

## STORY

7/17/03

The Crucifixion of Jesus (Part 1) - Matthew 27:32-44; Mark 15:21-32; Luke 23:26-43; John 19:17-27

## TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Lord Jesus, may the love that You demonstrated for me on the cross fill my heart with love and appreciation. Truly You have rescued my soul from hell through Your innocent sufferings and death. I desire now to show my love to You by teaching the blessed truths of Your crucifixion to my students. As Your Holy Spirit has already worked faith in my heart, so also I pray that He might now work through me to strengthen the faith of these little ones. Give success to my humble effort for Your name's sake. Amen.

## VOCABULARY

*Cyrene* – an important city in Libya, North Africa.

*Gall* – a poison which when used in small portions and diluted with wine or vinegar became a mind-numbing narcotic. Jewish women often gave this drug to the condemned.

*Cast lots* – an ancient form of gambling.

## OUTER AIM

The Crucifixion of Jesus, the Son of God.

## INNER AIM

Jesus allowed Himself to be crucified to pay for the sins of the world.

## BACKGROUND

*(Rupprecht Bible History References Vol. 2, pp. 395 - 403)*

It was about 9:00 a.m. when Jesus and the two criminals were nailed to their crosses. Crucifixion was most often reserved for the very worst criminals, and then only for slaves and non-Roman citizens. The hatred of the Jews is demonstrated in that they not only wanted Jesus executed, they delighted in His suffering and asked for crucifixion.

V. 32 (On the way to Calvary, Simon of Cyrene, the women who mourned)

- ▶ It was customary for the condemned criminal to carry his own cross to the place of crucifixion.
- ▶ Jesus, however, was exhausted. Not only was He sleep deprived and in anguish of soul, He had also been whipped by the Romans – a particularly brutal form of punishment.
- ▶ When Jesus collapsed under the load of the cross, the Romans conscripted Simon of Cyrene to carry the cross.
- ▶ Simon, a Jew from northern Africa, was just entering Jerusalem, probably on his way to celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread.
- ▶ Mark further explains that he is the father of Alexander and Rufus. Most believe that this is the same Rufus mentioned later by Paul in Romans 16:13 – one who had obviously been converted to Christianity.
- ▶ Jesus was followed by a great multitude, including women who mourned for Him.
- ▶ From what Jesus said to them we can conclude that these were not believers but women who took pity on a condemned man.
- ▶ Thinking not of Himself but of these women, Jesus turned to them and warned them of the disaster about to befall Jerusalem.
- ▶ This prophesy was fulfilled forty years later (70 AD) when the Romans under Titus laid siege to Jerusalem and destroyed the temple.
- ▶ Indeed the eyewitness accounts from the historian Josephus tell us that the suffering in Jerusalem was

unparalleled.

- ▶ Cannibalism was rampant, proving Jesus' words that the women would wish they had never given birth.
- V. 33-36 (The nailing to the cross, the wine and gall, the dividing of his garments)
- ▶ They crucified Jesus on the hill outside of Jerusalem called Golgotha, meaning "The Place of the Skull." The place today is also known in the Christian Church as Calvary, taken from the Latin Calvaria, meaning "the Skull."
  - ▶ Heavy iron nails were used to fasten the condemned to the cross. These nails were most often driven through the wrists and heels. In Jesus' case we know that the nails did not break a bone (cf. John 19:33-36 and Psalm 34:20).
  - ▶ This helps also to complete the picture of Jesus as our Passover Lamb. No bone of the Passover lambs in the Old Testament could be broken. (Ex. 12:46 & Num. 9:12)
  - ▶ Nails could have been driven between the radius and ulna in the wrist or between the metacarpal palm bones of the hand without breaking a bone. Likewise a nail could be driven between the metatarsal foot bones or between the Achilles tendon and the tibia without breaking a bone.
  - ▶ Several types of crosses were used by the Romans in crucifixion.
  - ▶ Since Pilate attached a sign to the cross above Jesus' head, we can be fairly confident that the common Latin cross design was probably used.
  - ▶ Jesus refused to drink the wine or vinegar mixed with gall since it was a mind-numbing narcotic. He wanted to drink the cup of suffering to the last drop, in full possession of all His faculties.
  - ▶ It was the privilege of the Roman soldiers to divide the meager possessions of the one crucified. Gambling was a favorite pastime among them. This too was in fulfillment of a prophecy in Psalm 22:18.

