

Garden to Garden - Part 5

Family Devotional

Day 1: The Feeling of Regret

Scripture: Matthew 27:1-4

Devotional Thought: Judas felt lots of regret after betraying Jesus. Regret is a feeling we all experience when we realize we've done something wrong. It's important to understand that regret alone is not enough for forgiveness. We must take that regret to Jesus and trust that He is able and willing to forgive.

Discussion Questions:

1. How do you think Judas felt when he realized he had betrayed Jesus?
2. Can you think of a time when you felt sorry for something you did? What did you do about it?

Parenting Tip: Encourage open communication with your children about their feelings. Let them know it's okay to make mistakes and that they can always come to you for guidance and support.

Prayer Focus: Pray for a heart that is quick to recognize mistakes and seek forgiveness, both from God and from others.



Day 2: The Futility of Religion

Scripture: Matthew 27:4b

Devotional Thought: In his distress, Judas turned to the religious leaders for help, but they couldn't offer him the hope and forgiveness he needed. True hope and forgiveness come from a relationship with Jesus, not just following religious rules.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why do you think the religious leaders couldn't help Judas?
2. What does it mean to have a relationship with Jesus?

Parenting Tip: Teach your children that the Christian faith is about a personal relationship with Jesus, not just attending church or following rules. Share stories of how Jesus has impacted your life.

Prayer Focus: Pray for a deeper relationship with Jesus and for the wisdom to seek Him in times of need.



Day 3: The Final Ruin

Scripture: Matthew 27:5

Devotional Thought: Sadly, Judas chose to end his life because he felt hopeless. It's important to remember that no matter how bad things seem, Jesus offers hope and a new beginning.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some things that make you feel hopeful?
2. How can we help others who might feel sad or hopeless?

Parenting Tip: Encourage your children to talk about their feelings and reassure them that they are never alone. Emphasize the importance of seeking help and support when needed.

Prayer Focus: Pray for those who feel hopeless, that they may find comfort and hope in Jesus.



Day 4: The Foolish Reasoning

Scripture: Matthew 27:6-8

Devotional Thought: The religious leaders were hypocrites. That means their actions did not match what they said they believed. Their hypocritical actions cause them to look like fools. Their bad example reminds us that without Jesus, our reasoning can be flawed. We need His wisdom to help us make good and wise decisions.

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you ever acted in a way that did not match your beliefs? How did that make you feel?
2. How can we ask Jesus for help in making decisions that match our love for Him?

Parenting Tip: Encourage your children to seek God's wisdom in their daily decisions. Teach them to pray and ask for wisdom in all situations.

Prayer Focus: Pray for wisdom and discernment in decision-making, trusting in God's guidance.



Day 5: The Fulfilled Revelation

Scripture: Matthew 27:9-10

Devotional Thought: Even in the darkest moments of our lives, God is at work, shaping us like a potter shapes clay. He has a plan for each of us, and we can trust Him to bring beauty from our struggles.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is something you are thankful for that God has done in your life?
2. How can we trust God even when things seem difficult?

Parenting Tip: Remind your children that God is always with them, working for their good. Encourage them to look for God's hand in their lives and to trust His plan.

Prayer Focus: Pray for trust in God's plan and for the ability to see His work in our lives, even in challenging times.

