



easter

WITH LF CHURCH

What If Today Changed Your Forever?

A 10-DAY DEVOTIONAL
GUIDE TO EASTER



Day 1: Just Show Up

Scripture: Luke 23:39–43

One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”. But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence? We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

There were three crosses that day.

One man mocked.

One Man saved.

One man simply spoke: “Jesus, remember me.”

The criminal who turned to Jesus had no time to make amends, rebuild his reputation, or prove his sincerity. All he had was one honest moment.

No polished prayer.

No impressive theology.

Just honesty. Just showing up. And somehow, that was enough.

We often believe we must fix ourselves before coming to God, when I get my life together, when I become stronger, when I do better. But the cross tells a different story.

The cross was not a reward for the cleaned-up. It was an invitation for the broken.

That man met Jesus right in the middle of his failure, and Jesus met him there without hesitation.

So what if today isn’t about fixing your life first?

What if it’s about bringing it?

You don’t need to arrive impressive, strong, or certain.

You just need to arrive.

Don’t wait for a better moment.

Just show up.

He is already there.

Reflection Questions

- What has been keeping you from showing up honestly before Jesus?
- Where have you been waiting to “fix yourself” first?

Prayer

Jesus, I'm here. Not polished. Not perfect. Just here. I bring You what I have: my doubts, my fears, my mistakes. Meet me in this moment. Amen.

My Notes

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Day 2: Bring Your Doubts

Scripture: Mark 9:24

Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

That might be one of the most honest prayers in Scripture.

Faith is not the absence of doubt. It is bringing your doubt to the right place.

The criminal on the cross did not have everything figured out. He had likely heard about Jesus. Maybe he had seen the miracles. Maybe he had only heard rumors. But in that final moment, hanging beside a dying Savior, he made a decision to believe, even if his understanding was incomplete.

He didn't say, "I fully comprehend You."

He didn't say, "I have no questions."

He simply said, "Remember me."

Sometimes we think doubt disqualifies us. We imagine that strong Christians don't wrestle. That real faith never questions. That spiritual maturity means certainty.

But the Bible is full of people who wrestled.

Thomas doubted.

David questioned.

Elijah despaired.

Even John the Baptist asked, "Are You the one?"

And none of them were rejected.

Doubt becomes dangerous only when we hide it. When we let it grow in isolation.

When we treat it like something shameful instead of something human.

Jesus is not intimidated by your questions. He is not threatened by your confusion.

He is not disappointed that you don't understand everything.

He would rather have your honest wrestling than your silent pretending.

The criminal's faith may have been small, but it was real. And small faith, placed in the right Savior, is enough.

You do not need perfect faith.

You need surrendered faith.

Bring the parts of you that are unsure. Bring the tension. Bring the places where belief feels fragile.

Jesus can handle it.

Reflection Questions

- Where are you struggling to believe right now?
- Have you been hiding your doubts from God?

Prayer

Jesus, You see my questions. You know where my faith feels weak. I don't want to pretend. Help my unbelief. Meet me in my wrestling and draw me closer to You.
Amen.

My Notes

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Day 3: Bring Your Wounds

Scripture: Psalm 34:18

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

The cross was not neat. It was not clean. It was not dignified.

It was public pain. Open wounds. Exposed suffering.

Sometimes we imagine God as distant from pain, as though suffering creates separation. But the cross proves the opposite. Jesus did not avoid wounds. He entered them.

The criminal beside Him carried visible consequences. But many of us carry invisible ones.

Unspoken betrayal.

Lingering regret.

Words that still echo.

Loss that never fully healed.

And often, we try to manage those wounds quietly. We function. We serve. We show up. But inside, something still aches.

Here's what Easter reminds us:

Your pain does not repel Jesus. It draws Him.

He is not asking you to suppress it. He is not asking you to minimize it. He is not asking you to compare it to someone else's.

He is asking you to bring it.

The criminal didn't pretend he was innocent. He admitted his guilt. But in the middle of that admission, he found mercy.

Sometimes healing begins not when pain disappears, but when pain is finally surrendered.

You don't have to carry it alone anymore.

The same Savior who bore nails can handle your scars.

What wound have you been protecting?

What pain have you been hiding behind strength?

Bring it into the light.

He is near.

Reflection Questions

- What hurt are you still carrying?
- What would it look like to surrender that pain to Jesus?

Prayer

Jesus, You know where I'm wounded. You know the memories that still sting. I don't want to carry this alone anymore. I place my pain in Your hands. Be close to me. Heal what I cannot fix. Amen.

