WEEK SIX In Jesus

4X

4.16 - 4.20

THEME: "...IN JESUS"

These last five days are focused mainly on praising and exalting Jesus.

May our eyes be set solely on Him this Holy Week, praising our Risen King.

We are fasting from food for forty-eight hours (Wednesday, 7pm through Friday, 7pm).

Day 1: By Him, Through Him, and For Him

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation: ¹⁶ for by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominions, or rulers, or authorities-all things have been created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is also the head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, ²⁰ and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. - Colossians 1:15-20

Exalt Jesus for His role in creation. Thank God for the fact that He holds all things in your life together. Pray prayers of gratefulness for Jesus reconciling you, the Father through, His blood on the cross. Pray that our church has an intense focus on Jesus as we head into Resurrection Day.

Day 2: Our Weak Flesh

³⁶ Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and told His disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ And He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with Him, and began to be grieved and distressed. ³⁸ Then He said to them, "My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me." ³⁹ And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will." ⁴⁰ And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and He *said to Peter, "So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? ⁴¹ Keep watching and praying, so that you do not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." - Matthew 26:36-41.

Pray with Jesus that God's will be done in your life. Ask forgiveness for the ways in which your weak flesh has led to disobedience in your life. Pray that our church has a renewed heart for prayer and seeking the Lord. Pray that we are trusting the Spirit to overcome our fleshly weaknesses.

Day 3: Recognizing Jesus as He Is

⁵¹ And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks were split. ⁵² Also the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; ⁵³ and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection, they entered the holy city and appeared to many. ⁵⁴ Now as for the centurion and those who were with him keeping guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the other things that were happening, they became extremely frightened and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!" - Matthew 27:51-54

Thank God for the gift Jesus has offered us on this Good Friday. Recognize the massive significance of the veil being torn, representing our full access to the Father through the Son. Pray for the vast number of lost people in our community whose hearts have not been transformed by the gospel. Pray

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that, as a church, we would do what we can to help them see, like the Roman centurion, that this truly is the Son of God.

Day 4: God's Love and Judgment

¹⁶ For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him. ¹⁸ The one who believes in Him is not judged; the one who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the Light; for their deeds were evil. - John 3:16-19

Thank God for the love He has given to you through Jesus Christ. Pray that this truth gives you a burden for your neighbors who do not know Him. Pray that God uses you as a witness today to share God's love with others. Pray that many people in our community hear the gospel and respond in faith on Easter Sunday. Thank God for baptisms happening on Sunday, and pray that God will use these to help many more come to faith in Jesus.

Day 5: Resurrection Day Boldness

²⁹ "And now, Lord, look at their threats, and grant it to Your bond-servants to speak Your word with all confidence, ³⁰ while You extend Your hand to heal, and signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus." ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness. - Acts 4:29-31

Ask God to bring a spiritual awakening to this community. Pray that our church has open hands to do whatever we have to do to reach our community. Pray that God shakes us up, fills us with His Spirit, and does great signs and wonders to glorify His name. Pray that He does something so that we would all say, "Only God could have done that." Pray that Jesus is exalted and our eyes are focused on Him. He is Lord of All! All Hail King Jesus!