

THE PASSION OF JESUS

Mark 14:1-15:47

Listen, and reflect, on the word of God in this Holy Week.

Thoughts for attentive listening:

What concerns, worries and thoughts are foremost in your mind today? Pray for ears to hear the story and set those aside for a moment.

Through this reading are many different “scenes” – try to identify one that resonates strongly with you. As you reflect this week, reread that section and meditate upon it. What do you see? Hear? Think? Feel? Smell? Taste?

What detail of this week have you paid less attention to over your life? What do you want to know more about? What confuses you? What inspires you?

How has the story of God crucified been part of your story? How does it impact your daily living?

READ. REFLECT. RESPOND. REMEMBER.

This week is an open invitation to reading and reflecting. The questions on the other side of the paper are meant to help with that. I’ve added some additional thoughts below.

Meditation as a Christian practice has a focus on *listening* and being *filled*. The Word of God from the Gospels intends to fill you with the story of God’s work on our behalf to reconcile us to God.

As a practice, it invites you to internalize and personalize the passage. The written word becomes a living word addressed to you. Ponder it in your heart. Apply your senses to the Scripture as well, using your imagination. Smell, sight, touch, taste, feel as all valuable assets in entering the presence of God. For example – just at the beginning of Mark 14 there are many sensory experiences - the smell of perfume at the beginning of verse 14, or the taste of a meal. The position of reclining at a table. Perhaps you imagine how the deal with Judas and the chief priests took place. Was there a handshake? Heavy sighs? The Bible is a story of physical people in a real world, and using our imagination to enter into it is extremely helpful.

Remember:

“Again the high priest asked him, ‘Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?’ ‘I am,’ said Jesus. ‘And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.’” Mark 14:61b-62.