My Notes



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Day 4: It's Not Too Late

Scripture: Luke 23:42

“Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

The criminal waited until his final hours.

We don't know his full story. We don't know how many chances he ignored. We don't know how long he resisted. All we know is this, he turned to Jesus at the very end.

And Jesus did not hesitate.

There was no lecture.

No “Why now?”

No “You should have come sooner.”

Just grace.

“Today you will be with Me in paradise.”

We live with the quiet fear that we've waited too long. That we've crossed some invisible line. That we've exhausted heaven's patience.

But the cross stands as proof that grace does not expire.

It does not shrink over time.

It does not weaken because of delay.

It does not calculate how long you wandered.

It responds to surrender.

Maybe you once walked closely with God and drifted. Maybe you've spent years building a life far from Him. Maybe you've told yourself, “It wouldn't be real if I came back now.”

But the criminal's story says otherwise.

He didn't clean up decades of choices. He didn't reverse consequences. He didn't earn restoration.

He turned.

And that turn changed everything.

God is not measuring how late you arrived. He is looking at whether you are willing to come.

If your heart is stirring right now, that's not guilt. That's invitation.

It's not too late for you.

Not too late for forgiveness.

Not too late for restoration.

Not too late for eternity to shift.

The door of grace is still open.

Reflection Questions

- Where have you believed it's too late for you?
- What is one step of turning you can take today?

Prayer

Jesus, I don't want to delay any longer. If Your grace was enough for him, it's enough for me. I turn toward You today. Amen.

My Notes



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Day 5: No One Is Too Far Gone

Scripture: Romans 8:1

“Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

That man was condemned by Rome. Publicly judged. Publicly sentenced.

His guilt was visible.

And yet, in the shadow of the cross, condemnation lost its authority.

Shame tells us we are defined by our worst decision.

Grace tells us we are defined by our Savior.

Some of us aren't wrestling with doubt, we're wrestling with identity.

“I'm the one who messed up.”

“I'm the one who failed.”

“I'm the one who should have known better.”

The enemy wants your mistake to become your name.

But Jesus calls you something else.

Forgiven.

Redeemed.

Beloved.

The criminal did not suddenly become innocent. He became forgiven.

There is a difference.

Forgiveness doesn't rewrite your past, it rewrites your future.

You may carry consequences. You may carry scars. But you no longer have to carry condemnation.

The cross absorbed it.

The voice that accuses you is not the voice of Jesus.

If He could look at a dying criminal and promise paradise, He can look at you and speak hope over your story.

You are not too far gone.

You are not beyond redemption.

You are not outside the reach of mercy.

The cross is closer than your shame.

Reflection Questions

- What accusation keeps replaying in your mind?
- What would it look like to let Jesus have the final word?

Prayer

Jesus, I'm tired of living under condemnation. Speak a new identity over me. Help me believe what You say is true. Amen.

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Day 6: Today Means Today

Scripture: Luke 23:43

Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Not someday.

Not eventually.

Not after you prove it.

Today.

We often postpone transformation. We think change happens gradually, slowly, after enough discipline.

But eternity shifted for that man in a single moment.

He was still on a cross.

Still in pain.

Still dying.

Yet Jesus said paradise began that day.

Sometimes we assume that when God moves, circumstances must immediately change. But often, what changes first is not our surroundings, it's our standing.

You may still be walking through difficulty. You may still be in the middle of something unresolved.

But when Jesus says "today," He means your identity changes. Your future changes. Your hope changes.

Salvation is not a distant promise. It is a present reality.

What if you stopped waiting for everything to feel different before believing something has changed?

What if you trusted that Jesus is working right now?

Today means grace is available.

Today means hope is active.

Today means heaven is not waiting on your improvement.

It's responding to your surrender.

Don't push off what God is offering in this moment.

Today matters.

