

10/04/2020



Good Friday

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.

John 3:16

<https://binged.it/2VeXzMv>

There is a green hill far away,
outside a city wall,
where our dear Lord was crucified
who died to save us all.

We may not know, we cannot tell,
what pains he had to bear,
but we believe it was for us
he hung and suffered there.

He died that we might be forgiven,
he died to make us good,
that we might go at last to heaven,
saved by his precious blood.

There was no other good enough
to pay the price of sin,
he only could unlock the gate
of heaven and let us in.

O dearly, dearly has he loved!
And we must love him too,
and trust in his redeeming blood,
and try his works to do.

The soldiers took Jesus away, removed his clothes and dressed him in a purple robe. On his head they placed a crown of thorns. Mocking him they knelt down before him and said 'Hail, King of the Jews'. As the blood ran down his forehead they made fun of him. Jesus never said a word. Then they took him away and laid a heavy wooden cross on his back.

Jesus was made to carry the cross out of the city gates and up a nearby hill. On the way some of the crowd cheered, others wept.

On top of the hill Jesus was put on the cross and nails were put through his hands and feet. The cross was raised up. Two robbers were also put on either side of Jesus. One of the robbers was feeling afraid. Jesus spoke to him and comforted him.

Jesus' mother watched him on the cross. He called to one of his friends to look after her now. Many people in the crowd were cruel. They said 'You saved other people, why don't you save yourself now?'

At noon darkness fell on the land. It lasted a few hours. Jesus cried out aloud, 'My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?' In the sadness and the dark, Jesus died.

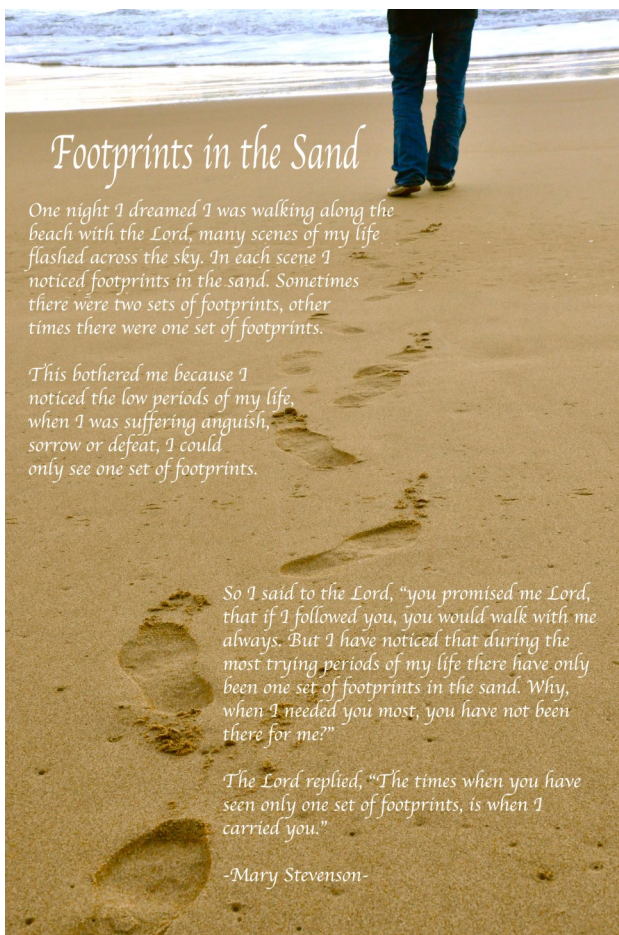


Looking back, looking forward. Every year we congregate at our very own green hill on this beautiful island to look back, to be taken back to a very important moment. When Jesus was put onto the cross to take away our sins. That is truly magical. Jesus, so selflessly, went to the cross to die for us.

This year is a bit different and we unfortunately cannot be together on that green hill. But it doesn't matter. It doesn't change the fact that all those years ago Jesus did something so amazing for us. He died on a cross to forgive all of our sins.

At this time we might feel like we are sacrificing a lot, not being able to see our family and friends, not being able to go about our day to day lives. But what Jesus did all those years ago, he sacrificed his own life for us. However through Jesus suffering, God was always by his side. That's the same when we suffer. God is with us. This reminds me of a poem from my grandparents house: footprints in the sand.

So at this time when we think about Jesus on the cross suffering for our sins. And at this time when we are in this time of unknown, help us to look up and draw on the knowledge that god is there beside us each and every day.



Good Friday Prayer

Dear God,

We remember today, the pain and suffering of the cross, and all that Jesus was willing to endure, so we could be set free. He paid the price, such a great sacrifice, to offer us the gift of eternal life.

