

**Daily Reflection on Scripture**  
**Week of April 21**  
**Easter**



**Sunday April 21**

*Scripture: Mark 16:6-7 Don't be alarmed! You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised. He isn't here. Look, here's the place where they laid him. Go, tell his disciples, especially Peter, that he is going ahead of you into Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you.*

**Morning Prayer:** God, as surely as the sun broke through the darkness of the night and now gives morning light to the day, Jesus has broken through the powers of darkness and has been raised up to shine as a light for the world. It's Easter! It's a time to celebrate. It's another day to rise up and let Your light of unfathomable love shine in and through me. Today's scripture makes it clear that Jesus is already where I am going. The essence of his love is there to greet me with acceptance. The truth of his teachings are there to guide my steps. The offering of his new life is there to remind me that there is no darkness that is too great for the light of Your love to shine through. It's Easter! It's a day of new beginnings! May it be so.

**Noon Text:** Take just one minute to stop and take in a deep breath. Breathe in a bit deeper. Feel your belly rise. Release it slowly knowing that Christ is risen in you.

**Evening Text:** God, as I prepare for a night of rest, may I remember that Your love for me never rests. Easter reminds me that Your love is constantly rising up within me.

**Monday April 22**

*Scripture: Exodus 33:14 God said, "My presence will go with you. I'll see the journey to the end."*

**Morning Prayer:** God, I am grateful for the reassuring words of this scripture that remind me that wherever I find myself, I am not alone. Wherever my journey takes me, I do not travel alone. This also reminds me that what is true for me is true for every person. Your light and presence shine within us and around us always. The beauty of your love and presence are revealed in all of creation. May I see that beauty with clearer eyes today as I go about the many things I have to do. May I face today, and all of my days, with confidence and without fear because I know Your presence is always with me. May it be so.

**Noon Text:** I am not alone. Take a moment to repeat that silently three times. Breathe in the comfort that is found in knowing that God's presence is always with you.

**Evening Text:** Today I was comforted and strengthened by the reminder that I am never alone. Tonight my spirit can rest in that assurance. I am grateful for Your presence.

**Tuesday April 23**

*Scripture: Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the Lord's glory has shone upon you.*

**Morning Prayer:** God, I wake this morning two days removed from an incredible celebration of Easter. The joy of that celebration remains. The light of Your love through the gift of Jesus fills and overwhelms me. Realistically I know that the routines of work and life will return and with them will come times of darkness and uncertainty. I pray that the feelings I just experienced will remain. I know that Your light and Your love will overcome the darkness that comes. I pray that I will be a conduit for the light of Your glory as revealed in Jesus. May it be so.

**Noon Text:** Arise. Shine. The light of the Lord is shining on you. Is that light shining through you today so that everyone you encounter experiences God's love in you?

**Evening Text:** God, today has been filled with ups and downs. In the midst of it is the promise of Easter, the promise of Your unconditional love. I rest secure in that love.

### **Wednesday April 24**

*Scripture: Zephaniah 3:17 The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; God will rejoice over you with gladness; God will quiet you with love; God will exult over you with loud singing.*

**Morning Prayer:** Good morning God. May today be a day of positivity and compassion for others knowing that You are with me each and every step along the way. Today I want to concentrate on those around me, because I know that my worries and fears are in Your hands. May others see in me the peace that You give to me. May they trust in You and find Your gift of peace as well. I am loved by You! My strength comes from You! May it be so for everyone.

**Noon text:** God is alive! God is alive in your fears, worries, and stresses. Take in a deep breath. Feel the gift of God's new life flowing through you in this moment.

**Evening Text:** The day is over but Your love never ceases. You quiet me with Your love. I will rest in that promise.

### **Thursday April 25**

*Scripture: Acts 4:33 The apostles continued to bear powerful witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and an abundance of grace was at work among them all.*

**Morning Prayer:** God, I like the line in today's scripture that says, "An abundance of grace was at work among them." I need grace and everyone else that I know also needs grace. May I receive the grace You offer me today, grace for all my unkind words, unhealthy thoughts and behaviors, turning my back on injustice, and being absorbed with self. I understand that grace is not my ticket to keep being ungraceful. Instead it is the awareness of how Your love can change me. May I be changed today by receiving Your unending love so that I will be more grace filled with others today. Your grace enables me to see inside myself with compassion, so that I can see others with compassion and grace. May the abundance of Your grace be at work in me. May it be so

**Noon Text:** Grace is always free. Grace is the offering of an undeserved favor. God's Grace is at work in you. How are you freely offering undeserved favor to others?

**Evening Text:** God, all day long I have been held by Your grace. Forgive me for the times I was not so graceful. Help me to rest and rise up tomorrow more full of Your grace.

### **Friday April 26**

*Scripture: 1 Peter 1:3 Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we've been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven—and the future starts now!*

**Morning Prayer:** God, I love the message of this scripture. It is so clear. Heaven is not a destination, because the message of Easter lives in each of us every day. It is up to me to choose to live fully alive with the message of the risen Christ within me. In all that I do, let me share the message of Easter with everyone. Help me to model the unconditional love of Jesus; help me to always offer an unlimited welcome. I can do this because I know that wherever I am and wherever I am going, You are there. Your grace and love surround me wherever I am, in times of great sorrow and in times of great joy. May it be so.

**Noon Text:** Pause and look around you. Remind yourself that wherever you are and whatever you are doing, God is with you. Bask in the warm embrace of God's love.

**Evening Text:** God, it has been a good week, because the Easter story lives in me, allowing me to live fully alive only to rest now and wake energized by Your love.

### **Saturday April 27**

*Scripture: John 11:25-26 Jesus said..., "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die. Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"*

**Morning Prayer:** God, as the week of Easter is coming to a close I continue holding onto the promise of today's scripture. Everyday, You are the resurrection and the life. Everyday, moment by moment, You breathe new life into all of creation. Everyday, even on the last day of my life, You promise to raise me up from a dead body to new life with You. Even death cannot overtake the power of Your resurrection love. Help me to live everyday believing in the promise of Easter. Help me to see the signs of new life all around me and in me. Help me to be an example of new life for others. Even as the week of Easter is closing, help me to never forget that it will always be Easter. May it be so.

**Noon Text:** In this moment, wherever you are, the love of Christ is with you. Breathe it in. Let it flow through your veins. Feel God's love in every breath you take.

**Evening Text:** God, as the week comes to a close, I can close my eyes knowing that Your love has sustained me and it will rise up again in the morning light to guide me.