

# THE ANSWER IS EASTER

## Easter Sunday

### March 27, 2016

**1 Peter 2:21 (GW)** *“God called you to endure suffering because Christ suffered for you. He left you an example so that you could follow in His footsteps.”*

#### 1. FRIDAY: THE DAY OF PAIN

**Hebrews 2:18 (TLB)** *“For since He (Jesus) Himself has now been through suffering and temptation, He knows what it is like when we suffer and are tempted, and He is wonderfully able to help us.”*

#### What Do You Do In Days Of Pain?

**Answer: Reach out to FRIENDS.**

**Matthew 26:36-39a (GW)** *“Then Jesus went with the disciples to a place called Gethsemane. He said to them, ‘Stay here while I go over there and pray.’<sup>37</sup> He took Peter and Zebedee’s two sons with Him. He was beginning to feel deep anguish.<sup>38</sup> Then He said to them, ‘My anguish is so great that I feel as if I’m dying. Wait here, and stay awake with Me.’<sup>39</sup> After walking a little farther, He quickly bowed with His face to the ground and prayed...”*

**Answer: Reach out to GOD.**

**Mark 14:35-36a (GW)** *“After walking a little farther, He fell to the ground and prayed that if it were possible He might not have to suffer what was ahead of Him.<sup>36</sup> He said, ‘Abba! Father!’”*

**Mark 14:36b (GW)** *“You can do anything. Take this cup of suffering away from Me. But let Your will be done rather than Mine.”*

#### The Gethsemane Model Prayer

- **Affirm God’s power.** *I know you can take away this pain.*
- **Express your desire.** *I don’t want this pain.*
- **Offer your trust.** *I want Your will not mine.*

#### 2. SATURDAY: THE DAY OF CONFUSION

**Matthew 26:31 (MSG)** *“Then Jesus told them, ‘Before the night’s over, you’re going to fall to pieces because of what happens to Me.’”*

**Matthew 26:56b (NLT)** *“At that point, all the disciples deserted Him and fled.”*

## How Do You Get Through The Days Of Confusion?

**Answer: Remember the PROMISES of God.**

**2 Corinthians 1:20a (NIV)** *“For no matter how many promises God has made, they are ‘Yes’ in Christ.”*

**John 16:16, 20-22 (NLT)** *“In a little while you won’t see Me anymore. But a little while after that, you will see Me again. <sup>20</sup>I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn over what is going to happen to Me, but the world will rejoice. You will grieve, but your grief will suddenly turn to wonderful joy. <sup>21</sup>It will be like a woman suffering the pains of labor. When her child is born, her anguish gives way to joy because she has brought a new baby into the world. <sup>22</sup>So you have sorrow now, but I will see you again; then you will rejoice, and no one can rob you of that joy.”*

**Isaiah 61:3a (NLT)** *“To all who mourn in Israel, He will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair.”*

**Isaiah 43:2-3a (NLT)** *“When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the Lord, your God.”*

### 3. SUNDAY: THE DAY OF JOY

**How Do You Get To The Days Of Joy?**

**Answer: You rely on the POWER of God.**

**John 11:25-26 (NIV)** *“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; <sup>26</sup>and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die.”*

**Ephesians 1:19-20 (TLB)** *“I pray that you will begin to understand how incredibly great His power is to help those who believe Him. It is that same mighty power <sup>20</sup>that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the place of honor at God’s right hand in heaven.”*

**Philippians 3:10 (NIV)** *“I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of His resurrection and participation in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death...”*

**Romans 10:9 (NIV)** *“If you declare with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”*