V. 37 (The sign on the cross above Jesus)

- ▶ Pilate wrote the sign in three languages to ensure that everyone passing by could read what it said.
- ▶ This was meant as an insult to the Jews, whom Pilate blamed for the death of this innocent man.
- ▶ The Jews wanted the sign changed to "He said, I am the King of the Jews." In a rare show of resolve, Pilate refused to change what he had written.

V. 38-44 (Jesus' first words, "Father forgive them," the mocking and blasphemy)

- ▶ Only Luke records Jesus' first words from the cross, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."
- ▶ In the midst of such great agony Jesus' thoughts and prayers are for His tormenters.
- ▶ What perfect love! Jesus recognized what the soldiers and the Jews did not – the enormity of the sin of crucifying the very Son of God. In great love Jesus wanted even this great sin to be charged to His own account.
- ▶ The soldiers, the Jews watching, the people passing by, even the two criminals crucified with Him began to mock and blaspheme Jesus as He hung on the cross.
- ▶ The cruelty directed against the perfect, meek, loving Savior of all mankind is beyond our comprehension.
- ▶ Truly the evil hatred of man and devil was being meted out upon the sinless Son of God.

Luke 23:39-43 (Jesus' words to the repentant criminal)

- ▶ The words and actions of Jesus have the desired effect upon one of those crucified with him.
- ▶ In faith the man defends Jesus from the blasphemy of the other malefactor and asks Jesus to remember him.
- ▶ In telling the man that he would be with him "today in paradise" Jesus signifies the transition at death from time to eternity. Jesus said "today" because time stopped for the man at death. This was to be his last day, for he was about to enter eternity. It is difficult for our human minds to comprehend timelessness, and how there is no passage of time for those who through death are carried into eternity.

John 19:25-27 (Jesus' words to His mother Mary and John)

- ▶ Several believers were also present in the crowd near the cross, among them were Jesus' mother and the Apostle John.
- ▶ Even at this point in His suffering Jesus' thoughts center on the needs of others.
- ▶ In tender love He considers the sorrow of his dear mother.
- ▶ Mary loved Jesus as no other mother could love her child, for she loved Him both as her own son and as her Savior.
- ▶ Jesus offers to His mother the Apostle John as her son.
- ▶ To John (the disciple Jesus loved) Jesus offered Mary as his mother. Jesus knew that John would not be martyred but would live to be an old man.
- ▶ He was the perfect choice to care for Mary as she grew old.

### **STUDENT PRAYER**

Dear Jesus, when I hear again all of the misery You had to suffer because of what I have done wrong, it makes me feel very sorry and ashamed. Please forgive me for causing You such agony by my sins. Though You suffered greatly for me, now I also know that You rose again from the dead and now live glorified in heaven! Help me always to repent of my sins, and to look only to You for forgiveness and eternal life. How I look forward to seeing You as You are now in heaven! Please hold me in Your hand until that day. Amen.

### **PRESENTATION**

Present the story in all its various points using the harmony prepared for that purpose.

### **APPLICATIONS**

1. Whom would we probably be thinking about if we had to suffer like Jesus? (Ourselves.) Whom did Jesus think about? (Everyone else.)
2. The example of Jesus on the cross teaches us that even when we are punished unjustly we are still never to seek revenge. Think of all that was done to Jesus. What caused His suffering? (My sins.) Has anyone ever done anything to us as bad as what we caused Jesus to suffer? What then should we do to people who hurt us, no matter what they do? (Forgive them, as Jesus did.)
3. There is nothing to indicate that the repentant thief was baptized, yet Jesus said that he would go to heaven. What does this tell us about baptism?

### **PASSAGES**

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

#### Lower

Mark 16:16 - He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

John 1:29- Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Ephesians 1:7 - We have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

#### Middle any of the above and...

1 John 2:2 - And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

Matthew 20:28 - The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

Upper any of the above and...

