

Holy Week Devotionals 2026

Parents of 1-6th grade kids: We encourage you to use these devotionals for your own growth first, and then to help your kids grow—just like the safety instructions on an airline flight: “secure your own oxygen mask before assisting others.” We suggest you use the main devotionals for your own study, and the “**For Families**” sections to guide your kids in a simpler look at the Holy Week story.

Monday

A Den of Robbers

Jesus was staying with friends in a town close to Jerusalem, called Bethany, going back and forth each day. The next day when he came back to Jerusalem, he went to the temple. The temple was the most important place in the city, the place where God met with his people. It's where they brought their sacrifices to offer to God. It's where the priests did their work to follow the Lord's instructions to keep the temple holy and pure for his presence to stay with them. When Jesus walked in, he saw business being done - people selling doves for sacrifices, exchanging Roman money for temple money, and making a profit. Just like the day before, he felt a strong emotion - but this time, it was anger. He started knocking over the tables and carts, interrupting business and causing quite a scene. He quoted from two Old Testament prophets: Isaiah and Jeremiah. Both of these prophets were known for the way they warned Israel about rejecting God. Jesus saw it happening, and he knew that even though he was God's son, sent for them, they were just about to reject him too.

Read: Isaiah 56:1-8; Jeremiah 7:1-15

Context:

Jesus quoted from these two passages when he ran the moneychangers out of the temple. **Isaiah 56:7** - “*my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples,*” and **Jeremiah 7:11** - “*has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes?*” Isaiah was saying that even foreigners who were not part of Israel would be able to belong to God if they followed him. God's purpose in giving Israel his presence in the temple was for Israel to draw all people to him through justice and mercy. Jeremiah was saying that God would soon destroy the temple because people were unfaithful to him, worshiped other gods, and yet still came and pretended to worship in his temple.

1. What distractions can keep you from genuine worship?
2. Why do you think believers often fall short to fulfill their role as a witness to the nations?
3. How is God leading you to take part in drawing all nations to him?

For Families:

Read together: Mark 11: 15- 19, Luke 19: 45-47

1. What town was Jesus visiting in today's reading?
2. Where was the temple located?
3. Why was the temple the most important place in the city?
4. What were the people doing in the temple that made Jesus so angry?
5. How do you think you would respond to this situation?