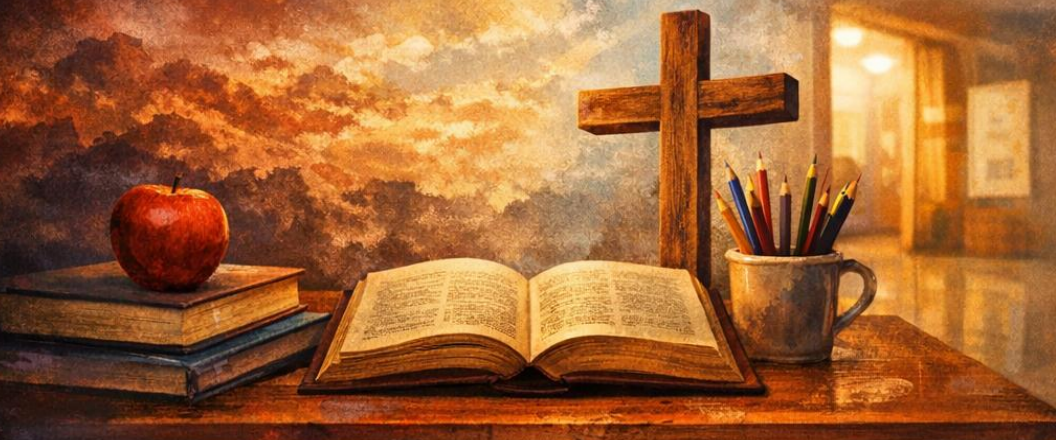


STATIONS *of the* CROSS

From the Cross to the Classroom



— A DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET FOR EDUCATORS —

Introduction

Greetings Ladies and Gentlemen,

With Resurrection Day just weeks away, we take time to reflect on the journey of Christ through the Stations of the Cross—from a Baptist perspective. These are thoughtful, reflective devotions designed to prepare our hearts as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

As educators, we walk a path of service, sacrifice, and perseverance. These devotions connect Christ's journey to our calling in the classroom, reminding us that our work is deeply meaningful in God's kingdom.

Blessings in the name of our Savior

Joseph W Scull

Station 1

Faithful to the Cross

*“Then he
handed him
over to be*

crucified.” — John 19:16 (CSB)



FIRST STATION

JESUS IS CONDEMNED
TO DEATH

In this moment, Jesus stands alone before Pilate—misunderstood, falsely accused, and abandoned. Despite a life of perfect love and service, He receives injustice instead of gratitude.

As teachers, you may experience similar moments. You pour yourself into your students—teaching, encouraging, discipline, yet sometimes face criticism, lack of appreciation, or even unfair judgment. It can feel isolating.

This passage reminds us that our ultimate calling is not to seek the approval of people, but to remain faithful to Christ. Jesus endured injustice because He trusted the Father’s will. Likewise, we serve not for recognition, but for the glory of God (Colossians 3:23).

Remember when you feel unappreciated, remember Christ sees your faithfulness. When criticized, respond with grace and humility. When

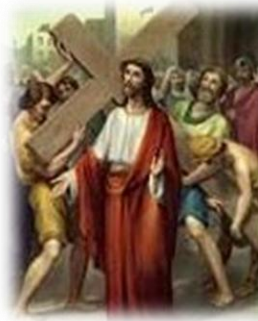
discouraged, recall that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Lord, help me to teach with faithfulness, even when I feel unseen or misunderstood. Give me the strength to respond with grace, just as Christ did. Remind me that my work matters because it is done for You. Amen.

Blessings

Station 2

Carrying the Cross Faithfully



SECOND STATION

JESUS CARRIES HIS
CROSS

*“Then they
took Jesus*

away. Carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called Place of the Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha.” — John 19:16b–17 (CSB)

Teaching often comes with unseen burdens—long days, difficult students, heavy expectations, and moments of feeling unappreciated. Like Jesus carrying His cross, we are sometimes called to bear responsibilities that feel overwhelming.

Jesus did not resist His cross. He carried it willingly, knowing the purpose behind the pain. In the same way, God has entrusted each teacher with a calling that, while challenging, is deeply meaningful. Every lesson taught, every student encouraged, and every act of patience reflects Christ’s love in action.

There are days when frustration creeps in—when the workload feels unfair or the impact seems small. Yet this is where perspective matters. The cross reminds us that sacrifice is never wasted when it is

offered to God. What feels heavy today may be shaping eternity in ways we cannot yet see.

Instead of shrinking back or growing weary, we are called to carry our responsibilities with faithfulness and grace. When we do, we not only endure—we become a testimony of Christ's strength working through us.