Help us never to take for granted this huge gift of love on our behalf. Help us to be reminded of the cost of it all. Forgive us for being too busy, or distracted by other things, for not fully recognising what you freely given, what you have done for us.

Thank you Lord that by your wounds we are healed.

Thank you that because of your huge sacrifice we can live free. Thank you that sin and death have been conquered, and that your Power is everlasting.

Thank you that we can say with great hope, "It is finished..." For we know what's still to come. And death has lost its sting. We praise you for you are making all things new.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen.

If you have some at home, or you can get some, have a hot cross bun and remember how Jesus died on the cross all those years ago to save our sins.



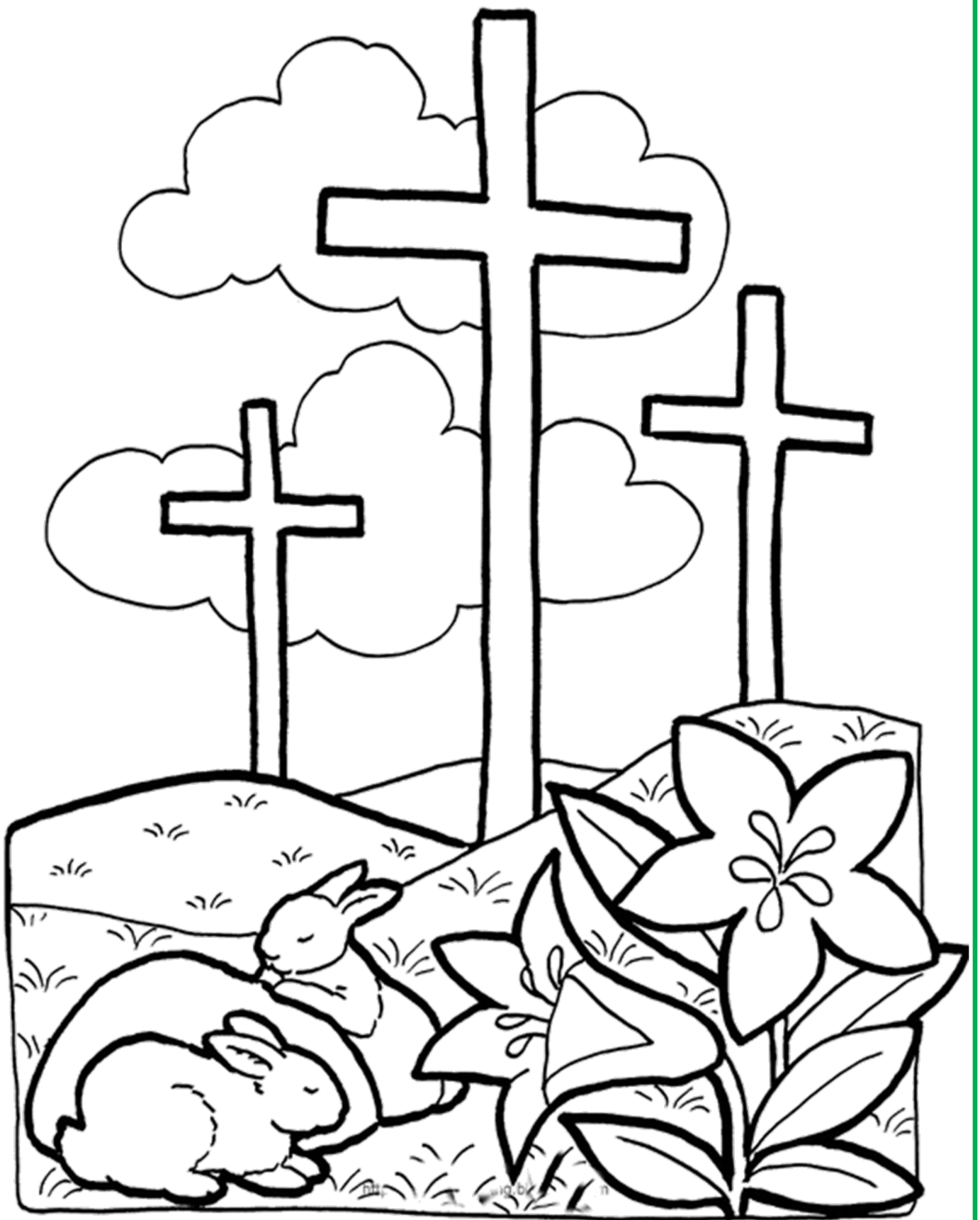
May God's blessing surround you each day.

As we trust in and walk in his way;

May His presence within,

Guard and keep us from sin;

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.

