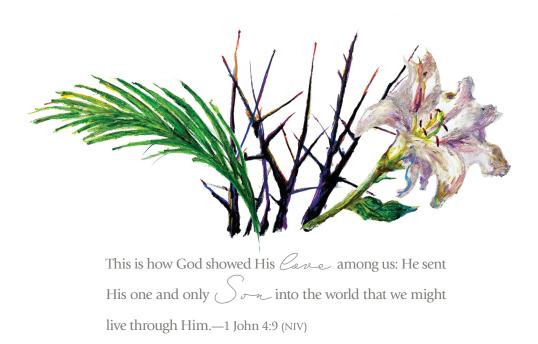


# OUR KING has come.

THE STORY OF Jeoux PART 3

STONEBRIAR COMMUNITY CHURCH



When Easter arrives, we reach the climax of Jesus' story, the reason why He came—the cross, the grave, and the empty tomb. As we approach Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday, you're invited to reflect on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

Each day in this journal includes a question and room to write a response. Do not rush to answer. Instead, take time to pray over each question, ask God to search your heart, and seek truth in His Word. Let the wonder of Jesus' story take hold of you.

If you have not done so, trust in Christ today. He offers you complete forgiveness, redemption, and a glorious eternity with Him in Heaven. If you would like prayer or have any questions about being a believer in Christ, please reach out to MelissaR@stonebriar.org.



Think about why Jesus came to earth. What did He come to do?

Jesus' purpose was prophesied for generations and proclaimed at His birth. As the angel said to the shepherds, "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord." (Luke 2:11, NIV)

Jesus Christ, our Savior. The Messiah. The Lord. Everything in Jesus' life was leading up to His ultimate mission—to die as an atoning sacrifice for the sins of the world and be resurrected in glory. In so doing, Jesus defeated sin, death, and the devil, and provided eternal life with God to all who believe in Him.

Jesus came to save us. He showed us the meaning of love. He paid the price for our sins. And He is risen, reigning in victory as King of Kings forevermore. Think about these things as you pray this week, and never forget—Jesus came to offer us eternal life.

> "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have Cife, and have it to the full."

> > -John 10:10 (NIV)



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How does your life demonstrate your faith in Christ?

And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for -2 Corinthians 5:15 (NIV)



How are you reflecting the love of Christ to others?

But if anyone obeys His Word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in  $\mathcal{A}$ : Whoever claims to live in Him must live as Jesus did. -1 John 2:5-6 (NIV)

#### WEEK 1 | DAY 3 HE WORKS IN OUR LIVES.

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In what ways has God worked in Your life in ways only He could do?

The king's heart is like a stream of water directed by the Lord; He guides it wherever He pleases.

-Proverbs 21:1 (NLT)

#### WEEK 1 | DAY 4 HE INSTRUCTS US TO SERVE.

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How do you serve others for the glory of the Lord?

For you have been called to live in *Preedom*, my brothers and sisters.

But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature.

Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in Cave.

-Galatians 5:13 (NLT)

#### WEEK 1 | DAY 5 HE TRANSFORMS US THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

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In what ways are you living differently than others as a result of your faith in Jesus?

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ

has become a new person.

The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

-2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)



As you consider all Christ has forgiven you for, is there someone you need ask forgiveness from or someone you need to forgive?

... be kind to each other, tenderhearted, *forgiving* one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

-Ephesians 4:32 (NLT)

#### WEEK 1 | DAY 7 HE COMMANDS DISCIPLESHIP.

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Who do you need to share the Gospel with?

A third time He asked Him, "Simon son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was hurt that Jesus asked the question a third time. He said,

"Lord, You know everything. You know that I love You."

Jesus said, "Then feed My sheep .... "

-John 21:17 (NLT)



A perfect life. As foretold, our King was born into time, growing and learning, teaching, ministering, and healing—an innocent man now scourged, beaten, and suffering amidst a crowd of scoffers. As Jesus hung on the cross, His last guttural cry was, "My God, why have You forsaken Me?" Being coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, Jesus had known unity and Oneness. He cried out because He was experiencing what is rightfully due to all of sinful mankind—separation from God.

Though man has attempted to communicate the horrors of Hell through word and paint, the starkest explanation is an existence without the presence of God. Think upon what God is. Hope. Deliverance. Love. Righteousness. Joy. Peace.

Without Him, there is no deliverance. No end to pain and suffering. No escape. No light to break the darkness. Jesus willingly entered this shadow—a true death suffered so that we would not have to. He did it knowingly and willingly, a sacrifice of love made so that people would never need to suffer the absence of God.

... Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you for sake me?").

-Matthew 27:46 (NIV)

#### WEEK 2 | DAY 1 HIS SACRIFICE OFFERS SALVATION.

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Who do you need to pray for regarding salvation?

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. The gray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior, Who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. -1 Timothy 2:1-4 (NLT)

#### WEEK 2 | DAY 2 HIS PROMISE GIVES JOY.

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When thinking about what you have been saved from, how can you exhibit His joy daily?

But let all who take refuge in You rejace;

let them sing joyful praises forever.

Spread Your protection over them,

that all who love Your name may be filled with joy.

-Psalm 5:11 (NLT)

#### WEEK 2 | DAY 3 HIS PRESENCE PROVIDES PEACE.

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How are you living with the perfect peace that only comes from our God?

... do not be anxious about anything, but in everything

by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving

let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,

will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

-Philippians 4:6-7 (ESV)

#### WEEK 2 | DAY 4 HIS CARE GIVES COMFORT.

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How have you experienced comfort that could only be from the Lord?

In peace I will lie down and sleep,

for you alone, O Lord, will keep me & a fe.

-Psalm 4:8 (NLT)

#### WEEK 2 | DAY 5 HIS LIFE OFFERS HOPE AND HUMILITY.

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How does knowing what Jesus did for you encourage and humble you?

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy

and to walk humber y with your God.

-Micah 6:8 (NIV)

#### WEEK 2 | DAY 6 HIS EXPERIENCE PROVIDES PERSPECTIVE.

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How does reflecting on what you have been saved from put the trials of your life into perspective?

... our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed ... in hope that the creation itself will be *Ciberrated* from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. —Romans 8:18–21 (NIV)

#### WEEK 2 | DAY 7 HIS PRESENCE WILL NEVER FADE.

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What does it mean to you that you are never alone and never forsaken by God?

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...

## WHEN HE RETURNS

The story doesn't end with Christ conquering sin and death by raising from the dead. At any time, He is coming back for His church—all people who have placed their trust in Him for forgiveness. Our hearts long to be in the presence of our blessed Savior forevermore.

Scripture tells us to watch and be ready, for He could arrive at any time. Are you watching? Are you ready?

Look up! Today could be the day!

For the Lard Himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord Jarwer. -1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 (NLT)

#### WEEK 3 | DAY 1

HE WILL RETURN.

How do you live your life in the hope of Christ's return?

It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the

glary of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ...

-Titus 2:12-13 (NIV)

#### WEEK 3 | DAY 2 HE WILL PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU IN HEAVEN.

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What does the hope of Heaven mean to you?

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and *peace* in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in *hepe*.

-Romans 15:13 (ESV)

#### WEEK 3 | DAY 3 HE IS WORTHY OF PRAISE.

Why is our God worthy of all praise?

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I will exalt you, my God and King

and prairie Your name forever and ever.

I will praise You every day; yes, I will praise You forever.

Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise!

No one can measure His greatness.

-Psalm 145:1-3 (NLT)

#### WEEK 3 | DAY 4 HE IS FAITHFUL.

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In what areas of your life is God asking you to trust Him more?

Those who know Your name trust in You,

for You, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek You.

-Psalm 9:10 (NIV)

#### WEEK 3 | DAY 5 HE WANTS A RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU.

In what ways can you improve your prayer life?

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In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to *prograge* for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

-Romans 8:26-27 (NIV)

#### WEEK 3 | DAY 6

HE IS ETERNAL.

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How do you regularly reflect on the eternal hope you have through Christ?

May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, Who loved us and by His grace gave us *termal* encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

-2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 (NIV)



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What are you most looking forward to in Heaven?

"Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are *Cessed* by My Father, inherit the Kingdom

prepared for you from the creation of the world . . . "

-Matthew 25:34 (NIV)



Our King *has come*... and He is coming back. In His love for us, He died for us and conquered death. His resurrection is our hope to one day join Him as believers. And living by the hope, we are to continue as His disciples, praying, serving, and sharing the Good News. Christmas and Easter will pass each year, but His story is eternal—tell it. Believe it. Live it. May the Lord—our *King*—bless you and keep you all of your days.

"... Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands

I have given you. And be sure of this:

I am with you a Curay s, even to the end of the age."

-Matthew 28:20 (NLT)

If you would like prayer or have any questions about being a believer in Christ, please reach out to MelissaR@stonebriar.org.

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### FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONE & ONLY SON, THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL NOT PERISH BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

-John 3:16 (NIV)



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