Lord Jesus, You carried the cross for me with love and obedience. Help me to carry my responsibilities as a teacher with the same faithfulness. When I feel overwhelmed or unappreciated, remind me that my work matters in Your kingdom. Give me strength, patience, and a servant's heart each day. Amen.

Blessings

Station 3

When the Weight Feels Heavy

“As they were going out, they found a Cyrenian man named

Simon. They forced him to carry his cross.” —

Matthew 27:32



THIRD
STATION

JESUS FALLS THE
FIRST TIME

Teaching can feel heavy some days.

There are lessons to plan, papers to grade, students to guide, and expectations to meet. Like Jesus carrying the cross, there are moments when the weight feels overwhelming—when energy is low, patience is thin, and the desire to press on fades.

In this station, Jesus falls under the burden. He is exhausted, yet He does not quit. Even when others show little compassion, He continues forward for the sake of others.

As teachers, we may also stumble when we lose focus, when we rush through responsibilities, when we feel like giving up.

But this moment reminds us: **falling is not failure—staying down is.**

God does not expect perfection; He calls for perseverance.

Just as Simon was brought alongside Jesus to help carry the cross, God often provides support for us too—through colleagues, encouragement, prayer, and His sustaining grace. Where do you feel the weight most in your teaching right now? Have you been trying to carry it alone?

Lord Jesus, When the work feels heavy and I grow weary, help me not to give up. Forgive me for the times I rush, lose focus, or fall short. Give me strength to rise again, patience to continue, and grace to serve my students well. Remind me that I do not carry this call alone.

Amen.

Station 4

A Friendly Face in the Crowd

“Now a
large crowd
of the

**people followed him, including women who were
mourning and lamenting him.” — Luke 23:27**

**“When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he
loved standing there, he said to his mother,
‘Woman, here is your son.’” — John 19:26**



Even in the midst of suffering, Jesus looked for a familiar, loving face—and He found His mother. In that moment of pain, her presence did not remove the burden, but it reminded Him that He was not alone.

Teaching can feel the same way. Some days are loud, overwhelming, and even discouraging. There are pressures from expectations, responsibilities, and the needs of students. At times, you may feel like you are carrying more than you can handle.

But God never intended for you to carry it alone.

Just as Jesus saw His mother in the crowd, God places people in your life—colleagues, friends,

mentors—who remind you that you are supported. And even more importantly, **He is always present**, (I will never forsake you) quietly strengthening you in the middle of the noise.

As a teacher, you are also called to be that “friendly face” for your students. You may not be able to fix every problem they carry, but your presence, kindness, and consistency can remind them they are not alone. Look for the people God has placed around you for encouragement. Don’t carry every burden by yourself—lean on the Lord and others. Be intentional about being a source of comfort and stability for your students.

Lord Jesus, When I feel overwhelmed, help me to remember that I am not alone. Place the right people around me and give me the humility to lean on them. Help me to be a steady, caring presence for my students, just as You are for me. Strengthen me for the work You have called me to do.
Amen.

Station 5

Carrying the Cross Together



FIFTH STATION

SIMON OF CYRENE
HELPS JESUS CARRY
HIS CROSS

“They forced a man coming in from the country, who was passing by, to carry Jesus’s cross. He was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus.” — Mark 15:21

There are moments in teaching when the burden feels heavy, planning, grading, student needs, emotional strain. Like Simon of Cyrene, we may feel “pulled in” unexpectedly to carry something we didn’t choose.

Simon wasn’t looking for responsibility. He was simply passing by. Yet in a moment, he was called to step in and help carry Christ’s cross.

As teachers, we often find ourselves in similar situations. A struggling student needs extra time. A colleague needs encouragement. A situation arises that interrupts our plans. It can feel inconvenient, even overwhelming.

But what if these moments are not interruptions... but invitations?

Simon's act, though forced, became part of the greatest story of redemption. In the same way, every time you help carry someone else's burden—whether through patience, kindness, or sacrifice—you reflect Christ to your students.

Your classroom becomes more than a place of instruction—it becomes a place of ministry.

When you feel weary, remember: You are not just carrying your load—you are helping carry others toward Christ.

Lord Jesus, give me the heart of Simon—to step in when needed, even when it's inconvenient. Help me see my students and coworkers as opportunities to serve You. Strengthen me to carry the burdens placed before me with patience and grace.
Amen.

Station 6

Small Acts, Eternal Impact

“But whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant.”
— *Mark 10:43 (CSB)*



SIXTH STATION

VERONICA WIPES
THE FACE OF JESUS

In the tradition of the church, we encounter a woman named Veronica. In her we see a simple but powerful act—she steps out of the crowd to care for Jesus. She cannot stop His suffering, but she does what she can.

