

*After all the work on setting up the Easter weekend program--a lot like the Christmas Program, but without gifts for the children--we are now in the Passion weekend.*

*This year we are focusing on dramas that start with prayer on Thursday night reflecting the time when Jesus meets with the disciples in the Upper Room and then went to Gethsemane to pray.*

*Then this morning, reflecting the time when Jesus was being tried by the Roman authorities and the High Priest, beaten and tortured for our sins, we have processions in the villages by church members and a small drama that is the story of the Passion given in Luke. This is going on now. About four or five years ago, when the movie about the Passion of Jesus came out, it was shown in these same villages all those that have electricity. It is being shown today so that all the church members and also the non-Christians who are willing to hear and see can understand the sacrifice that Jesus made for our sins as He made His way to the cross.*

Christians in our village churches do not eat today; many have all night prayer vigils through the night after the dramas or the movie of Jesus's suffering is shown with singing of hymns and prayer and reading of the New Testament passages.

It is a quiet time to reflect on one's own sins and shortcomings: how we fail Jesus even as He prepares to make the final sacrifice. This is a very serious time for the village churches and for the Christians who have come to Jesus and have been baptized for the remission of their sins as He commanded and for us personally.

We remember in sorrow so that we can then celebrate the Resurrection with that much greater joy!

David