



# Journey to the Cross: Reflecting on Holidays with Jesus



Explore how holidays can deepen our walk with Jesus toward the Cross and enrich our faith journey each day.

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## Introduction

Holidays often bring joy, rest, and celebration, but they also invite us to pause and reflect on deeper spiritual truths. In this 5-day study, we will walk with Jesus to the Cross, discovering how our celebrations can be a meaningful part of our faith journey rather than just a break from routine. *Walking with Jesus to the Cross* means seeing the significance of His sacrifice through the lens of our everyday lives — especially during holidays which are often times of gathering, reflection, and renewal.

Jesus' journey to the Cross was marked with moments of humility, love, sacrifice, and hope. Similarly, holidays can remind us of these themes and anchor us in a faith that transforms how we live and relate with others. By meditating on scripture each day, we will uncover how the holidays encourage us to remember God's redemptive plan and invite Christ to be the center of all our celebrations.

This study is designed to deepen your relationship with Jesus by mirroring His path to the Cross through the lens of holiday reflections. As you engage, be open to the Holy Spirit's guidance to help you see beyond traditions and find fresh purpose in days often focused on rest and remembrance. Let's journey together to the Cross, allowing the hope and grace found there to renew our hearts during every season.





## Day 1: 🌅 Remembering Purpose in Celebration



Day 1: 🌅 Remembering Purpose in Celebration

## Your Verse

*Luke 22:19 "And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'"*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *1 Corinthians 11:24 - "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."*
- *Psalms 118:24 - "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."*



Day 1: 🌅 Remembering Purpose in Celebration

## Devotional: Celebrations as Acts of Remembrance

Holidays are often filled with traditions and joyful moments. Yet, when we connect them to Jesus' call to remember His sacrifice, they take on powerful spiritual meaning. In Luke 22:19, Jesus institutes the practice of remembrance by sharing bread, symbolizing His body given for us. This act invites us not only to recall the past but to live in the reality of God's merciful love today.

When we celebrate holidays, it can be easy to focus on food, gifts, or rest, and forget the deeper purpose. What if each holiday was an opportunity to remember Jesus' journey to the Cross? To recognize that every blessing and moment of joy ultimately comes from His sacrifice and resurrection?

By intentionally remembering Christ in our celebrations, we align our hearts with God's eternal plan. This empowers us to live with gratitude and hope, even when circumstances challenge us. Today, consider how your upcoming holidays can become sacred moments of reflection and connection with Jesus' love and purpose.



Day 1: 🌅 Remembering Purpose in Celebration

## Reflect and Apply

1. How can remembering Jesus' sacrifice reshape the way you celebrate holidays?

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2. In what ways have holidays distracted you from spiritual reflection?

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3. What traditions in your life can be renewed to honor Christ's journey to the Cross?

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Day 1: 🌅 Remembering Purpose in Celebration

## Journaling Prompts

1. List three holiday traditions that help you feel closer to Jesus.

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2. Write about a time when a holiday reminded you of God's faithfulness.

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3. Describe how you might intentionally include remembrance of Christ in your celebrations.

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Day 1: 🌅 Remembering Purpose in Celebration

## Prayer for Today

**Lord, help me to remember You in the midst of celebrations.** Teach me to honor Your sacrifice and to find meaning in every holiday I experience. Renew my heart so that I celebrate with purpose and gratitude. May my joys reflect Your love and grace today and always. *Amen.* 🙏 🎉 🏛️ ❤️





## Day 2: 📁 Gifts of Grace and Giving



## Day 2: 🎁 Gifts of Grace and Giving

## Your Verse

*John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *2 Corinthians 9:7 - "God loves a cheerful giver."*
- *James 1:17 - "Every good and perfect gift is from above."*



## Day 2: 🎁 Gifts of Grace and Giving

## Devotional: Reflecting God's Grace through Gift-Giving

**The act of giving during holidays can reflect the ultimate gift God gave us in Jesus.** John 3:16 highlights God's priceless gift of His Son for our salvation — a gift born out of love and graciousness. As we walk with Jesus to the Cross, we recognize that grace is unearned and freely given.

This season, consider how your gift-giving can mirror God's generosity. Gifts don't have to be expensive or elaborate; they can be acts of kindness, time, or encouragement. When we give with a joyful heart and the spirit of Jesus, our gifts become living expressions of God's grace.

Think about how Jesus' sacrifice invites us to extend grace and love to others, especially during holidays when people often experience loneliness or need. Your gift could be a bridge of hope and comfort, reflecting the light of Christ to those around you.



Day 2: 🎁 Gifts of Grace and Giving

## Reflect and Apply

1. How does understanding God's grace affect your attitude about giving?

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2. In what ways can you give joyfully this holiday season?

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3. Who might you reach out to with a gift of kindness or support?

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Day 2: 📁 Gifts of Grace and Giving

# Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a meaningful gift you've received that reminded you of God's love.

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2. List three non-material gifts you can offer others this holiday.

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3. Reflect on how giving has impacted your walk with Jesus in the past.

