

Good Friday Home Worship Household Guide

How to Use this Worship Guide:

- This worship guide is just a guide. You know your household the best. Adapt it as necessary for the ages in your home and the resources available. Let your creativity drive your worship experience.
- Read through this guide prior to using the experience with your household. Have it available to read through as you go through the experience.
- Prepare the necessary materials.
- When you are ready to use this worship experience, encourage others in your household to set devices aside.
- This worship experience may take over an hour. If you are short on time, or have little children, you may decide to make it a full day experience. Do one section each hour from noon to 7pm.
- We want to hear from you! Share your cross pictures and experiences with us at info@livelifetogether.com or [facebook.com/livelifetogether](https://www.facebook.com/livelifetogether).

What you will do during this worship experience:

During the experience, you have two options.

1. Use the *Interactive Cross Printables* to tape together a large cross. Your entire household will interact with portions of this cross together during the worship experience.

OR

2. Staple the *Interactive Cross Printables* into a booklet. Create one for each person in your household

Materials Needed:

- Interactive Cross Printables (found in the pages of this PDF)
- Tape
- Bibles
- Markers and pens
- Computer or phone in which to play YouTube songs
- Coins
- Bowl of water and paper towels
- Pieces of thin rope, string or twine
- Dry erase marker, or sticky notes
- Wooden board, nails, hammer OR red stamp pad or marker
- Candle
- Newspapers or news magazines (optional)

Good Friday Home Worship: Directions and Leader's Guide

Preparation:

- Either tape together the 6 *Interactive Cross Printables* or staple those pages into a booklet.
- Dim the lights in your home.
- Have the materials available in a central location.
- Bring up the YouTube videos to be ready to play.
- Write the messages for the "DENIAL" station on your bathroom mirror.
- Note: When you are finished with this worship experience, hang your finished cross on the wall or lay it on a table. On Easter morning, turn the cross over, revealing a solid white cross. Decorate it with pictures of new life, words of praise, and celebration of our Risen Savior.
- Tips for parents with young children: Read the various parts of scripture from a children's Bible, allow your children to draw pictures of their ideas, pick just one main question from each section to discuss.

1: Preparing My Heart

1. Gather those in your household together. Light a central candle. Begin in prayer:
"Dear Heavenly Father,
I thank you from the bottom of my heart that you sent Jesus to walk on this earth and to suffer and die in my place. Please help me now as I take this journey to the cross. Open my heart and my mind to what you want to teach me. Meet me here. In your precious name I pray. Amen"
2. Read Psalm 46:10. Say: *"Sometimes we're so caught up with living life that we miss God. Let's spend 5 minutes in silence. Breathe deeply. Allow your to-do lists and worries to drift away. Be still in the presence of God."*
3. After 5 minutes, play the following song. Search YouTube for: "Go to Dark Gethsemane" by St. John's Complaine Choir.

2: Betrayal

1. Read John 13:21-30 and Matthew 26:14-16
2. Give each person a few coins to hold in their hands.
3. Use the discussion questions on the "Betrayal" section of your large cross, or in your booklet, to reflect on Jesus' betrayal.
4. On the "Betrayal" section of your cross or booklet, use markers to write or draw images of things that you seek instead of Jesus. What things do you idolize or give more importance to than Jesus? Have each person tape their coins to the paper.

3. Arrest

1. Ask your household to use black and gray markers to draw pictures of chains on the "Arrest" section of your cross/booklet while you read John 18:1-11.
2. Talk about the discussion questions on the "Arrest" page of your cross/booklet.
3. Use red marker to write words that describe the various things that the world and humanity need to be freed from.
4. Give each person a string/rope/twine. Encourage them to tie knots in their string as they silently confess those things that they personally need to be freed from.
5. Attach the strings to your cross while you listen to *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*. Search YouTube for: "Out of the Dust/ How Deep the Father's Love for Us (live acoustic)" by Out of the Dust Music OFFICIAL

4: Trial

1. Have a bowl of water and towel available.
2. Read Matthew 26:59-64, Matthew 27: 11-26, John 18:33-37
3. Discuss the questions on the "Trial" section of your cross/booklet.
4. Ask your household to consider: *What lies have I been believing instead of seeking Truth? In what ways have I washed my hands of Jesus? Is there anywhere in my life where I follow "mob mentality" instead of standing for Truth?*
5. Write those lies on the "Trial" section of your cross/booklet.
6. As each person washes their hands in the bowl of water, invite them to shed those lies and invite Jesus to illuminate Truth.

5: Denial

1. Prior to this station, use dry erase markers or sticky notes to put the following phrases on a mirror(s) in your home.
 - a. Weren't you with Jesus?/Are you a friend of Jesus? Do you know Jesus?
2. Invite those in your household to visit the mirrors where you wrote the phrases. Ask them to pause, look in the mirror, read the question, and consider their response.
3. Read Matthew 26:66-75 and discuss Peter's denial of Jesus using the questions on the "Denial" section of your cross.
4. How does Jesus see you, in spite of your betrayal and denial? Go back and look in the mirror again. Erase the questions and write,
 - a. Child of God, Loved, Forgiven, Masterpiece, Redeemed, Chosen, Friend
5. Listen to the song, "*Jesus Paid it All*" as you fill the "Denial" section of your cross/booklet with words that describe who God sees you as, because of the cross.
 - a. Search YouTube for "Jesus Paid it all by Reawaken (Acoustic Version)" by Reawaken Hymns

