



Daily Devotions 13-17 April 2020: Easter Week

Each day there is a reading from the psalms, a prayer, and a reading from Peter's first letter. I suggest

- starting with the psalm,
- saying the Lord's Prayer (on your own or with others, depending on whom you are with),
- then reading from 1 Peter,
- and then closing in prayer. You can use Psalm 124:8 if that is easier than finding your own words.

'Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth'

I've provided some very brief explanations of the verses which may be helpful. If you're leading worship with your family, then by all means either ignore, read or expand on these as you prefer. Families may like to discuss the verses together, but this is optional – it will work well for some families and less so for others.

Psalm 118 is a great Easter Psalm. Like so many of the psalms, it is all about Easter though written long beforehand. This psalm is particularly clearly focussed on the deliverance the Father gave to Jesus on Easter Sunday, and how that deliverance is then available for all his people to follow.

1 Peter is Peter's first circular letter to the whole Church. The first part of chapter one is about the incredible blessings that Christians have received through the resurrection of Jesus. Though only one or two verses is focussed on each day, if you have time I recommend reading the whole of verses 3-9 at least once during the week, and every day if you have time.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Date	13-Apr	14-Apr	15-Apr	16-Apr	17-Apr
Psalm	118:1-4	118:5-7	118:8-13	118:14-21	118:22-29
Things to notice in Psalm	<i>This is a psalm about God's faithfulness - both to the High Priest (the house of Aaron) and to the people. Because it is about what God did for Jesus, our High Priest - and so what he does for us.</i>	<i>Jesus called to the Father to rescue him from his sufferings and death - and he did. Because the Father was Jesus' helper, so he will be ours and rescue us too.</i>	<i>All the nations surrounded Jesus on Good Friday - the Jews and the Romans, representing all the gentile world - But the God cut them off and rescued him.</i>	<i>All these verses were said first by Jesus about Easter Sunday - and so then we can say them too. V19-20: the Father opened the gate for Jesus, and so the righteous can now go through it too.</i>	<i>Jesus is the stone that the builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone. He is the festal sacrifice, who has made God's light to shine upon us.</i>
Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer	Lord's Prayer
Reading	1 Peter 1:3-4	1 Peter 1:5	1 Peter 1:6-7	1 Peter 1:8	1 Peter 1:9
Things to notice in 1 Peter	<i>Jesus' resurrection has given us a new hope - of an inheritance that will last forever.</i>	<i>Though it can be hard to be a Christian now, God is guarding us until our salvation is revealed when Jesus returns.</i>	<i>Hard time now are in fact a cause for joy - because God uses them to demonstrate the genuineness of our faith.</i>	<i>So we rejoice in Jesus and love him, even though we cannot see him now.</i>	<i>The result of this all will be salvation - from God's judgment, and from the power of our sins, so that we will enter Jesus' eternal kingdom.</i>
Closing prayer	Psalm 124:8	Psalm 124:8	Psalm 124:8	Psalm 124:8	Psalm 124:8