

CORNERSTONE

DISCIPLESHIP

GROUPS

THE PATH TO THE CROSS, part 2
Pastor Andrew Burns
Message from Sunday, March 29, 2026

Opening Prayer

Begin by thanking God for Jesus' willingness to set His face toward Jerusalem and the cross, and ask the Holy Spirit to give fresh revelation as you discuss together.

Key Takeaways

1. **Jesus knew exactly what was coming** - He "set His face to go to Jerusalem" with full knowledge of the suffering ahead
2. **Everything in Scripture has meaning** - Even the donkey, the timing (10th of Nisan), and the location (Gethsemane) carry prophetic significance
3. **Jesus is the final Passover Lamb** - He fulfilled what the sacrificial system pointed to for thousands of years
4. **We are made perfect through His sacrifice** - Forever completely cleansed and perfected (Hebrews 10:14)
5. **Jesus surrendered willingly** - He had the power to escape but chose to submit to God's will

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Text

1. **The Transfiguration Connection:** Pastor Andrew mentioned that Peter, James, and John somehow recognized Moses and Elijah at the transfiguration without ever having seen them. What does this tell us about being in God's presence? Have you experienced revelation when spending time with God?
2. **Prophetic Fulfillment:** Jesus entered Jerusalem on the 10th of Nisan, the same day lambs were selected for Passover. What other "coincidences" in the sermon struck you as divinely orchestrated? Why do these details matter?
3. **The Humble King:** Why did Jesus choose to ride a donkey instead of a war horse? What does this reveal about the nature of His kingdom versus earthly kingdoms?

Personal Reflection

1. **"Set His Face":** Luke 9:51 says Jesus "set His face to go to Jerusalem." What does it mean to "set your face" toward something? Is there something God is calling you to that requires this kind of determined obedience?
2. **The Garden Scene:** In Gethsemane, Jesus could see the torches coming for 10+ minutes but didn't run. He had time to escape but stayed. How does this demonstrate His love for you personally? How does it make you feel?
3. **God's Not Mad at You:** Pastor Andrew emphasized that God doesn't remember our sins (Hebrews 10:17). Do you find it difficult to believe this? What makes it hard to accept that God is not mad at you?

Application

1. **The Hallel Praise:** The crowd shouted "Hosanna" (meaning "Save us, we pray"). When they were silent, Jesus said the rocks would cry out. How can you be more intentional about declaring who Jesus is this week?
2. **Communion Significance:** We're told that every time we take communion, we "proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." How can understanding the depth of what Jesus endured change how you approach communion?
3. **Healing the Enemy:** Jesus healed the ear of the servant who came to arrest Him. What does this teach us about how we should treat those who oppose us or mean us harm?

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge

Choose one of these to practice this week:

Option 1: Gratitude Journal

Write down specific things Jesus' sacrifice has given you (forgiveness, healing, righteousness, peace, Holy Spirit, etc.). Thank Him for each one.

Option 2: Share the Story

Tell someone this week about what Jesus did for them. Use the events of Holy Week as your framework.

Key Scriptures to Study

- **Zechariah 9:9** - Prophecy of the humble king
- **Psalms 118:25-26** - The Hallel praise
- **Hebrews 10:1-18** - The once-for-all sacrifice
- **Isaiah 53** - The suffering servant
- **Luke 22:39-53** - Gethsemane and the arrest

Closing Reflection

Read Isaiah 53:4-6 together as a group:

"Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. Yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions. He was crushed for our iniquities. Upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed."

Silent Reflection (2-3 minutes): Let each person silently thank Jesus for what He endured on their behalf.

Prayer Points

- Thank Jesus for setting His face toward Jerusalem for us
- Ask God to reveal more of His love through the events of Holy Week
- Pray for anyone in the group struggling to believe they are fully forgiven
- Pray for opportunities to share the story of Jesus this week
- Thank God that we are "forever completely cleansed and perfected"



He was not powerless.
He surrendered willingly.



Pastor Andrew Burns

News & Events

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Pastor Andrew is completing the series "The Path To The Cross" today. These messages will follow the steps of Jesus through pivotal moments leading to the cross and beyond.
- If you've never been Water Baptized, registration is now open.
- Intro to Cornerstone Life registration is open
- Our Ladies Spring Event is May 2. Registration is open!