6: Crucifixion

1. Read Matthew 27:32-44.
2. Read the statement on the “Crucifixion” section of your cross/booklet. Try to imagine yourself in Jesus’ place - what were you feeling? What were you experiencing? Use black and gray marker to cover the “Crucifixion” section with words that describe what Jesus endured on the cross.
3. Give a few minutes of silence for everyone to consider their role in placing Jesus on the cross. What confession is God calling you to make today?
4. Make that confession, admitting your need for a Savior, as you do either (or both) of the following:
 - a. Take turns hammering nails into a piece of wood
 - b. Use a stamp pad or red marker to ink your thumb. Make thumbprints on the “Crucifixion” section of your cross/booklet.
5. As you are completing #4, listen to “*O Sacred Head Now Wounded.*”
 - a. Search YouTube for “O Sacred Head Now Wounded by Reawaken (Acoustic Easter Hymn)” by Reawaken Hymns.

7. Compassion

1. As a group, talk about the things/situations/problems of our world that break your heart. Say:
 - a. *God is a God of compassion. The things that break our hearts break his as well. In the midst of his worst moments of pain and despair, Jesus was love. His compassionate nature is still visible on the worst of all days.*
2. Read Luke 23:26-43 and John 19:25-27. Ask: *What do you notice about Jesus in these passages? What were his priorities in the midst of suffering?*
3. Either look through newspapers/magazines or just discuss - *What things, in our world, is breaking God’s heart today?* Cut those articles out and tape them to the “Compassion” section of your cross/booklet. You can also just write down the examples instead of cutting out articles.
4. Ask, *What can Jesus bring to these situations because of His victory over death? What is God’s desire for our world?* Use brightly colored markers to write those words over the articles/issues you wrote down. (Ex: peace, love, healing, etc.)
5. Pray for the countries/people/situations/issues that you put on this section of your cross.

8. Death

1. Read Luke 23:44-49.
2. Listen to “*Were You There?*” Search YouTube for “Were You There // feat. Andrea Thomas - #VIGIL” by 4PM Media.
3. Blow out the candle.

Interactive Cross Printables

Directions (for large paper cross):

- Print the following 6 pages one sided, on standard sized white paper (8.5 x 11in).
- Lay the first four sections (Betrayal, Arrest, Trial and Denial) in a vertical column on the floor.
 - Tape the bottom of the “Betrayal” sheet to the top of the “Arrest” sheet.
 - Tape the bottom of the “Arrest” sheet to the top of the “Trial” sheet.
 - Tape the bottom of the “Trial” sheet to the top of the “Denial” sheet.
- Lay the “Crucifixion” sheet, horizontally, to the left of the “Arrest” sheet. Tape at the seam.
- Lay the “Compassion” sheet, horizontally, to the right of the “Arrest” sheet. Tape at the seam.
- Flip the cross over. Tape along the seams on the reverse side of the cross.

BETRAYAL

How could Judas betray Jesus, his friend, for money?

How do you think Judas felt when he looked at the coins in his hand and realized what he had done?

What does it look like to betray Jesus in our own lives? What things (material, time, etc.) do we give priority to over Jesus?

Is your own heart tempted to betray Jesus over material things?

ARREST

Even though Jesus could have given the word and overpowered all the guards, he let himself be bound and led away. He chose to submit to the difficult way of the cross with every step He took. He **chose to be bound** so that **you could be free**. He chose to be tied up and led away so that you could be free from the things that so easily bind you.

What is binding you? Worry? Anxiety? Habits? Addictions? Patterns? Thoughts? **What do you wish to be free of?**

Read Isaiah 44:22 and John 18:37

TRIAL

Who is Jesus? This was the question of the day. Some were threatened by His claims. Some considered him a crazy man. Others were interested in the big show unfolding before. Still others were able to sense there was a truth to His claims of being God's Son, the Messiah. **How did Jesus respond when asked who He was?**

Read John 14:6 and John 18:37. Who is Jesus? What does that mean?

Consider Pilate for a moment. You find no fault in the man before you, but the mob rages just outside your door. You succumb to the lie – the lie that there is no right or safe decision, the lie that this is not your doing but instead the responsibility lies with the crowd, the lie that you have no power in this situation. **You wash your hands of the mess and dismiss the Truth.**

DENIAL

Peter is watching his dearest friend be arrested, beaten, tried, and sentenced to death. He knows the accusations are unjust. And the fear creeps in. The man who, just 24 hours prior, defended Jesus with a sword **must now decide if fear or trust will win.** And to his own deep sorrow and regret, fear wins.

Are you ever like Peter? Have you, too, “followed at a distance” when given an opportunity to stand with Jesus? **If others were to look at you, would they be able to say, “I can tell you have been with Jesus.”?**

CRUCIFIXION

Jesus died a brutal death on a Roman cross, an instrument of torture. Not only was the physical pain real, but it was endured as he was being mocked, spit upon, and all dignity stripped away. **The sin of all human beings made Jesus go to the cross**, not the Roman soldiers who arrested and beat him. **His love for sinful human beings, for each of us, held him there.** He could have answered the taunts by calling the angels of heaven to bring him down, but he didn't. **He chose to stay.**

COMPASSION