



Holy Week & Easter Family Reading Guide

Follow this guide together as a family to read and talk about the stories of Holy Week and Easter in your Spark Story Bible or Spark NRSV Bible.

Palm Sunday

Spark NRSV Bible

Matthew 21:1-11 (page 1084)

Mark 11:1-11 (page 1115)

Luke 19:28-40 (pages 1159–1160)

Spark Story Bible

Palm Sunday (pages 454–459)

Talk about these questions after you read:

- How do you think Jesus felt hearing the crowds yelling to him?
- Can you think of other places in the Bible where there is a donkey?
- Why do you think people wanted to see Jesus? Do you think everyone there believed he was the Son of God?

Maundy Thursday

Spark NRSV Bible

Matthew 26:17-30 (page 1093)

Mark 14:10-32 (pages 1120–1121)

Luke 22:14-28 (pages 1163–1164)

John 13:1-20

Matthew 26:31-75 (pages 1193–1094)

Mark 14:26-72 (pages 1121–1122)

Luke 22:32-71 (pages 1163–1164)

Spark Story Bible

The Last Supper (pages 462–467)

Jesus Is Betrayed (pages 469–473)

Talk about these questions after you read:

- Have you ever had to do something really scary? Something you really wish you didn't have to do?
- The Bible says that Jesus and his disciples reclined while they ate because that was the custom. Do you think that would be easy or hard? Try eating a meal today in a reclining position.
- Jesus knew that Judas was going to betray him but he still served him a meal we remember whenever we take communion. What does this tell you about communion?

Good Friday

Spark NRSV Bible

Matthew 27:11-31 (pages 1095–1096)

Mark 15:1-15 (pages 1122–1123)

Luke 23:1-25 (pages 1165–1166)

John 18:33-37 (page 1196)

Matthew 27:32-66 (pages 1096–1097)

Mark 15:21-47 (pages 1123–1124)

Luke 23:26-56 (pages 1166–1167)

Talk about these questions after you read:

- People yelled at Jesus that if he was the Son of God he should take himself off the cross and save himself. Do you think him doing that would have made him look more powerful?
- What do you think it meant that he stayed on the cross and was willing to die? What do you think that meant for the two men crucified with him?
- People then kept waiting for God to do something huge. Why do you think God often chooses to work in small ways?

Spark Story Bible

Christ the King (pages 474–475)

The Day Jesus Died (pages 476–481)

Easter Sunday

Spark NRSV Bible

Matthew 28:1-10 (page 1097)

Mark 16:1-8 (page 1124)

Luke 24:1-12 (pages 1167–1168)

Talk about these questions after you read:

- What are the different ways people reacted to seeing Jesus?
- Why is it important to celebrate Easter?
- When has God surprised you? Ask an adult or two this question.

Spark Story Bible

The Empty Tomb (pages 482–487)

