

**FOCUS:** I can have courage and strength because of what Jesus did for me.

**SCRIPTURE:** Mark 11:1-18; John 12:12-50;  
John 13

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WEEK OF  
MARCH  
8-14

The week of Jesus' crucifixion started with a street party. Okay, maybe not an actual party—but definitely a lot of excitement.

After being away with His friends, Jesus returned to the city of Jerusalem. When the people heard He was coming, they flooded the streets. They took off their coats and spread them on the road in front of Jesus. Others cut branches from trees and spread them on the road, too. They were shouting Jesus' name and proclaiming Him as their king.

But not everyone loved Jesus. In fact, there were some religious leaders who didn't like Him at all. Some were jealous of Him. Some were worried that Jesus would become too important. Others simply didn't believe Jesus was God's Son.

Eventually, these would be the very people who had Jesus killed.

The night before Jesus was arrested, He went to a garden to pray. He knew what was coming . . . and He wanted to talk to God about it. "Father," Jesus prayed, "If you are willing, take this cup of suffering away from me. But do what you want, not what I want" (Luke 22:42 NIRV).

Jesus was *suffering*. But He also knew God's way was best.

This week, take some time to think about how Jesus must have felt His last week of life on Earth. He knew the pain—physical and emotional—that was to come, but His trust in God was bigger than His fear, and He gave His life for you and for me.

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## ACTIVITIES



### THURSDAY, 3/8

As a family, talk about what it means to suffer. Who are some people in our world today who are suffering? Spend time praying for them before bed.



### FRIDAY, 3/9

Have everyone share one thing they need courage to do. As a family, pray and ask God to give you the same courage He gave Jesus.



### SATURDAY, 3/10

Do one thing today that requires courage. Thank God for being with you.



### MONDAY, 3/12

Has your fear ever been bigger than your courage? Talk to your family about it, and share some ways you could focus on your courage instead of giving in to fear.



### TUESDAY, 3/13

Any time you're in a car or on the bus today, spend that time in prayer, thanking Jesus for His sacrifice for us.



### WEDNESDAY, 3/14

Write down the following Bible verse on a notecard and put it on the fridge. Each time you walk by it, say the verse out loud: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you" (Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV).