



Spend a little time studying this picture, colour it in if you would like to, making it as muted or vibrant as you wish.

Crucifixion was a cruel and terrible way to die. What emotions does this stir up in you? Jesus could have defended himself and walked away, even as he died he ensured his mother would be cared for. Recognising his sacrifice is there anything you would like to lay at the foot of his cross?

Read the text below. Is God speaking to you through the words and the picture? What is he saying? How might you respond?

**BIBLE READING:** (adapted from) **John: 18 & 19** . The death of Jesus

When Jesus and his disciples had finished their 'Passover meal', they walked to a garden to pray. It was to here that Judas led Jesus' enemies and he was arrested. Over that night and the next morning Jesus was tried, mocked and beaten before being sentenced to death. Jesus stayed silent throughout this. Then, carrying a heavy wooden cross he was led out of Jerusalem up a hill to be nailed to the cross. The cross was raised up so that everyone could see, and he was left to die. A thief, hanging next to him, was frightened but recognised Jesus as the Son of God. Jesus mother and his friend John were close by and Jesus asked John to look after his mother. But not everyone there was kind, the Roman Soldiers cast lots in order to win his cloths. Many continued to mock Jesus and one called out: 'You saved other people, so why cannot you save yourself'. Jesus knew why. It was because God wanted him to die there in order to take away all the wrong things people had ever done. At one point even Jesus felt abandoned by God but after many hours of hanging there, he knew his work was almost complete and as the sky grew very dark and the earth shook, he called out 'it is done' and Jesus died. He was buried in a tomb that a friend called Joseph had prepared for himself.

**PRAYER:**

Lord Jesus, I know I can never repay the love you showed on the cross. All I can do is show how much it means to me by staying close to you, by seeking to know your will for me and trying to obey your voice. When I falter, hold me; when I forget you, do not forget me. I have tried to share that last journey you took but when I stray, guide me in order to show your love shinning from my heart. Amen

**YOUR NOTES:**

We hope that you have enjoyed this exercise. Please forward it to others who might appreciate it, and let us know if you would like to receive more or how they might change to be more helpful. Perhaps you could keep them to help with your discipleship. If you would like to speak to someone from the church please do call:

..... on this number .....



Spend a little time studying this picture, colour it in if you would like to, making it as muted or vibrant as you wish.

Mary Magdalen is heart broken. Her friend and Lord has died and now his body has disappeared. How must she have felt when on turning around a familiar voiced called her by name? Have you ever hear your name being called? How did you feel and how did you respond?



Read the text below. Is God speaking to you through the words and the picture? What is he saying? How might you respond?

**BIBLE READING:** (adapted from) John: 20:11-18 Resurrection!

Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone was moved away from the entrance..... Mary stood outside the tomb weeping. As she wept, she knelt to look into the tomb and saw two angels sitting there, dressed in white, one at the head, the other at the foot of where Jesus' body had been laid. They said to her, "Woman, why do you weep?"

"They took my Master," she said, "and I don't know where they put him." After she said this, she turned away and saw Jesus standing there. But she didn't recognise him.

Jesus spoke to her, "Woman, why do you weep? Who are you looking for?"

She, thinking that he was the gardener, said, "Mister, if you took him, tell me where you put him so I can care for him."

Jesus said, "Mary."

Turning to face him, she said in Hebrew, "*Rabboni!*" meaning "Teacher!"

Jesus said, "Don't cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go to my brothers and tell them, 'I ascend to my Father and your Father, my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went, telling the news to the disciples: "I saw the Master!" And she told them everything he said to her.

**PRAYER:**

Lord, we lift our hearts to you. As the dawn breaks, may we carry the unity we share into every moment knowing that we are one with the risen Christ. Lord, we lift our eyes to you. As the sunrises, may this moment stay with us, reminding us to look for the beautiful colours of promise in your word. Lord, we lift our prayers to you. As the dew air falls, may we breathe this morning in and know that like the earth, you sustain us, keep us and work within us always. And so, we lift our voices to you. We celebrate the greatest day in history, when Jesus rose from death, defeated darkness and bathed the world in stunning resurrection light. May we ever live to praise you. Amen.  
(From Lords Prayer Words)

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