

THE CRUCIFIXION

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 26:36-27:66; John 18:1–19:42

STORY POINT: Jesus died on the cross to save people from sin.

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 53:5

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die? Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God.

PARENT DEVOTIONAL

God's law for the people was plain. Read Deuteronomy 6:5. But God's people, and all people, have broken the law. We have loved other things more than we love God. That is sin.

Jesus' purpose for coming to earth was to save us from our sin. (Matt. 1:21) Why did Jesus have to die? Why couldn't He just say, "You are forgiven"? God is just and requires due payment for sin. To simply forgive sin without requiring a payment would be unjust. According to God's Word, the payment of sin is death. (Rom. 6:23) But not only is God just, He is also loving. That is why Jesus was willing to die in our place.

Jesus came to live and die to show God's love to us (Rom. 5:7-8) so that whoever believes in Him might not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16) Jesus came to die so that we would be forgiven. (Eph. 1:7) Jesus came to die to bring us to God. (1 Pet. 3:18)

Jesus died on the cross to satisfy the wrath of God toward sin. Jesus' resurrection proved that God was satisfied with Jesus' sacrifice, and forgiveness and life are found in Him. (See 1 Cor. 15:17.) If Jesus had died but not been raised up, He would have been like military leaders who died without a throne. (Acts 5:33-37) But Jesus conquered death, just as He said He would. (John 2:19-21)

Jesus' resurrection gives us hope for our resurrection. (Rom. 6:5) Romans 8:11 says that the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will raise our bodies to life.

Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection are not the end of the story, but the center of it. Everything that was written about Jesus in the Old Testament and spoken by the prophets was coming true. As you teach kids this Bible story, emphasize the gospel: the good news of who Jesus is and what He has done.

KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE BIBLE STORY

Jesus' Crucifixion - Matthew 26:36-27:66; John 18:1-19:42

Jesus came with His disciples to a place called Gethsemane (geth SEM uh nih). He prayed to God, "Father! If it is possible, take this suffering away from Me. But only if it is part of Your plan." While Jesus prayed, the disciples fell asleep. Jesus said, "Get up. It is almost time."

Suddenly Judas arrived with a large crowd. Judas kissed Jesus so the crowd would know who Jesus was. The crowd arrested Jesus. Peter tried to stop the men, but Jesus told Peter not to. Jesus' followers ran away, but Peter stayed nearby. Three times, people asked Peter if he was a follower of Jesus. Peter said he was not.

The crowd took Jesus to the high priest. The high priest asked, "Are You the Messiah, the Son of God?"

Jesus replied, "Yes, that's right."

The high priest said, "He has spoken against God. He deserves to die!" The religious leaders did not want to believe Jesus is God's Son.

When morning came, the religious leaders led Jesus to Pilate, the governor. "Are You the King of the Jews?" Pilate asked. "Yes, that's right," Jesus replied.

Pilate asked the crowd what he should do. "Crucify Him!" they said. Pilate did not think Jesus had done anything wrong, but he handed Jesus over and said, "Do whatever you want."

The governor's soldiers put a scarlet robe on Jesus. They made a crown of thorns and put it on His head. Then they mocked Him, "Here is the King of the Jews!" Then they beat Him and led Him away to be killed.

The soldiers nailed Jesus to a cross. They put a sign above His head that said, THIS IS JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. Two criminals were crucified next to Him.

Darkness covered the land. Then Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" Jesus shouted again and then He died. Suddenly, the curtain in the temple sanctuary split in two, from top to bottom, and there was an earthquake. One of the men guarding Jesus' body said, "This man really was God's Son!"

Jesus was buried in a tomb. A stone was sealed in front of the tomb so that no one could steal Jesus' body.

Christ Connection: The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus is the center of the gospel. We deserve to die because of our sin, but Jesus died in our place. He was the blood sacrifice made once and for all for the forgiveness of sin. God was pleased with Jesus' sacrifice and raised Jesus from the dead to reign as King over all creation. We are forgiven only through Jesus. (Acts 4:12)

Memory Verse: Isaiah 53:5 "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."

K-2 DISCUSSION:

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 26:36-27:66; John 18:1–19:42

STORY POINT: Jesus died on the cross to save people from sin.

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 53:5

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die? Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ask the following questions and discuss:

- Which of Jesus' disciples helped the crowd arrest Jesus? (Judas, Matt. 26:47-49)
- Why did the crowd want to kill Jesus? (He claimed to be God's Son, Matt. 26:63-66)
- What happened when Jesus died? (The curtain in the temple sanctuary split in two and there was an earthquake; Matt. 27:51)

Say: The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus is the center of the gospel. We deserve to die because of our sin, but Jesus died in our place. We are forgiven only through Jesus. (Acts 4:12) Jesus died on the cross to save people from sin, and He is alive.

CRAFT AVAILABLE ON THE LAST PAGE

3RD-5TH DISCUSSION:

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 26:36-27:66; John 18:1–19:42

STORY POINT: Jesus died on the cross to save people from sin.

MEMORY VERSE: Isaiah 53:5

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die? Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss:

- Which of Jesus' disciples helped the crowd arrest Jesus? (Judas, Matt. 26:47-49)
- Why did the crowd want to kill Jesus? (He claimed to be God's Son, Matt. 26:63-66)
- What happened when Jesus died? (The curtain in the temple sanctuary split in two and there was an earthquake; Matt. 27:51)

Say: The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus is the center of the gospel. We deserve to die because of our sin, but Jesus died in our place. We are forgiven only through Jesus. (Acts 4:12) Jesus died on the cross to save people from sin, and He is alive.

Additional Discussion Questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey?
- How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember?
- How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

CRAFT AVAILABLE ON THE LAST PAGE

ACTIVITY FOR KINDERGARTEN-5TH GRADE



Instructions:

1. Cut out cross and paste on paper
2. Paint handprint and put on the cross
3. Write paid in full on the paper!

Another option:

