

April 09 | Sunday

Creed: What Christians Believe and Why

Read [Luke 19:28-44](#)



10 | Mon – Jesus’ final Monday | Read [Mark 11:11-19](#)

How would you spend your time if you knew that you had seven days left to live? Jesus knew. On Sunday he had been welcomed into Jerusalem with cheers and an impromptu parade but on Monday he went back to the Holy City to address the condition of the Temple. Is there a correlation? If you are God’s temple - as Paul says in 2 Cor. 3:16 - and Jesus came to visit you today, what areas of your life might he need to set in order?

11 | Tue – Jesus’ final Tuesday | Read [Mark 11:27 - 12:44](#)

On Tuesday, Jesus was back in the Temple fielding questions from the religious leaders about paying taxes, marriage, his authority to teach, and which was the greatest commandment. Alone with his disciples, he warned them about the difficult days ahead (13:1-36). What kind of questions would you have asked Jesus if you had been there that day?

12 | Wed – Jesus’ final Wednesday | Read [Luke 22:1-6](#)

The plot thickens. The religious leaders hated Jesus for showing publically that their religion did not come from a genuine love for God. And they were fearful of losing their power over the people. Things had escalated to the point that they were looking for a chance to do away with Jesus permanently. Have you ever been betrayed by someone close to you, a Judas? Jesus knows how it feels and offers you his ability to forgive. Will you take him up on it?

13 | Thu – Jesus’ final Thursday | Read [Mark 14:12-50](#)

This was Jesus’ last meal, a Passover meal, and final conversations with his disciples (Jn. 13-17) What last words would you leave with those you love? It was also Jesus’ most important conversation with his Father, in the garden, as Jesus agonized over what lay before him (Matt. 26). Does Jesus’ honesty help you understand how honest *you* can be with God about your struggles? In the end, Jesus surrendered to God’s will because he knew his Father was to be trusted. Do you?

14 | Fri – The day Jesus died | Read [Mark 15:1-47](#) and [Matthew 27:45-56](#)

Jesus plainly said that no one took his life from him; he *gave* it willingly, even forgiving those who crucified him. In John 15:13, Jesus said “Greater love has no one than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” Who has loved you like that? And have you ever laid down your life for someone else? Sometimes it is not a physical death but an intentional surrender of your own preferences or self-centered ways. Which would be harder for you?

15 | Sat – Black Saturday | Read [Luke 23:50-56](#), [Psalm 22:1-5](#) and [Isaiah 53](#)

Picture yourself waking up the morning after your best friend has been killed. What would you experience - disbelief, shock, numbness, grief? The disciples were grappling with this tragic turn of events and their loss of hope. It seemed like the end. Was there ever a blacker day in history than the day Jesus’ body was wrapped and laid in a tomb? What is the blackest day you have ever experienced? You know Jesus’ story did not end there. Does that give you hope as you walk through the Black Saturdays of your life? It should - Sunday’s coming!