As teachers, we often face the same reality. We cannot fix every problem our students carry. We cannot erase their pain, struggles, or home situations. Yet, like Veronica, we are called to step forward anyway.

A kind word. A moment of patience. A listening ear.

These may seem small, but in God’s hands, they are significant.

Sometimes it is easier to stay back—to avoid getting involved, to fear being overwhelmed, or to worry about giving too much. But Christ calls us to

serve, even in the small moments, even when it costs us something.

Today, ask yourself:

Who needs a “Veronica moment” from me?

Lord Jesus, you served others even in your suffering. Help me to see the needs around me, especially in my students and colleagues. Give me courage to step forward, even in small ways. Let my actions reflect Your love and compassion each day. Amen.

Station 7

Getting Back Up

“Though a
righteous
person falls

seven times, he will get up, but the wicked will
stumble into ruin.” — *Proverbs 24:16 (CSB)*



SEVENTH STATION

JESUS FALLS
THE SECOND TIME

Teaching can feel like carrying a heavy cross some days. Lessons don't go as planned, students struggle to understand, and discouragement creeps in. Like the reflection reminds us, even Jesus fell under the weight—but He got back up and continued forward.

As educators, we often compare ourselves to others or feel we should be doing more, knowing more, or reaching every student perfectly. But God never asked for perfection—**He calls for faithfulness.**

Every difficult day, every failed lesson, every moment of doubt is not the end. It's an opportunity to rise again with His strength.

You are not alone in the struggle. Christ understands the weight—and He walks with you through it.

Lord, when I feel overwhelmed or discouraged in my teaching, help me to rise again. Give me

patience with myself and with my students. Remind me that faithfulness matters more than perfection. Strengthen me to keep going, just as You did. Amen.

*Station 8***Looking
Beyond
Yourself***“A large
crowd of
people**followed him, including women who were
mourning and lamenting him. But turning to
them, Jesus said, ‘Daughters of Jerusalem, do not
weep for me, but weep for yourselves and your
children.’” — Luke 23:27–28***EIGHTH
STATION**JESUS SPEAKS TO THE
WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

Even while carrying the cross, Jesus noticed others. In His suffering, He still paused to speak truth and offer care. He did not become consumed by His own pain—He remained attentive to the needs of those around Him.

As teachers, it is easy to become overwhelmed—lesson plans, grading, classroom management, and personal responsibilities can consume our focus. Like the prayer in this meditation reminds us, we can become absorbed in our own needs and forget the burdens our students carry.

Yet Jesus models something different. He calls us to look up, to see, and to respond.

Your students come into your classroom with struggles you may never fully see—family issues, anxiety, loneliness, or fear. A kind word, a moment of patience, or a listening ear can reflect Christ’s compassion in powerful ways.

Take a moment today to truly *see* one student who may be struggling. Choose compassion over convenience. Ask God to help you respond with grace, even when you feel overwhelmed.

Lord Jesus, Thank You for Your compassion even in suffering. Help me to look beyond myself and see the needs of my students. Give me patience, wisdom, and a heart like Yours. Teach me to care for others, even when I am tired or busy.
Amen.

Station 9

Getting Up Again

“Though a righteous person falls

seven times, he will get up, but the wicked will stumble into ruin.” — Proverbs 24:16 (CSB)



NINTH STATION

JESUS FALLS
THE THIRD TIME

Teaching can feel like a long road. Some days are filled with small victories, but other days feel like repeated failures—lessons that fall flat, students who struggle, and moments where patience runs thin.

In the tradition of Jesus falling a third time under the weight of the cross, we are reminded of something powerful: even in weakness, He did not quit. He got up and continued forward.

As teachers, we often carry heavy burdens—responsibility, expectations, and the desire to make a lasting difference. Like the reflection reminds us, discouragement comes when we face the same struggles again and again. We may think, “I should be better by now.”

But God’s grace meets us in those very moments. You are not called to be perfect—you are called to be faithful. Each new day in the classroom is an

opportunity to rise again: to show patience again, to teach with passion again, to love your students again

Just as Christ endured and continued, you too can stand back up, strengthened by Him.

Lord, when I feel weary and discouraged, remind me that I am not alone. Give me the strength to rise again, to teach with grace, and to persevere with hope. Help me reflect Your love in my classroom each day. Amen.

Station 10

**Teaching
with
Christlike
Integrity**



**TENTH
STATION**

JESUS IS STRIPPED OF
HIS GARMENTS

“Then they stripped him, put a scarlet robe on him, and twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt down before him and mocked him: ‘Hail, king of the Jews!’” (Matthew 27:28–29)

In this moment, Jesus endured humiliation, mockery, and pain—yet He remained faithful to His purpose. He did not respond with harsh words or retaliation, even when surrounded by cruelty and disrespect.

As teachers, we stand before students every day who are watching, listening, and learning—not just content, but character. In a world where sarcasm, crude language, and disrespect are often normalized, we are called to be different. Our words shape classrooms. Our attitudes shape hearts.

Just as Jesus endured mockery without sin, we are called to model purity, integrity, and encouragement—even when it’s difficult.

Choose words that **build up**, not tear down, Model **respect and self-control** in every situation, set a **Christlike example** for students to follow

Lord Jesus, you endured shame and suffering without sin. Help me to guard my words and actions in the classroom. May I speak in ways that encourage and uplift my students. Strip away anything in me that reflects the world instead of You and help me be an example of Your love and purity each day.

Amen.

Station 11

Grace in the Midst of Pain

*“When they
arrived at
the place*

*called The Skull, they crucified him there, along
with the criminals, one on the right and one on the
left.” — Luke 23:33*



ELEVENTH
STATION

JESUS IS NAILED
TO THE CROSS

As teachers, we pour ourselves out daily giving time, energy, patience, and care. Yet sometimes, despite our best efforts, we face misunderstanding, disrespect, or even hurtful words from students, parents, or colleagues. In those moments, we may feel unappreciated or even wounded.

Jesus understands that feeling deeply. As He hung on the cross, He experienced rejection, injustice, and immense pain—yet He chose love, forgiveness, and sacrifice.

This reminds us that we, too, can unintentionally hurt others through our words, judgments, or impatience. In the classroom, even small moments—tone of voice, quick assumptions, or

frustration—can leave lasting impressions on students.

But just as Christ extended grace in His suffering, He calls us to do the same.

Ask God to help you see each student through His eyes. Reflect on moments where you may need to show more patience or kindness. Seek to build up rather than tear down, especially on the hardest days. Remember: your influence goes beyond academics—it shapes hearts.

Lord Jesus, you endured suffering and showed love even in pain. Help me reflect Your grace in my classroom. When I am tired or frustrated, I remind myself to respond with patience and compassion. Show me where I need to grow and give me the strength to make things right. Let my words and actions point my students to You.
Amen.

Station 12

Faithful to the End

“But Jesus cried out again with a

loud voice and gave up his spirit.” — Matthew 27:50

“And Jesus called out with a loud voice, ‘Father, into your hands I entrust my spirit.’ Saying this, he breathed his last.” — Luke 23:46



As teachers, we pour ourselves out daily giving time, energy, patience, and care to our students. Some days feel exhausting, unnoticed, or even discouraging. Yet when we look to the cross, we see the ultimate example of faithful sacrifice.

Jesus gave everything—not halfway, not reluctantly, but completely. Even in His final moments, He trusted the Father fully and loved others deeply. His sacrifice was not wasted; it brought redemption and eternal hope.

In the same way, your work in the classroom matters more than you may ever see. Each lesson taught, each encouragement spoken, each moment of patience reflects Christ’s love. Though you may

feel stretched thin, remember—you are serving in a calling that mirrors His heart of sacrifice and service.

Today, ask yourself: Am I trusting God with the outcomes of my work? Am I serving my students with Christ-like love, even when it's difficult?

Let your teaching be an act of worship—faithful, sacrificial, and rooted in love.

Jesus, thank You for Your sacrifice on the cross. You gave everything to me. Help me to give my best each day in faithful service to You. When I feel tired or discouraged, remind me that my work matters in Your kingdom. Teach me to love my students as You love me. Amen.

Station 13

Teaching with Gentle Love

Scripture (CSB):

“Then they took Jesus’s body and wrapped it in linen cloths with the aromatic spices, according to the burial custom of the Jews.” — John 19:40
(CSB)



THIRTEENTH STATION

JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN
FROM THE CROSS

In this moment, Jesus—who endured unimaginable suffering—is finally treated with tenderness and care. Those who handled His body did so gently, respectfully, and with love.

As teachers, we often see our students in their struggles—when they are frustrated, discouraged, or even failing. In those moments, we may respond with greater patience and kindness. But what if we carried that same gentleness into every interaction?

How often do we wait until a student is hurting before we truly see them? What if we chose to notice their value, affirm their strengths, and express care *before* the difficult moments come?

