

Seven Days to Embrace the Resurrection April 6-12, 2020

Pastor Gearl Spicer

Join me today as we begin a 7-day journey toward the cross and the empty tomb. Each day, I hope you will accept the challenge to evaluate your life in a specific area, read the Biblical text, and make a personal application from how the Lord speaks to your heart. After you have taken these steps, talk to God in prayer as you conclude each day. This promises to bring all of our hearts closer to Jesus this Easter!

Day 1 - Determine Your Focus

- Psalm 27
- Hebrews 12:1-3

Application: Identify and list the things that blur your vision from seeing Jesus' great love for you and His great sacrifice for your sins.

Day 2 - Commit Time to Examine Your Heart

- Psalm 26:2
- Acts 3:19
- 1 John 1:6-9
- 1 Thessalonians 2:4

Application: What are some things you might eliminate to prioritize time and attention to Jesus this week?

Day 3 - Discover the Joy of Obedience

- Hebrews 5:7-10
- Philippians 2:5-11
- 1 John 5:3

Application: Jesus became obedient to the point of death by humbling Himself. Do you struggle with obedience? Could your obedience problem point to a problem with pride? What would humbling yourself look like to you? To others?

Day 4 - Abide in the Good News

- John 1:11-13
- Colossians 1:13-14
- Ephesians 2:1-10
- 1 John 4:12-16
- 1 John 3:1

Application: Who shared the Good News with you? Write what you remember about the power of the Gospel when you heard it. Who have you shared the Good News with in 2020?

Day 5 - Encounter the Cross

- John 19
- 1 Corinthians 1:18
- Romans 5:1,6,8
- 1 Peter 1:18-21
- 2 Corinthians 5:15, 21
- Colossians 2:13-15
- John 3:16-21, 36

Application: Close your eyes and picture the scene of the cross. What role might you have played in that scene?...a bystander, a disciple, a soldier, a mocker, a thief? Jesus was the sacrificial Lamb that was offered as payment for your sin and mine. Write a prayer or sing a song of thanksgiving to God for being your substitute and taking the punishment that your sin deserved. Thank Him for paying your bail that released you from sin's prison and Satan's power over you, making you no longer a slave to sin.



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Day 6 - Rest in His Presence

- Psalm 16:11
- Psalm 95:2
- Psalm 140:13
- Jude 1:24

Application: Have you ever just relaxed in God's presence? If not, what prevents you? He loves you and He likes you. He created you because He desires to know you and spend time with you! Try to spend a few minutes today quietly in His presence, abiding in Him. Think of what He's done for you and that you can be with Him unafraid, uncondemned, completely forgiven of all your sin and shame! This is all because of the grace He has lavished on you, not because of anything you deserve. May your heart be at rest in HIM!

Day 7 - Celebrate the Resurrection

- John 20
- Romans 8:11
- 1 Corinthians 15:17, 50-57
- Romans 6:8-9
- 2 Peter 1:3
- Philippians 3:10

Application: Because God accepted Jesus' sacrifice, He raised Him from the dead! What in your life needs to be resurrected? What things in your life seem to leave you defeated and powerless? When was the last time you asked God for His resurrection power to enable you to be victorious?

DAILY PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, I desire to commit my heart to live out the truths of your Word! I desire to give you access to my heart and I want it to be anchored in You. Please teach me to surrender all of me to experience all of You. I want to see your glory and your power as I celebrate Easter in my heart and in my home. Amen!