew 26:1-4 "They planned to set a trap to arrest Jesus and kill Him." (v4 ICB)</p>	<p>Reading: Romans 5:6-8</p> <p>Song: O Perfect Love, O Perfect Sacrifice. v1&2. (Neil Bennett) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0gTLWwdQFPs&list=RD0gTLWwdQFPs&start_radio=1</p>

Family friendly version	Additional readings and music for deeper reflection
<p>A SPECIAL meal</p> <p>Read Luke 22: 7-20 “Then He took some bread. He gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them. “This is my body,” He said, ‘which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.’” (v19 NTE)</p> <p>ACTION: If you wish, at this point, you could share some bread, broken and passed around from one to another. Drink a small amount of red fruit juice each – (best taken from separate cups.) Imagine Jesus sharing this “last supper” with his friends. How do you think he felt?</p>	<p>Reading Mark 14:32-65: Things get complicated and scary!</p> <p>Song: He Was Pierced For Our Transgressions (Maggie Dawn). http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=QzdYPWgzrre</p>
<p>Jesus is killed on a cross</p> <p>ACTION: Make three wooden twig crosses held by ties or wire. Place them waiting at the top of the hill.</p> <p>Read: Mark 15:21-27 “The soldiers nailed Jesus to a cross. They also put two robbers on crosses beside Jesus, one on the right and the other on the left.” (V24, 27 ICB)</p>	<p>Reading: Luke 23:39-43</p> <p>Song: When I Survey the wondrous cross https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhvXOIVsRv4</p>
<p>Jesus and the two robbers</p> <p>ACTION: Make three paper figures to fit on the crosses and hang each of them on a cross.</p> <p>SONG: Come and See (Graham Kendrick) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uN1DwvHYBWA</p>	<p>Reading: Mark 15:29-32</p> <p>A poem: <i>The only crown this king had was one of thorns. The only throne, a wooden cross. His royal robe, a bloodied, beaten body. His palace was a frightening place, called Golgotha, the place of skulls.</i></p>
<p>Jesus dies</p> <p>Read: Luke 23: 44-49 “Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Father, I give you my life.” After Jesus said this, he died.” (v46 ICB)</p>	<p>Reading: John 19: 31-37</p>

Family friendly version	Additional readings and music for deeper reflection
<p>ACTION: Sit quietly and imagine you are watching with John and the women gathered there as Jesus dies. Blow out the candle.</p> <p>ACTION: Colour the middle figure on its cross with a red dash on its left side- to show the spear wound. Dab a red spot on its hands and feet. Take the 3 figures off their crosses.</p>	
<p>Jesus is buried</p> <p>Read: Mark: 15:42-47 A man named Joseph... “bought some linen cloth, took the body down from the cross and wrapped it in the linen. He put the body in the tomb that was cut in a wall of rock. Then he closed the tomb by rolling a very large stone to cover the entrance.” (v46 ICB)</p> <p>ACTION: Leaving the crosses on the hill-top, make a gravel path to the other end of the ‘garden’ and design a hollow tomb. It may help to place pebbles in a concave shape and cover them with soil, (or use an empty cardboard loo roll as the tomb). Moss on the top may help to hold it all together. Carry the Jesus figure to the tomb and place him inside. You can wrap him in cloth or tissue. With a large pebble, close up the opening. (If you have some warrior figures, they could guard the tomb!)</p>	<p>Reading: Philippians 2:5-11 and Colossians 3:1- 4.</p>
<p>We wait until Sunday...</p> <p>ACTION: You may like to decorate your garden with flowers like Joseph and Nicodemus covered Jesus’ body with spices and herbs.</p> <p>Prayer: Thank Jesus for dying on the cross for us. Is there anything you want to say sorry for?</p> <p>ACTION: You might like to watch the Good Friday scene from The Miracle Maker https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07RybQvyt08</p>	<p>Song: I will wait for you (Shane and Shane) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8C3WQ1G1Uso</p> <p>A blessing: <i>Jesus Christ draw us to himself; crucified but risen, died, but now resurrected and alive for ever. May we all find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support in times of fear and anxiety because our sins are paid for and forgiven. Let us live in the blessing and</i></p>

Family friendly version	Additional readings and music for deeper reflection
	<i>keeping of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.</i>
<p>Jesus is alive!</p> <p>ACTION: On Easter Sunday morning roll the stone away and leave the tomb open. Remove the body. Jesus is Risen!</p> <p>Say to each other: "Christ is Risen! "He is Risen Indeed - Alleluia!"</p> <p>Prayer: Thankyou Jesus for your love for us. <i>Hallelujah!</i> <i>Jesus is the King!</i> Thank you for suffering so that we can have new life. <i>Hallelujah! Jesus is the King! We praise you because you defeated death.</i> <i>Hallelujah! Jesus is the King! Help us to know that you are always close to us.</i> <i>Hallelujah! Jesus is the King! Amen</i></p> <p>ACTION: You might like to watch the Resurrection scene from The Miracle Maker</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zc2NtYSI7oE</p>	<p>Reading: John 20:1-18</p> <p>Songs:</p> <p>Thine be the Glory: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPH7-dNrwb8</p> <p>In Christ Alone https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ENtL_li4GbE&list=RDENtL_li4GbE&index=1</p> <p>Happy Day https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVxS3xyGBOQ</p>

Thank you for joining in this reflection.

If you have made a garden, then please do send in a photo of you with your garden to hello@hthmacc.com so that we can add it to our HTH @ HOME page on the website.

HAPPY EASTER!

With love from

Everyone at HTH