



Calvary
Baptist Church

For the week of:
4/19/26

Home Worship Guide

Grief

Grief is something we all deal with. Sometimes it feels unbearable. Christ is with us even in our suffering. Our suffering transforms us and makes us into who God is shaping us to be. Our suffering also helps us to look forward to a day when there is no weeping or pain. We look forward to that glorious day!

WELCOME

Why should we do a family devotional?

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.” - Deuteronomy 6:4-8

As long as there have been a “people of God,” the command given to them has always been that they would be instructing their children in the way of the Lord. Scripture expects parents to be the primary disciplers of their children.

But teaching children is more than simply giving rules. It involves showing them HOW to obey the Lord by doing it yourself! These family devotionals are meant to equip you as an individual to grow in your understanding of the Lord and His Word, as well as providing parents with the resources and opportunities to demonstrate for their children what it looks like to pursue God.

How to use this devotional:

This is simply a resource for you to use however works best for your family! Each day there is a selected Scripture reading, devotional, discussion questions, a prayer prompt, and a song to sing together. You may consider splitting parts and having one family member read the Scripture while another reads the devotional and another leads the prayer. Feel free to read additional Scripture as you call to mind passages that relate to what was read. Sing more hymns and songs with your family than the one provided if you feel led to. Use this guide in whatever way helps you and your family draw nearer to the Lord together.

PAST WORSHIP GUIDES

Are you just now learning about these worship guides? Or maybe you were traveling and missed a week. Don't worry! These worship guides are written in a way so that they can be used for years to come.

All of our past worship guides are available on our website. Feel free to scroll and find the one that works for you and your family. The dates simply help you know when they were written, it doesn't mean you only have to read them the week that they were published!

Find those worship guides here:



<https://www.calvaryleavenworth.com/homeworship>

MONDAY

Grieving Our Sin

Read: 2 Cor. 7:10; Psalm 38:18

As we prepare to get into the thick of this heavy week that covers such a heavy topic, it seems appropriate to speak of the personal grief we should experience over our personal sin. Our sin is what separates us from God and makes us hostile enemies of Him. When we come to a clear understanding of this is when our hearts will (and should) break. It was in some measure that our Lord, Jesus Christ, experienced grief on the cross when He became sin for us and the Father had to turn His face away. To which our Christ cried out “Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?” Which means, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Mark 15:34). Sin should bring grief into our hearts because of all the pain, suffering, and separation it caused.

That is not to say that we sit in our grief for all eternity. In fact, because of Christ’s death on the cross and conquering through the resurrection, we do not have eternal grief but we have eternal hope in Christ. Yes, it is appropriate and necessary for us to individually experience godly grief over our sin. This godly grief leads us to repentance of our sins. And PRAISE GOD that repentance “leads to salvation without regret.”

I heard a preacher once say that “The Bible never tells us to say ‘I’m sorry.’” While he may be technically correct, the spirit of the grief we experience over our sin leads directly to us expressing how “sorry” we are over our sin. This is essentially what “repentance from our sins” means. I harken back to Psalm 38:18, where the psalmist proclaims out of the depths of his heart, “I confess my iniquity; I am sorry for my sin.” This is where each of our hearts should be in relation to our sin; broken, repentant, and... sorry.

Discussion Questions:

What kind of difference should there be between godly grief and simply feeling bad or guilty about something we did?

Pray

Thank God for being a merciful Savior, meeting us in our grief and providing comfort.

Sing

*And Can it Be That
I Should Gain*

AND CAN IT BE THAT I SHOULD GAIN

And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?

He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race;
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray,
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth and followed Thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own.



