

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

1 Peter 1:3



*Hi church family!*

We are currently in a week known as "holy week." In holy week, we are led through the journey of the cross with mourning Jesus' death on Good Friday, and celebrating how he conquered the grave on Resurrection Sunday! In one sense, my heart is saddened knowing that we won't be able to celebrate Easter in person...However, although our physical church building will be empty, we can be encouraged knowing that the tomb is empty too! With knowing this, we can sit tight knowing that the veil has been torn and the Holy Spirit now lives in us.

For our AFMC REVIVE devotionals this week, I encourage you to read **Matthew 26, 27, and 28**. If it is too long for one sitting, try and read a chapter a day. These chapters are groundbreaking, revolutionary, and quintessential to understanding our faith! Here we will read and learn about the end of Jesus' life on earth- how religious leaders plot to kill Jesus, the last supper, Jesus being betrayed and arrested, his crucifixion, death and triumphant resurrection!

One simple way to do a devotional is to use the acronym "**SOAP**". This stands for Scripture (find a verse that stuck out to you in the chapters below), Observations (what are some things that you noticed?), Application (how can what you've read and learned be applied to your life?) and Prayer (ask God something, tell him how you are doing, thank him for something, etc.). Do this for Matthew 26-28 in this table provided:

<i>Scripture</i>	<i>Observations</i>	<i>Application</i>	<i>Prayer</i>
<b>Matthew 26:</b>			
<b>Matthew 27:</b>			
<b>Matthew 28:</b>			

**In our REVIVE week 2 devotional video, James Mizuki led us in the song "God of Revival."**

This song is so applicable to holy week! Some of my favorite lyrics are from the pre-chorus and chorus...What truths stand out to you? Circle or highlight them, and thank God for who he is in your life!

"...'Cause there's no prison wall You can't break through, no mountain You can't move. All things are possible. There's no broken body You can't raise, no soul that You can't save. All things are possible!

...The darkest night- You can light it up, You can light it up, God of revival. Let hope arise, death is overcome, you've already won. God of revival!"

Because of his resurrection, we can live with the future hope of REVIVAL. Remember, when we live out our core values of authenticity, intentionality, belonging and freedom,

"REVIVE," can be the catalyst of "REVIVAL!"

Hope you have a blessed holy week, church family. Our AFMC staff and REVIVE core team all miss you dearly! Hope all is well and hope to see you soon. Until then, praying for you all and here if you need anything!

Stay well and be encouraged,  
P. Lauren