2 Corinthians 5:19 - God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

1 Peter 1:18-19 - ...Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, ...but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

### **HYMN CHOICES**

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (TLH #175)

"On My Heart Imprint Thine Image" (TLH #179)

"Lord Jesus, We Give Thanks to Thee" (TLH #173)

# The Crucifixion of Jesus

Matthew 27:32-56; Mark 15:21-41; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:17-30

## The Story

Parents: Review this lesson with your child.

Early in the morning, (on the day that we call Good Friday), Jesus was led to a hill outside of Jerusalem to be crucified. This means He was nailed to a cross. In those days under Roman law, only the very worst criminals like robbers and murderers were put to death in this way. Jesus hadn't done anything wrong. He died on the cross in order to pay for our sins.

Jesus was willing to do this because He loves us so much. Even when He was hanging on the cross in so much pain, He showed how He loved everyone, even His enemies. The first thing He did was to pray that God would forgive the men who had nailed Him to the cross.

There were two robbers that were crucified with Jesus. One of the robbers was sorry for his sins, and he told the other robber that Jesus had done nothing wrong. Jesus told him that he would be with Jesus in heaven that day.

Even though Jesus' body was very weak and in a lot of pain, He thought about others. He saw His mother, Mary, at the foot of the cross, and asked His disciple John to take care of her.

While Jesus was on the cross, it became very dark in the middle of the day. During this time, Jesus was suffering the pain of being crucified and also the punishment for the sins of the whole world. This was so terrible for Him that He cried out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?"

Then Jesus said, "It is finished!" This meant that His suffering was over and the sins of the world were paid for. Now everyone who believes that Jesus died for them will be able to go to heaven.

At the very time that Jesus died, the earth shook and big rocks split apart. God was showing the people that this was not an ordinary

man that was on the cross. This was the Son of God.

Only the Son of God could pay for the sins of the whole world.

**Jesus died on the cross for the sins of the whole world.**

## Passage

Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world! John 1:29

## Hymn TLH 147

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us!  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy on us!  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace! Amen

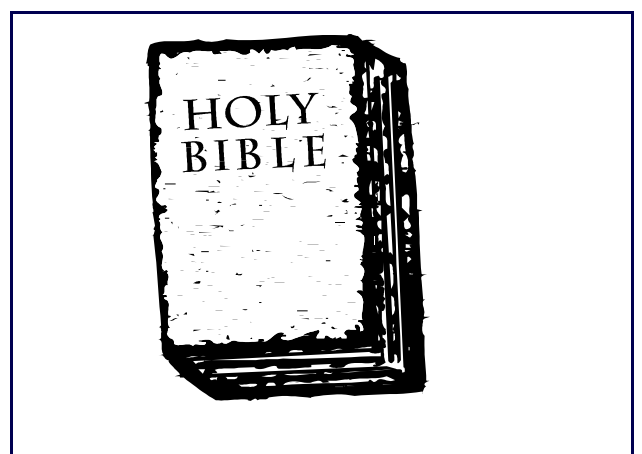
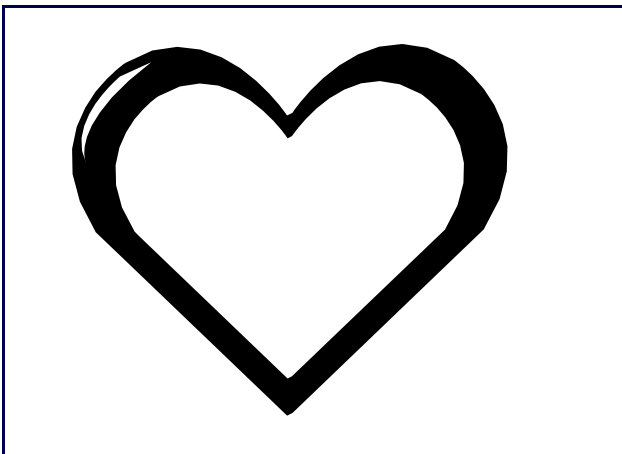
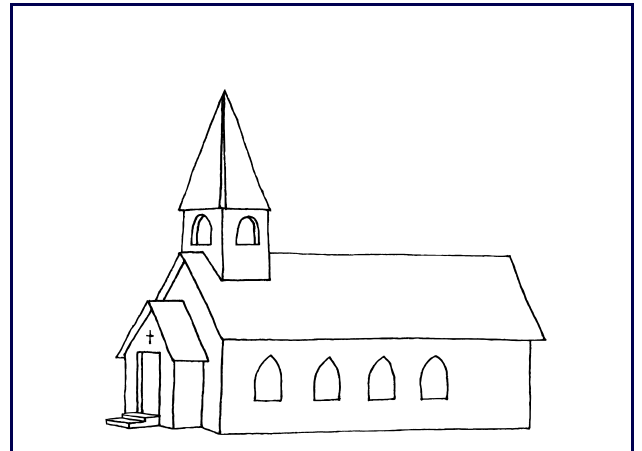
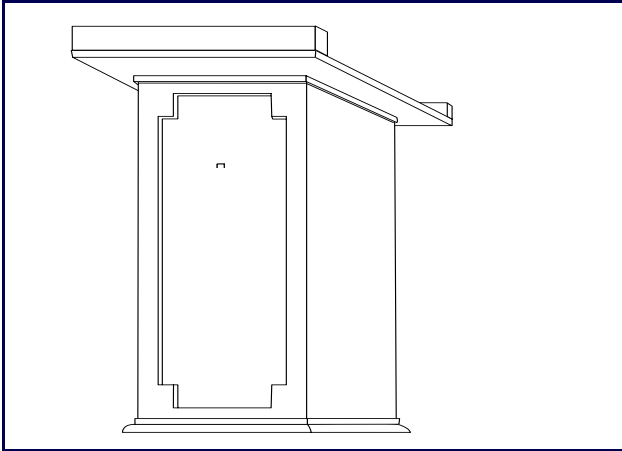
## Prayer