TUESDAY

God is Near in Our Grief

Read: Psalm 34:18, Matthew 5:4

Today we will begin to think of grief in the traditional sense in which we think of it. When we experience grief, we experience the loss of something or someone. In 2020, my mother was suddenly diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer on a Thursday in July. She called us to tell us that she was going to start treatment the next week. She never made it that far. It was only a few days later, on a Monday afternoon, that my mother laid down for a nap and never woke up. It was then I experienced a sudden wave of grief, knowing I wouldn't hear my mother's voice again. My kids would never get to have a sleepover at CiCi's house again. And even now, I know that my unborn child will never know the endless love of my mother.

It is in times like these that we need passages such as today's passages to be reminded that the Lord cares for the brokenhearted. Have you ever been crushed in spirit? The Bible tells us that the Lord saves the crushed in spirit. In other words, those who are experiencing the crushing weight of grief get the joy of experiencing the endless tenderness of our Triune God. What a joyous truth.

Maybe you're going through something right now. It could be you have lost something. It isn't necessarily losing someone to death. You may be grieving the loss of a relationship that soured and it seems impossible to recover. Maybe it's a major life change or a sudden health diagnosis. Whatever it is, remember to bring these things to the Lord, for He is near to your broken heart and is able to minister to your crushed spirit. There is healing to be found in dealing directly with your grief. By "dealing with it," I mean casting your cares upon the Lord.

Discussion Question

Psalm 34:18 says the Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. What does that verse tell us about God's character?

Pray

Bring your brokenness and grief to the foot of the cross.

Sing

Nothing But the Blood

NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus:

O precious is the flow
that makes me white as snow;
no other fount I know;
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon this I see:
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
For my cleansing this my plea:
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone:
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done:
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace:
nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness:
nothing but the blood of Jesus.



WEDNESDAY

Jesus Understands Our Grief

Read: John 11:35; Isaiah 53:2

Have you ever had one of those cries that makes your whole body tremble? It comes from a broken heart and total devastation. The good news is that we have a Savior who understands this experience. When “Jesus wept,” he wept over the death of a beloved friend. His beloved friend Lazarus had died and had been dead for days by the time Jesus arrived. Could Jesus have skipped the weeping and just brought Lazarus back to life? Well, yes, He could have. In fact he does end up bringing Lazarus back to life, but Jesus’ grief was more than just losing a friend. Jesus wept over the fact that death was even in the world at all. Sin and death were in the world but this was not the created order that God had placed into being. He made everything to be “good,” not corrupt and evil; that was man’s doing. Jesus understands our grief. We see that in John 11:35, where Jesus is broken hearted and devastated over what sin did to the world. He even sees it first hand take place in His beloved friend, Lazarus.

Isaiah 53:3 describes our Christ who was despised and rejected. He was forsaken and hated by men. Jesus is described as a man of sorrows and constant familiarity with grief. Men even would hide their faces from Him. Can you imagine hating Jesus so much that we forsake Him and turn to hide our faces from Him? Well, that’s exactly what we have done. As God’s image bearers, we were designed to bring glory to the Lord, not bring shame upon Him. Jesus knows grief. This should bring us great peace as we encounter our own grief, we know we can come to Jesus with our brokenness.

Discussion Question:

How can remembering that Jesus understands grief change the way we approach painful situations?

Pray

Go to God in your brokenness.

Sing

There’s Power in the Blood

THERE'S POWER IN THE BLOOD

Would you be free from the burden of sin?
There's power in the blood, power in the blood.
Would you o'er evil a victory win?
There's wonderful power in the blood.

Chorus:

There is power, power, wonder-working power
in the blood of the Lamb;
there is power, power, wonder-working power
in the precious blood of the Lamb.

Would you be free from your passion and pride?
There's power in the blood, power in the blood.
Come for a cleansing to Calvary's tide.
There's wonderful power in the blood.

Would you be whiter, much whiter than snow?
There's power in the blood, power in the blood.
Sin-stains are lost in its life-giving flow;
there's wonderful power in the blood.

Would you do service for Jesus your King?
There's power in the blood, power in the blood.
Would you live daily His praises to sing?
There's wonderful power in the blood.



