



28

Victory in Death

Chapter Summary

Led outside the city, Jesus is nailed to a cross between two criminals. Soldiers gamble for His seamless garment while leaders and passers-by mock. Yet even here He intercedes, comforts a thief, and entrusts His mother to John. The sign above Him names the truth the world rejects: the King is crucified.

At noon, darkness falls. Jesus fulfils Scripture, receives sour wine on hyssop, and declares, "It is finished." The veil tears, the earth shakes, graves open, and a hardened centurion confesses. Before sunset, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus lay Him in a new garden tomb while the women watch and prepare spices. Death thinks it has won; heaven knows better.

Main Truth: Victory comes through the crucified King.

Jesus wins by willingly losing: refusing the sedative, embracing the cross, praying forgiveness, and opening paradise to the penitent thief. His "It is finished" tears the temple veil, judges the powers, and makes a way into God's presence for ordinary sinners. Strength isn't swagger here; it's self-giving love that bears the curse, fulfils Scripture, and turns a place of skulls into the doorway of life. Trust the finished work: nothing more to earn, everything to receive, and a new courage to live cruciform.

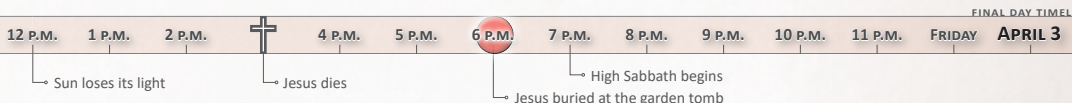
Week 25 Recap

- 1 What was something new you learned last week?
- 2 What stood out the most from last week's study?
- 3 Did you do anything as a result of what you have learned?

Key Scripture

John 19:30

"It is finished."



Day 1 – The Cross on the Road

Chapter 28:1–7

Day 1 Truth

Costly obedience on the hard road.

Day 1 Scripture

Luke 23:26

“They seized Simon of Cyrene... and made him carry the cross behind Jesus.”

Day 1 Prayer

Jesus, when Your call collides with my plans, give me grace to shoulder the weight and walk behind You with willing love.

1. Why does Jesus refuse the sedative, and what does that say about His mission?
2. How do the women’s lament and Jesus’ warning reframe the moment?
3. What does Simon of Cyrene teach us about unexpected, costly obedience?
4. Where might an inconvenience be God’s invitation?

Day 2 – Cast Lots, Kept Promises

Chapter 28:8–12

Day 2 Truth

Scripture stands while scoffers sneer.

Day 2 Scripture

Psalm 22:18

“They divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.”

Day 2 Prayer

Faithful God, anchor me in Your promises; let fulfilled words harden my courage, not my heart.

5. How do the tunic and the lots expose both cruelty and fulfillment?
6. What does the trilingual placard proclaim about Jesus’ kingship?
7. How do mockers quote Scripture without believing it—and how can we avoid that trap?
8. What habit helps you receive Scripture as truth, not trivia?

FINAL DAY TIMELINE

APRIL 2 THURSDAY 1 A.M. 2 A.M. 3 A.M. 4 A.M. 5 A.M. 6 A.M. 7 A.M. 8 A.M. 9 A.M. 10 A.M. 11 A.M. 12 P.M.

Jesus arrested → Questioned by Annas → Questioned by Caiaphas → Peter’s third denial → Questioned by Pilate → Jesus nailed to the cross



The Jesus Bible Study

Day 3 – Two Crosses, Two Prayers

Chapter 28:13–19

9. What separates the taunting thief from the repentant one?
10. How does “Today you will be with me” shape our view of death and hope?
11. Why does Jesus entrust Mary to John, and what does that model for us?
12. Who is God asking you to “take into your home” in practical care?

Day 3 Truth

Mercy for the penitent.

Day 3 Scripture

Luke 23:43

“Today you will be with me in paradise.”

Day 3 Prayer

Saviour, remember me; teach me to turn quickly, trust fully, and speak hope to dying hearts.

Day 4 – Finished and Torn

Chapter 28:20–31

13. What layers of meaning sit inside “I thirst” and “It is finished”?
14. How do the darkness and the torn veil preach the gospel?
15. Why does God shake creation at the cross—and what shakes you out of apathy?
16. Where is Jesus inviting you to entrust your spirit afresh?

Day 4 Truth

The work is finished.

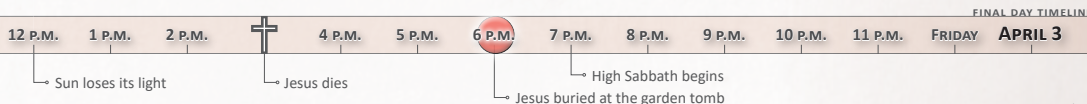
Day 4 Scripture

John 19:30

“When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, ‘It is finished.’”

Day 4 Prayer

Lamb of God, silence my striving; help me live from Your finished work, not toward my own.



Day 5 Truth

Pierced yet unbroken.

Day 5 Scripture

John 19:36–37

“Not one of his bones will be broken... They will look on him whom they pierced.”

Day 5 Prayer

Holy One, let the sight of Your wounded love pierce my numb places and make me a truthful witness.

Day 5 – Blood and Water

Chapter 28:32–34

17. • What is the significance of no broken bones and the pierced side?
18. • How does eyewitness testimony steady faith when feelings waver?
19. • What does Passover imagery (hyssop, lamb, no bone broken) reveal about Jesus?
20. • How will you witness simply and clearly to what you’ve seen God do?

Day 6 Truth

Buried as a king, planted as a seed.

Day 6 Scripture

John 19:41–42

“In the place where he was crucified there was a garden... they laid Jesus there.”

Day 6 Prayer

Father, in my places of burial, sow resurrection hope; make my quiet devotion fragrant and my courage timely.

Day 6 – A King’s Burial in a Garden

Chapter 28:35–39

21. • What do Joseph and Nicodemus risk, and why does it matter?
22. • How do the women’s quiet devotion instruct our own?
23. • What does the garden tomb echo about loss and new creation?
24. • If our church lived this chapter, what would change first?

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