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Day 2: 📁 Gifts of Grace and Giving

## Prayer for Today

**Gracious Father, thank You for the greatest gift of Jesus.** Help me to share Your love through my giving this season. Open my eyes to see needs and my heart to give cheerfully. May every gift reflect Your grace and bring hope to others. In Jesus' name, amen. 📁 🙏 ❤️ ✝️






## Day 3: Light in the Darkness





Day 3:  Light in the Darkness


## Your Verse

*John 8:12 "When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'"*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Psalm 27:1 - "The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?"*
- *Isaiah 9:2 - "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned."*



Day 3:  Light in the Darkness

## Devotional: Jesus: Our Ever-Present Holiday Light

**Many holidays occur during darker days or seasons, both literally and metaphorically.** They remind us that even in darkness, Jesus is the Light of the world (John 8:12). Jesus' journey to the Cross was filled with darkness—betrayal, suffering, and despair—but His light never faded.

During your holidays, you may experience joy, but you may also face challenges or pain. Jesus meets you in those moments, offering peace and guidance. Just as light dispels darkness, Jesus illuminates the way through difficult times and leads to hope and new life.

Let this truth anchor your soul this holiday season. When shadows appear, turn to Jesus as your guiding Light. Allow His presence to transform your celebrations into moments of faith and courage, walking confidently toward the hope found in the Cross.



## Reflect and Apply

1. What areas of your life feel dark or difficult during holidays?

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2. How can Jesus' light bring peace to your heart this season?

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3. In what ways can you share Christ's light with others who feel in darkness?

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Day 3:  Light in the Darkness

# Journaling Prompts

1. Describe a time Jesus' light overcame your darkness.

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2. Write a prayer asking Jesus to shine brightly in your life today.

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3. Think about ways to be a light to someone this holiday.

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Day 3: 🕯️ Light in the Darkness

## Prayer for Today

**Lord Jesus, thank You for being my light in every darkness.** As I walk with You to the Cross, shine Your truth and hope into my heart this holiday. Help me reflect Your light to those who are struggling. Let Your peace fill my soul and guide my steps today. Amen. 🕯️ ✚️ ✨ 🙏





## Day 4: 🙏 Finding Rest in the Cross



## Day 4: 🙏 Finding Rest in the Cross

## Your Verse

*Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *Psalm 46:10 - "Be still, and know that I am God."*
- *Hebrews 4:9 - "There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God."*



Day 4: 🙏 Finding Rest in the Cross

## Devotional: The Rest Jesus Offers This Holiday Season

Holidays often invite rest, but true rest goes beyond physical pause. Jesus promises rest for all who come to Him, especially when we are weary (Matthew 11:28). As we journey toward the Cross, we see that rest is found in surrender and trust in God's perfect love and plan.

In the busyness of holiday preparations, it can be easy to become overwhelmed. Yet Jesus calls us to find our deepest rest in Him — resting in His grace, His presence, and His completed work on the Cross.

Take time this season to pause and receive the rest Jesus offers. Make space for stillness and reflection, allowing God's peace to restore your soul. Your holidays will be richer as you embrace the gift of spiritual rest that only Christ can give.





Day 4: 🙏 Finding Rest in the Cross

## Reflect and Apply

1. What burdens are you carrying that you need to bring to Jesus for rest?

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2. How can you incorporate moments of stillness and surrender into your holiday routine?

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3. What does it mean for you personally to find rest in Christ's sacrifice?

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Day 4: 🙏 Finding Rest in the Cross

## Journaling Prompts

1. Write about how Jesus has brought rest to your soul during difficult times.

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2. List ways to create space for spiritual rest during holidays.

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3. Reflect on the difference between physical rest and the rest Jesus offers.

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Day 4: 🙏 Finding Rest in the Cross

## Prayer for Today

**Jesus, I come to You weary and burdened.** Please grant me Your rest this holiday season. Help me to let go of stress and find peace in Your presence. Teach me to trust You fully and to be still in Your love. Refresh my soul as I journey with You to the Cross. Amen. 🙏 🛏️ ☦️ 🌿





## Day 5: Hope Beyond the Cross



Day 5:  Hope Beyond the Cross

## Your Verse

*Romans 6:9 "For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him."*

## Supporting Scriptures

- *1 Peter 1:3 - "In His great mercy, He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."*
- *John 11:25 - "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."*



Day 5:  Hope Beyond the Cross

## Devotional: Easter Hope in Every Holiday Season

**Walking with Jesus to the Cross always leads us to an empty tomb and living hope.** Romans 6:9 reminds us that death no longer has power over Christ, and through Him, over us as well. Our holidays can reflect this hope, reminding us that no matter how difficult life's challenges, God's victory is sure.

Today, as you conclude this study, focus on the hope that Easter brings into every season of your life. Just as Jesus overcame death, He empowers us to overcome despair, fear, and sin. This hope transforms holidays from mere celebrations into powerful testimonies of God's love and resurrection power.

Let this hope fill your heart and inspire your celebrations. Share it with family and friends, and remember that the journey to the Cross ends with new life for all who believe. Rejoice — the best is yet to come!



Day 5:  Hope Beyond the Cross

## Reflect and Apply

1. How does the resurrection change the way you view the holidays?

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2. What hope can you hold onto when life feels uncertain or hard?

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3. In what ways can you share the hope of Christ's resurrection with others?

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Day 5:  Hope Beyond the Cross

## Journaling Prompts

1. Write about how the resurrection has impacted your faith journey.

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2. List ways to celebrate hope in your holiday traditions.

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3. Reflect on how you can be a witness of Christ's victory this season.

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Day 5:  Hope Beyond the Cross

## Prayer for Today

**Lord Jesus, thank You for conquering death and giving me hope. Help me to live in the joy of Your resurrection every day, especially during holidays. May Your victory give me courage and peace. Use me to share this hope with others. In Your powerful name I pray, amen.**    





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