

Jesus Predicts His Death

Jesus tried to prepare his disciples for his death. He wanted them to know the kind of Savior he would be, but the disciples did not understand and even argued with him. The season of Lent invites us into somber reflection on Jesus' death and sacrifice on the cross. Let's discuss the biblical foundations upon which the Lenten tradition is based. Then, we'll study Jesus' words to his disciples as he turns to face the cross. Together, we'll see how Jesus invites us to follow him in faith, sacrifice, and hope for us.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What is your experience with observing Lent?
- How would you explain what it means to "look toward the cross"?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [*Jesus Predicts His Death*](#)

READ [Mark 8:31-36](#), [Luke 18:31-34](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, hosts Scott Hoezee and Darrell Delaney discuss the Bible passages on which the early church based the practice of Lent. Which aspects of Lent do you find the most meaningful for your faith?
- At the end of segment 2, Scott emphasizes the "great paradox of Christian living": if we try to save ourselves, we will not succeed. But Lent encourages us to "refocus on Jesus, who travels with us on the road of discipleship, who picks us up when we stumble." In which areas of your life do you need this reminder most?
- When Jesus tells the disciples what will happen to the Son of Man in [Luke 18:31-34](#), the disciples do not understand. Similarly, in [Mark 8:31-33](#), Peter rebukes Jesus for teaching this. Do you think we're still like Peter and the disciples today, that we don't always understand and resist the ways of God? Why or why not?
- Darrell said, when Jesus turns his face toward the cross, that "he is fully aware of what awaits him, and he is not avoiding the suffering that is going to happen. He is walking and honoring, fulfilling God's will." How does this give you strength and support, or provide you with accountability, as you seek to do the will of God in your life?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Exodus 34](#), [1 Kings 19:1-9](#), [Matthew 4:1-11](#), [Job 42:6](#), [Genesis 3:17-19](#), [Luke 9:23-25](#), [Luke 14:28-33](#),
[Matthew 10:39](#), [Matthew 5:10-12](#), [John 15:18-25](#), [Luke 9:51](#), [Luke 19:28-40](#), [Philippians 2:6-8](#), [John 12:24-26](#)

CONCLUSION

At the close of segment 3, Scott and Darrell identify three takeaways for Lent we can draw from these stories about Jesus turning his face toward the cross:

1. Humility
2. Obedience
3. Hope

What did the Holy Spirit stir in your heart as they discussed each of these takeaways? Is there one takeaway in particular that you want to dwell on during Lent to help you refocus on Jesus? Bring these thoughts to God in prayer and ask for the Holy Spirit to guide and deepen your faith as you journey with Jesus to the cross.

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/jesus-predicts-his-death>

Printed on September 4, 2025