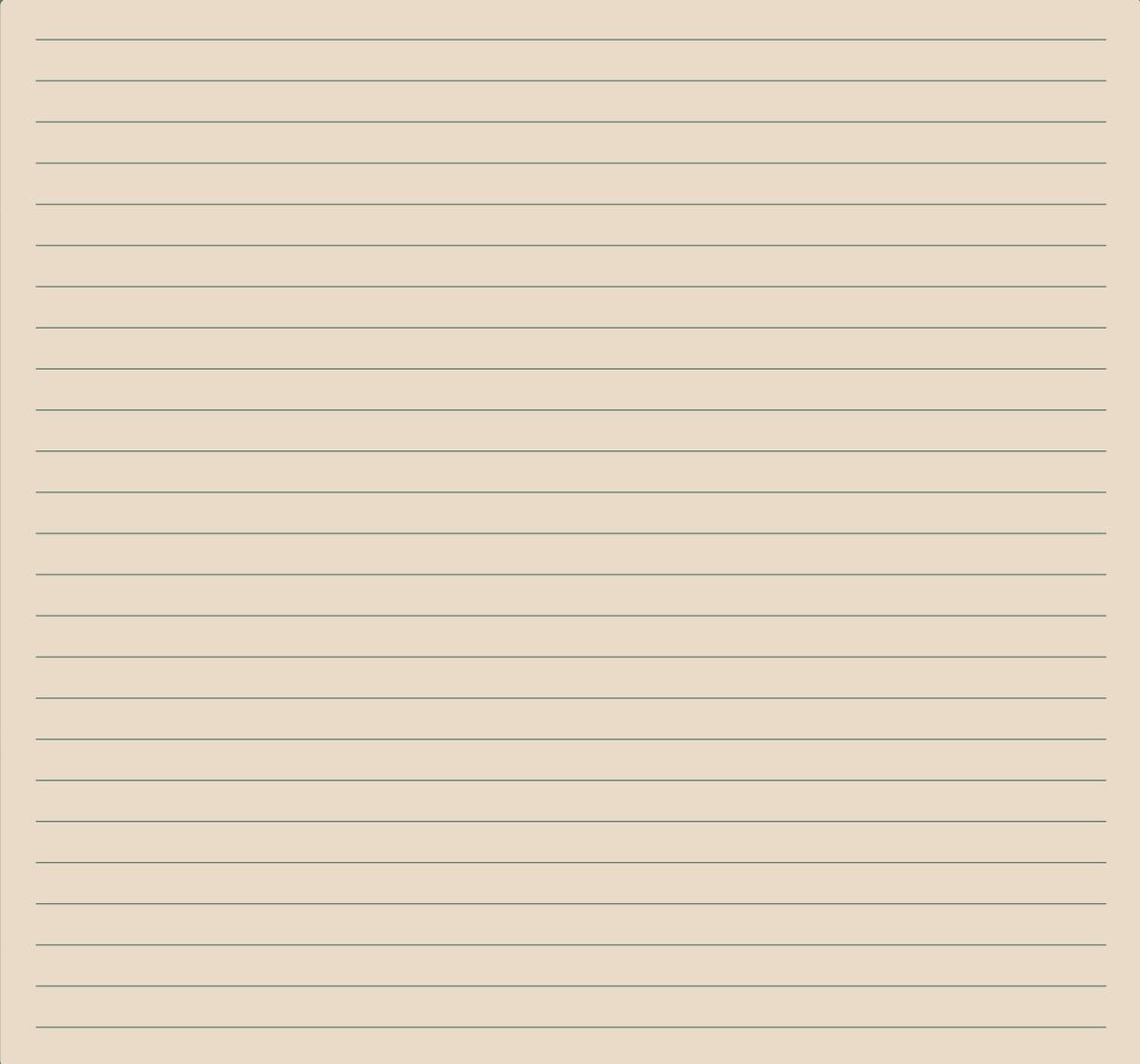
Reflection Questions

- What have you been postponing spiritually?
- What would it look like to respond today?

Prayer

Jesus, I don't want to delay obedience. I trust that what You begin in me today will shape my forever. Amen.

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Day 7: Mercy Before Performance

Scripture: Ephesians 2:8–9

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast.

The criminal had no time to serve.

No time to volunteer.

No time to repay anyone.

Just mercy.

We live in a performance-driven world. Work hard. Prove yourself. Earn approval.

And sometimes we quietly apply that same system to God.

“If I read enough...”

“If I pray consistently...”

“If I serve faithfully...”

Then maybe I’ll deserve His closeness.

But the cross dismantles that idea.

Grace is not wages. It is a gift.

The criminal didn’t earn paradise. He received it.

We do not obey to earn love. We obey because we are loved.

Performance exhausts.

Mercy restores.

When you believe you must earn God’s acceptance, you live anxious. When you receive His mercy, you live secure.

Security changes everything.

You don’t fight for approval, you fight from it.

You don’t strive for belonging, you live from it.

The cross settled your worth.

Stop trying to improve what Jesus already declared valuable.

Reflection Questions

- Where are you trying to earn what Jesus already paid for?
- How would your faith look different if you rested in mercy?

Prayer

Jesus, thank You that I don't have to earn Your love. Teach me to live from grace, not for it. Amen.