Dear Jesus,

I feel so bad about my sins when I know how much You had to suffer to pay for them. Please forgive me for all the wrong things that I do and help me to live as Your child. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. Amen.



**Classroom Activity** - Help the children complete these pictures by drawing a cross where you think it should go. Then color the pictures.



## Questions

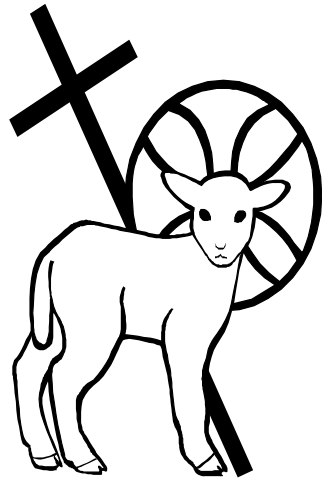
What do you think of when you see a cross?

Why is the cross so important to us?

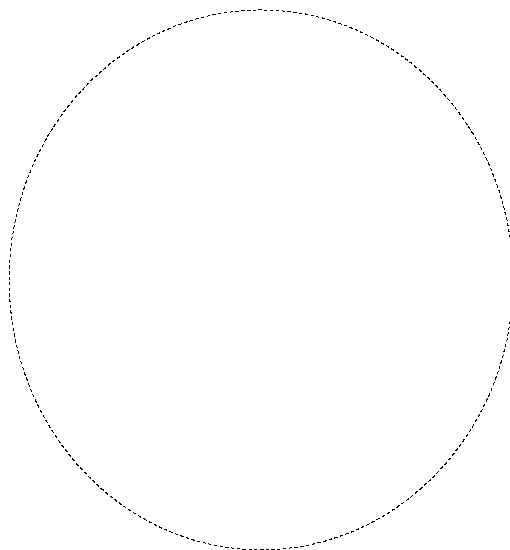
Name some places where you might see a cross.