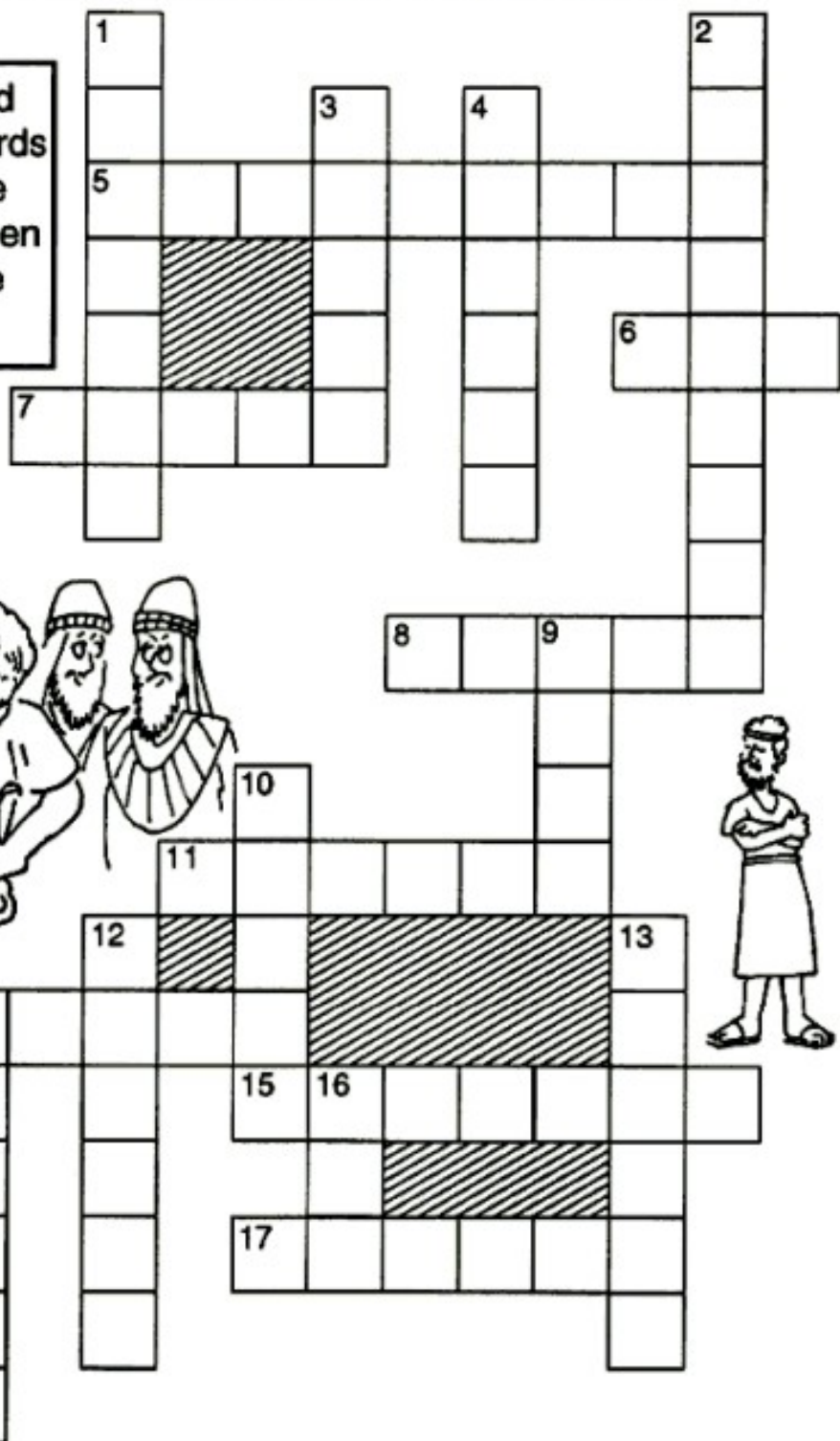


Jesus knew what would happen to Him – what God's plan was. He told His disciples some of it. It was sad news to hear and understand.

Find what Jesus told them by fitting the words from the list into the crossword puzzle. Then transfer them to the numbered lines.

Word List

One
Him
deny
Peter
Jesus
Judas
times
three
crowd
betray
before
rooster
thirty
pieces
silver
Another
disciples
officials



16) _____ of Jesus' 2) _____, 8) _____, would
11) _____ 6) _____ to the 5) _____ for 14D) _____
13) _____ of 4) _____. 1) _____ disciple, 10) _____,
would 9) _____ knowing 7) _____ 14A) _____ 3) _____
17) _____ the 15) _____ 12) _____.