Today, ask God to help you: See the good in every student—even the challenging ones, speak encouragement regularly, not just when needed,

Treat each student with consistent gentleness and dignity. Remember Psalm 139:14 “***I will praise you because I have been remarkably and wondrously made Your works are wondrous, and I know this very well.***”

Your classroom can become a place where students feel valued—not just corrected.

Lord, help me to see my students the way You see them. Teach me to be gentle, patient, and loving in every moment, just when it’s easy. Give me eyes to notice the good and a heart to speak life into those I teach. May my classroom reflect Your grace.
Amen.

Station 14

Faithfulness in the Quiet Moments

“There was a garden in the place where he was crucified. A new tomb was in the garden; no one had yet been placed in it. They placed Jesus there because of the Jewish day of preparation and since the tomb was nearby.” — John 19:41–42 (CSB)



FOURTEENTH STATION

JESUS IS LAID
IN THE TOMB

In this passage, everything feels finished. Jesus has died. The work seems over. Hope appears buried behind a stone.

Yet in this quiet, sorrowful moment, we see an act of quiet faithfulness. Joseph of Arimathea gives what he has—a tomb—at great personal risk. He honors Jesus when others have stepped back.

As teachers, many of our most meaningful moments feel hidden. Lessons prepared late at night, patience shown to struggling students, encouragement given when no one notices—these can feel like “tomb moments,” where the results aren’t immediately visible.

But just like this moment in Scripture, God is still working. Faithfulness matters even when results

aren't seen immediately. Small acts of sacrifice and care reflect Christ's love. What feels like an ending may actually be God preparing something new.

Your classroom is a place where seeds are planted—even if you don't see them grow right away.

Lord Jesus, In the quiet and unseen moments of teaching, help me remain faithful. When I feel discouraged or unnoticed, remind me that You are always at work. Give me a heart like Joseph—willing to give, serve, and honor You, even when it is difficult. Help me trust that You bring life, even from what seems finished.

Amen.

It's Friday BUT Sunday is Coming!

*“But He was wounded
for our transgressions,
He was bruised for
our iniquities...” —
Isaiah 53:5*

The Darkness of Friday



Good Friday is not neat. It is not polished. It is dark.
It is ugly. It is not easy to explain, especially to
students.

It is betrayal in a garden.
It is false accusations in the night.
It is his flesh being shredded to the point of seeing
strips of flesh just hanging
It is a crown of thorns pressed into innocent flesh.
It is nails driven into hands that healed.
It is the Son of God hanging in silence while the
world mocks.

For a moment, it looks like evil has won.

As teachers, we often feel that tension. We pour, we
give, we stand for truth—and sometimes it feels like
it's not enough. Like the darkness is louder than the

light. Like what is good is being overlooked or even rejected.

Good Friday reminds us: **God is at work even when everything looks lost.**

The Silence of Saturday

After the cross came silence.

No miracles.

No teaching.

No visible hope.

Just waiting. But Scripture never says God stopped working.

Silence is not absence. Waiting is not failure.

The Hope of Sunday

Then—

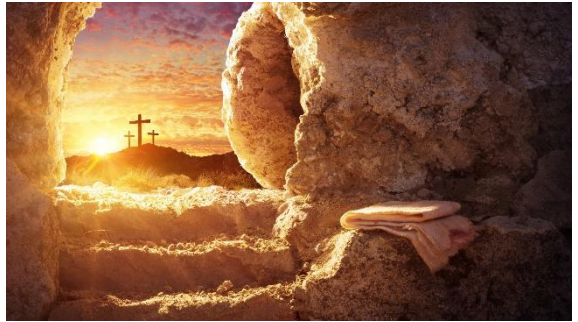
Resurrection.

The stone rolled away.

Death defeated.

Hope restored.

What looked like the end was actually the beginning.



And this is where Good Friday becomes *good*.

Because the cross was not defeat—it was victory in disguise.

You stand in a unique place.

Every day, you plant seeds in young hearts and minds. Some days feel like Good Friday—heavy, discouraging, unseen. Some seasons feel like Saturday—quiet, uncertain, slow.

But God specializes in Sunday.

What you teach, what you model, what you invest—it matters more than you can see right now.

Resurrection reminds us: No act of faithfulness is wasted, no truth shared returns empty, No darkness has the final word.

- Where in your teaching does it feel like “Good Friday” right now?
- What “silent Saturdays” are you walking through?
- How can the promise of resurrection reshape your perspective this week?

Lord, In the heaviness of Good Friday, remind me that You are still working.

When I feel discouraged or unseen, help me trust that You bring life out of death.

Give me endurance in the waiting and hope in the silence.

Let me teach with the confidence that resurrection is coming—even when I cannot yet see it.

Amen.