## Classroom Art Activity - Pencil Holder (*over a lg. juice can*) -

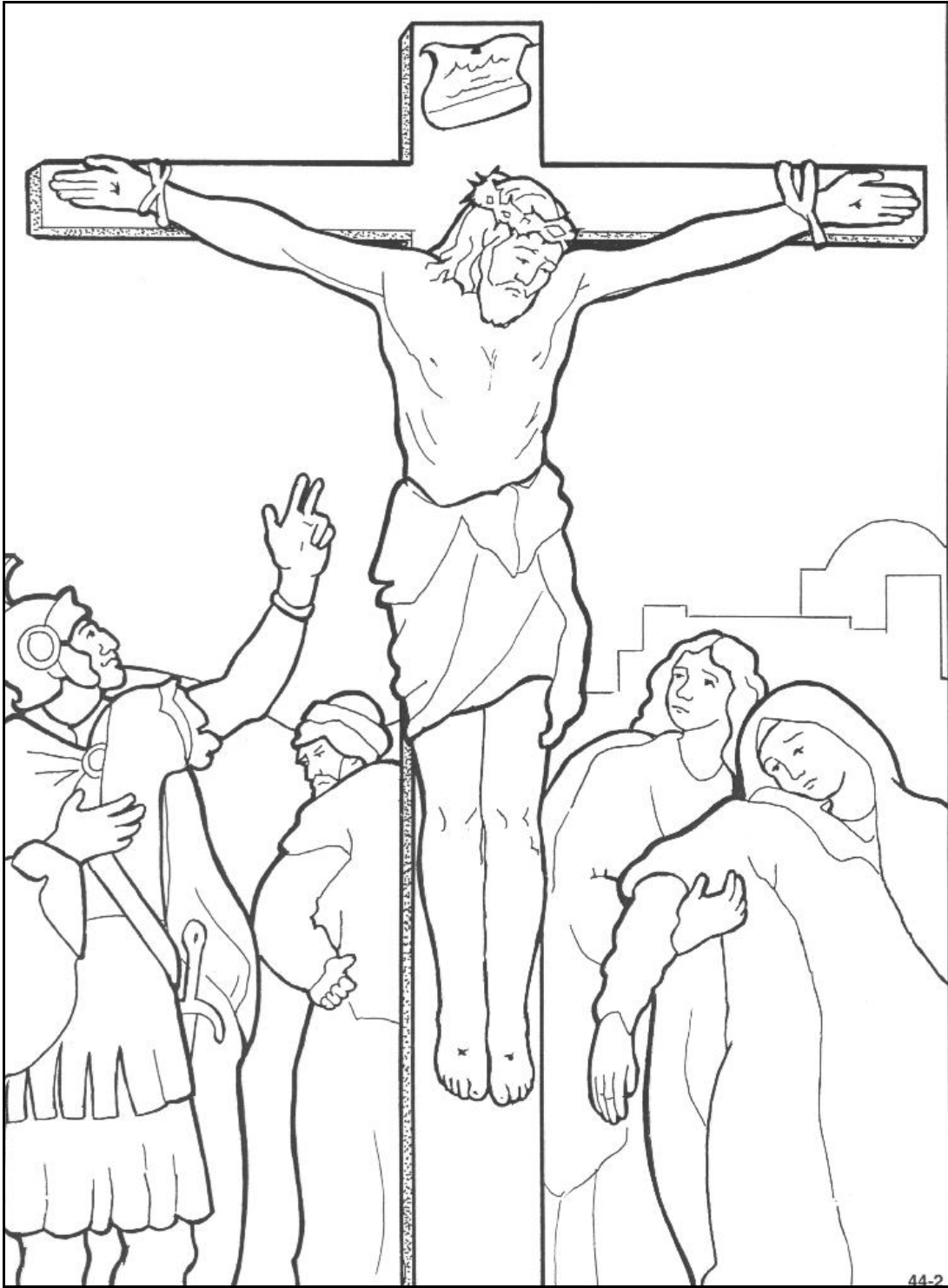
Help the children color this wrapper for a juice can. If you are using a juice can extend the wrapper all the way to the sides of the paper. Glue it to the can. It may also be used without a can by gluing construction paper under the rectangle design and hot gluing the optional circle below to the bottom of the cylinder.



