



These daily readings leading up to Easter will reflect on conversations Jesus had during his ministry. As you read God’s word, keep a note of what God says to you and what your response is to him.

The daily readings tie in with the Sunday teaching series and with studies in small groups. Alongside this are a series of questions as prompts for reflection in 2s or 3s.

“May God the Creator bless us. May God the Son walk with us. May God the Spirit lead our lives with love.

May the blessing of the One who was, and who is and who is to come be upon us all - redeeming our past, filling our present and lighting up our future.”

A Celtic blessing

<p>Day 16 Thurs Mar 16th</p>	<p>Jesus shows us the bigger picture Luke 24:13-35 This account deepens our understanding of how Jesus aids us in desperate times. Jesus got into conversation with Cleopas & his companion, asking what they were discussing. Their devastation at the death of Jesus becomes clear...“we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel” (v21). Jesus “opened up the Scriptures” to them (v27,32) about the necessity for Christ to suffer and die. They had witnessed the crux of God’s world-changing, hope-birthing redemptive plan of salvation. Just as he did for these 2 on the road to Emmaus, Jesus meets us in our disappointments and despair. We can bring to him our experiences & questions about things we’d hoped for. He helps us understand God’s redemptive work in our lives as we study the Bible and apply his word to our lives. We know we’re on solid ground. Those who love God can trust in His goodness, His power, and His will to work out all things for good. We journey together with Him. Jesus prepared us for the fact that life will often be hard. In John 16:33 he says, “I have told you these things so that you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble, but take heart! I have overcome the world.” So we trust him, and look forward to when Jesus returns and we will be with him – “no more death or mourning or crying or pain” for the old order of things will have passed away (Revelation 21:4). Ask God to develop within us “endurance inspired by hope” (1 Thessalonians 1:3).</p>
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