

THE ANSWER IS EASTER

Rick Warren
Easter at Saddleback 2014

“God has called you to endure suffering because Christ suffered for you. He also left you an example so that you could follow in his footsteps.”
1 Peter 2:21

I. FRIDAY: THE DAY OF PAIN

“Since Jesus went through suffering and temptation, he knows what it is like when we suffer and are tempted, and he is able to help us.”
Hebrews 2:18

WHAT DO I DO IN DAYS OF PAIN?

1. _____

“Jesus took his disciples with him to Gethsemane and said ‘Stay here with me while I pray.’ Then he took Peter, James, and John a little further. He was filled with anguish and deep distress, and he said to them, ‘My heart is so overwhelmed and crushed with sorrow that I feel like I’m dying. Just sit here and watch with me.’ Then Jesus took a few more steps, fell to the ground and prayed...”
Matthew 26:36-39

2. _____

“Jesus fell face down on the ground and prayed that if possible, he would not have to suffer the pain ahead of him. He prayed ‘Abba! Father! I know you can do all things. And I don’t want to have to drink this cup of suffering. Nevertheless, I want your will, not mine, to be done.’”
Mark 14:35-36

The Gethsemane Model: 3 things to pray when in pain

- Affirm God’s power: I know
- Express your desire: I don’t want
- Offer your trust: I want

II. SATURDAY: THE DAY OF CONFUSION

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

“At that point, all the disciples abandoned Jesus and ran away.”
Matthew 26:56

HOW DO I GET THROUGH DAYS OF CONFUSION?

Answer: _____
“For ALL the promises of God find their ‘Yes’ in Jesus Christ!”
2 Corinthians 1:20

God promises: *“To all who mourn in Zion, I will give beauty for ashes, joy instead of mourning, and praise instead of despair.”*
Isaiah 61:3

“When you go through deep waters and great trouble, 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! For I am the Lord, your God and Savior!”
Isaiah 43:2-3

III. SUNDAY: THE DAY OF JOY

HOW DO I GET TO THE DAYS OF JOY?

Answer: _____
“Jesus said, ‘I AM the resurrection and the life! Whoever believes in me, even though they die, will live again. I give them eternal life for believing in me and they will never perish!’”
John 11:25-26

“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 that raised Christ from the dead.”
Ephesians 1:19-20

“I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death...”
Philippians 3:10

A LIFE CHANGING PRAYER:

“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”
Romans 10:9