

## Pre-Sermon Devotionals for April 17, 2011 (Palm Sunday)

### Three Big Decisions

This week's devotion is going to focus on decisions.

#### Monday

**Pray:**

**Read:** Matthew 26:14-16

**Think about the following:**

- 1) In today's devotion, we are going to focus on the decision of Judas.
- 2) What choices did Judas have?
- 3) What decision did he make? Why?
- 4) How do we betray Jesus' today?

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, it must have hurt you to have Judas betray Jesus. It also must hurt when we betray you because of our sin. Please forgive us when we betray you and help us to serve you faithfully. In Jesus' name, amen.

#### Tuesday

**Pray:**

**Read:** Matthew 26:69-75

**Think about the following:**

- 1) What choices did Peter have?
- 2) What decision did Peter make?
- 3) How often did he make this decision?
- 4) How often do we deny Jesus?

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, as we go through this week's devotion, we are faced with the reality that we make the same decisions. We betray you and we deny you. Thank you for forgiving us and restoring us when restoring us when we sin. In Jesus name, amen.

#### Wednesday

**Pray:**

**Read:** Matthew 27:15-26

**Think about the following:**

- 2) What choices does Pontius Pilate have?
- 3) What decision does he make?
- 4) Why does he have a hard time making this decision?

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, although Pilate made this decision, you were in control of that decision. You allowed your only Son to be crucified so that we may be rescued from sin. Thank you for this precious gift. In Jesus name, amen.

#### Thursday

**Pray:**

**Read:** Matthew 27:15-26 (again)

**Think about the following:**

- 1) In today's lesson, the crowd has a choice. What choice do they make?
- 2) Why did they make this choice? What threat did Jesus pose?
- 3) What is ultimately behind their decision?

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, our sin causes us to make the wrong decisions. Help us to look at your Word so that we may know your will for our lives. Give us the strength to follow you daily. In Jesus name, amen.

#### Friday

**Pray:**

**Read:** 2 Corinthians 5:21 & 8:9

**Think about the following:**

- 1) What decision does God (Jesus) make according to today's reading?
- 2) What exchange is being made between Jesus and us?

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, you made the ultimate decision to send Jesus to die for our sin. Thank you for this marvelous exchange. Help us to share this great news with our neighbours who do not know you. In Jesus name, amen.

#### Saturday

**Pray:**

**Read:** Matthew 27:15-26 (again)

**Think about the following:**

- 1) Think about what it must have been like to be Jesus. Although he was God, he was also a man with the same fears you and I have.
- 2) What fears was he facing for your sake?

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank you that your Son was willing to obey you, even to the point of death on the cross, for our sake. Through your Son who paid the ultimate price for our sin, you have kept your promise of forgiveness and salvation for those that believe. May we tell others about your precious gift, so they too can believe and receive forgiveness and everlasting life with you. In Jesus name, amen.