THURSDAY

God Comforts Us for a Reason

Read: 2 Cor. 1:3-4; James 1:2-4

As they say, suffering is a part of life. One comforting part of this truth is we have a Savior who suffered greatly emotionally, physically, and spiritually. He knows what it means to be betrayed. He was beaten within an inch of His life. And the Father forsook Jesus on the cross. Jesus knows what it means to suffer. We also suffer. Many of you know what it is like to be betrayed, hurt, and feel distant from God in our sin. We suffer in this life, but not for nothing. The passage in 2 Corinthians tells us that we serve a God of all comfort who will comfort us in our pain. It doesn't say that He will fix our circumstances but He will comfort us in our affliction. And the comfort we receive is for the expressed purpose of being a blessing to others who have gone and are going through painful times in their lives.

In this way, you could say it is a blessing to suffer. Because of our suffering, we get the privilege of comforting others in their sufferings. In this way, we are doing the ministry of God as the supreme comforter. He is making us more like Him through our suffering and grief. Just as He comforts you through your suffering, He is shaping you to be a comforter to others. This is one reason our James passage tells us to "Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds." Through our suffering and trials, we are made to "be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

Discussion Questions:

How can someone's personal suffering prepare them to minister to others more effectively?

Pray

Pray that God would use your trials and suffering to minister to others.

Sing

There is a Fountain Filled with Blood

THERE IS A FOUNTAIN FILLED WITH BLOOD

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains,
Lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day;
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away:
Wash all my sins away,
Wash all my sins away;
And there may I, though vile as he,
Wash all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood
Shall never lose its pow'r,
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved, to sin no more:
Be saved, to sin no more,
Be saved, to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed Church of God
Be saved to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die:
And shall be till I die,
And shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme,
And shall be till I die.



FRIDAY

Grief is Not Eternal; Christ Is

Read: Revelation 21:4, 1 Thess. 4:13-14

Heartbreak and grief are painful things. They can make life seem or feel unbearable. The good news is that grief is linked only to this side of glory. Jesus said to the thief on the cross “today you will be with me in paradise.” This is encouragement to us! To live in Christ means that we get the honor of living for the glory of Christ while on this side of glory, even amidst our pain and grief. But if “to die is gain,” then we gain so much more once we enter into eternity with Christ. And in that eternity, there is no crying or mourning. Once we enter into the presence of the Lord (after many years in this world of serving Christ) pain will have passed away. This is a glorious truth! Our grief is not forever but is limited to this life. What is going to last forever is our joy found in our Triune God. We get to spend eternity with them where there are no tears, weeping, or pains.

We are a people of hope; hope for an eternal life in Jesus Christ. Although we are a people who will experience grief and grief is real, we are not a people defined by our grief. We are a people defined by our hope in Christ. We have a God of all Comfort (2 Cor. 1:3-4) who comforts us in our distress and pain. We are not a people defined by our fears, regrets, or pain. We are a people defined by the joy that can only be found in Christ. This week we’ve discussed some heaviness, but at the end of the day, the good news is that we have Christ who takes away every pain.

Discussion Questions:

Why is the hope of eternity with Christ such a powerful encouragement during seasons of grief?

Pray

Thank God for giving a joy to us that transcends our circumstances.

Sing

He Lives!

HE LIVES!

I serve a risen Savior,
He's in the world today;
I know that He is living,
Whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy,
I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him
He's always near.

Chorus:

He lives! He lives!
Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me, and talks with me
Along life's narrow way.
He lives! He lives, salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He lives:
He lives within my heart!

Rejoice, rejoice, oh Christian,
Lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek Him,
The help of all who find,
None other is so loving,
So good and kind!



**A gentle answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.
Proverbs 15:1**



CALVARY

BAPTIST CHURCH

Worship

8:30 & 11:00am

Sunday School

10:00am

 CalvaryLeavenworth.com

 913-682-3790

“Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.”

Mark 5:19