My Notes



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Day 8: A Conversation That Changes Everything

Scripture: Revelation 3:20

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.”

A cross became a meeting place.

In the middle of chaos and pain, a conversation unfolded that changed eternity.

It wasn't dramatic. It wasn't long. It was personal.

Sometimes we underestimate the power of a single honest conversation with God.

We assume transformation requires a conference, a breakthrough moment, a loud experience.

But for that man, it was a sentence.

“Remember me.”

Maybe today Jesus is closer than you think. Not waiting for a performance, waiting for honesty.

What would you say if you stopped pretending?

What confession is sitting in your chest?

What request have you been afraid to voice?

Jesus is not distant from you. He is present and listening.

The criminal's story reminds us that even in your darkest hour, you are not too far for a conversation.

And sometimes one conversation changes everything.

Don't let this moment pass quietly.

Speak.

Reflection Questions

- If this were your most honest prayer, what would you say?
- What have you been afraid to tell Jesus?

Prayer

Jesus, I open the door of my heart. I don't want surface-level faith. I want real conversation with You. Speak, and help me listen. Amen.

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Day 9: Paradise Before the Pain Ends

Scripture: John 16:33

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

The man still died that day.

The pain didn't disappear. The cross didn't vanish.

But his destination changed.

We sometimes assume that if God forgives us, life will immediately smooth out. But forgiveness doesn't always remove difficulty, it transforms it.

Jesus did not promise escape. He promised presence.

“In this world you will have trouble... but take heart.”

Hope is not the absence of suffering. It is the assurance of eternity.

The criminal experienced peace before his circumstances improved. Paradise was promised before pain ended.

That means your hope does not depend on everything getting better first.

You can have peace in uncertainty.

You can have confidence in struggle.

You can have joy in surrender.

Because your forever is secure.

Easter reminds us that suffering does not get the final word.

Resurrection does.

Reflection Questions

- Where do you need hope right now?
- How does eternity shift your current perspective?

Prayer

Jesus, even when my circumstances feel heavy, anchor me in the promise of eternity. Let Your peace steady my heart. Amen.

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Day 10: What If Today Changed Your Forever?

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 6:2

“For he says, “In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.” I tell you, now is the time of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation.”

Not tomorrow.

Not when you feel ready.

Now.

The criminal’s story forces a question:

What if today changed your forever?

Not because you figured everything out.

Not because you became perfect.

But because you surrendered.

Every eternity-shifting story has a moment.

A decision.

A turning.

A yes.

Maybe this is yours.

Maybe you’ve been reading these pages and feeling something stir. Maybe you’ve known about Jesus but never truly entrusted your life to Him. Maybe you walked away and need to come home.

The invitation remains open.

Grace is not locked in history. It is active right now.

The cross still speaks.

Mercy still saves.

Hope still restores.

What if today became the line in your story where everything changed?

You don’t need long speeches. You don’t need religious language.

You just need surrender.

And surrender changes forever.

Reflection Questions

- What is your next step with Jesus?
- If today were the turning point, what would that look like?

Prayer

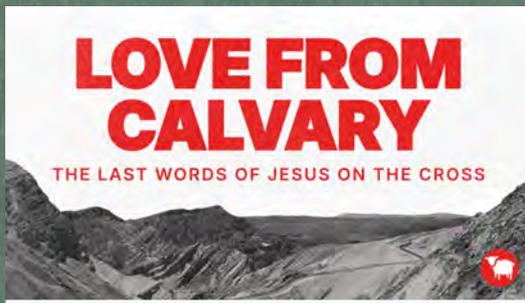
Jesus, I say yes. I surrender my past, my present, and my future to You. Let today mark the beginning of forever with You. Amen.

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Extra Resources

Bible Plans: Here are some Bible plans if you want to go deeper in your faith.



LOVE FROM CALVARY
THE LAST WORDS OF JESUS ON THE CROSS

[CLICK HERE](#)



READY AS YOU ARE
A 5-DAY PLAN TO DISCOVERING YOUR GOD-GIVEN PURPOSE

[CLICK HERE](#)



PEACEFUL PROMISES
10 Days in the Psalms

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HOLY WEEK
BY LUKE CUNNINGHAM

[CLICK HERE](#)

WORSHIP SONGS



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easter

WITH LF CHURCH

We would love for you to join us this Easter at our church! This is a place where you'll feel welcomed and loved, and you'll have a lot of fun too.

Learn more:

www.lifefellowship.tv/easter