Journey towards the Cross

Topic:
Prepare your heart for God's move.

Bible portion:
Matthew 03:02

Focus:
Preparation: Preparing the heart for God's move.

March 21, 2026

A daily devotional for lent season

40-Day Gospel Reading Plan

Bible Readings for Today

Luke 23-24

Have you Read your Bible today?

Memory Verse for the day

"Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem."

Luke 24:46-47 (ESV)

Quote

"Prepare the way of the Lord."

- John the Baptist

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." - Matthew 03:02

From the very beginning, God in His Triune glory humbled Himself to create the magnificent universe. Among all creation, humanity stands as the most intricate and beloved. Formed from the dust of the earth, man and woman once walked in close communion with God.

Creation knew harmony, and God delighted in His people. Yet pride disrupted this communion. Satan, unwilling to accept the beauty of God's creation, sought to diminish God's glory. Through deceit, he led humanity into sin. The fall brought shame, blame, and brokenness - "the serpent deceived me," "the woman You gave me" (Genesis 3). Disobedience fractured harmony, and humanity was driven from God's presence.

Still, God's mercy prevailed. Even in the moment of judgment, He promised a Saviour (Genesis 03:15). Throughout the Old Testament, this promise echoes again and again. Micah foretold the ruler to come from Bethlehem (Micah 05:2). Isaiah proclaimed the virgin birth (Isaiah 07:14) and the suffering servant who would bear the sins of many (Isaiah 53). God was preparing hearts long before the fulfilment arrived.

Lent is a sacred season of preparation - a time when God calls His people to slow down, repent, and realign their hearts with His divine purpose. John the Baptist's call in the wilderness was not merely a warning, but an invitation to readiness. God was about to move in history through His Son, and hearts had to be prepared to recognize, receive, and respond.

Preparing our hearts means embracing humility, patience, and obedience - the very qualities revealed in Jesus Christ. He took upon Himself our flesh, entered fully into human suffering, and submitted even to death on the cross. His journey was marked not by power as the world defines it, but by surrender, love, and faithfulness to the will of the Father.

Just as Jesus prepared His disciples, He prepares us now for what was coming- His suffering, death, and resurrection. He was, and is, the Word from the beginning. Through prayer, fasting, and acts of mercy, we learn to make room for God.

Lent calls us into that same preparation. As John the Baptist declared, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." God is still moving. The question is not whether He will act - but whether our hearts are ready.

This season, may we repent, realign, and prepare our hearts for the move of God.

Prayer:

Almighty and everlasting God, As we journey toward the cross, prepare our hearts for Your move. Teach us to walk in humility, patience, and obedience, as we follow Your Son, Jesus Christ. Renew us in this season of Lent, and lead us into the hope of resurrection life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- **Rev. R. Joel Vedamrutharaj**

Prayer Point

Pray for family unity and oneness.