**O Christ, the Lamb of God,  
Who takes away the sin of the world.**



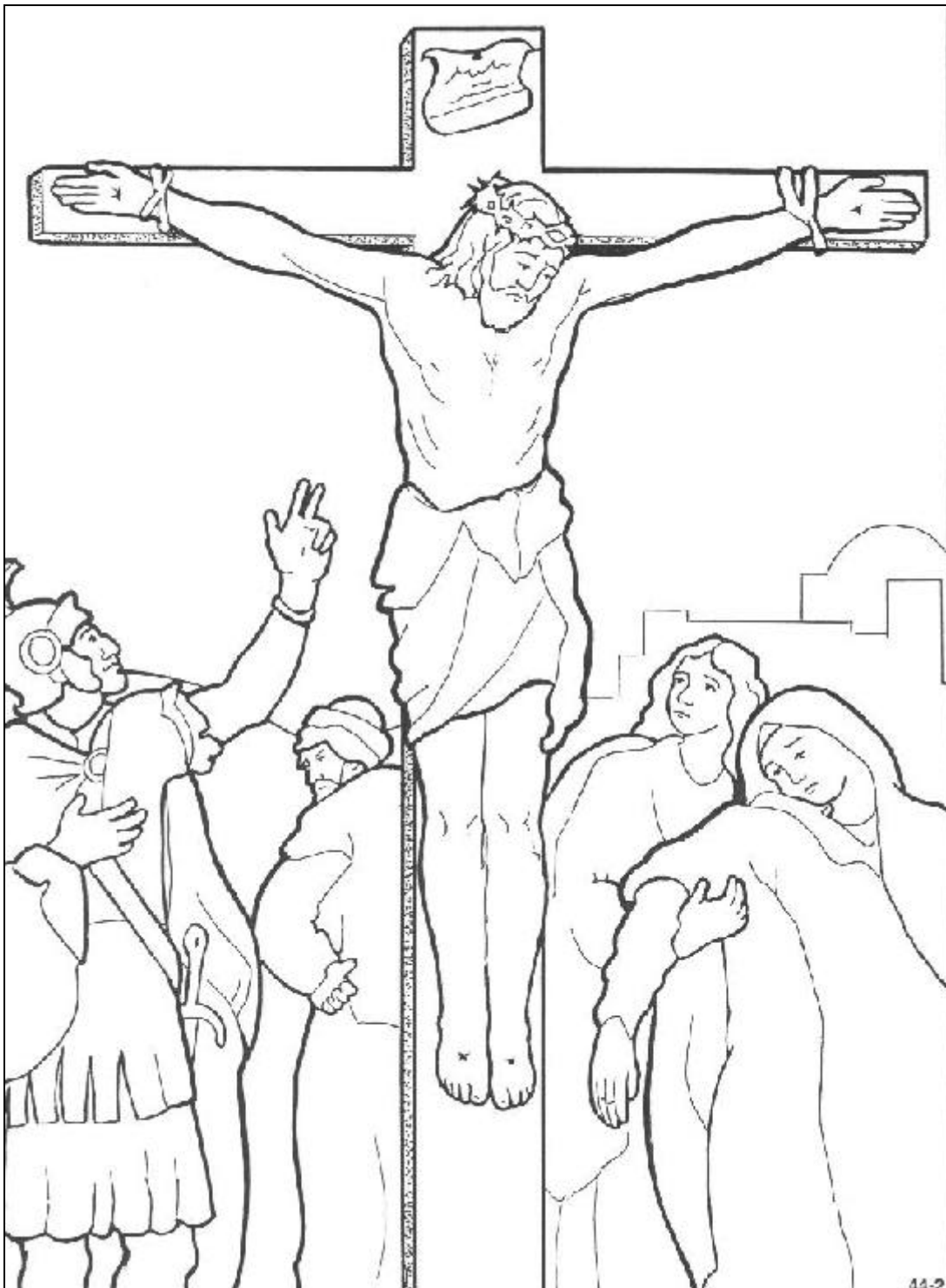
*optional pencil holder bottom*





# The Crucifixion of Jesus

Matthew 27:32-56; Mark 15:21-41; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:17-30



## The Story

Early in the morning, (on the day that we call Good Friday), Jesus was led to a hill outside of Jerusalem to be crucified. This means He was nailed to a cross. In those days under Roman law, only the very worst criminals like robbers and murderers were put to death in this way. Jesus hadn't done anything wrong. He died on the cross in order to pay for our sins.

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There were two robbers that were crucified with Jesus. One of them was sorry for his sins, and he told the other man that Jesus had done nothing wrong. Jesus told him that he would be with Him in heaven that day.

Even though Jesus' body was very weak and in a lot of pain, He thought about others. He saw His mother, Mary, at the foot of the cross, and asked His disciple John to take care of her.

While Jesus was on the cross, it became very dark in the middle of the day. During this time, Jesus was suffering the pain of being crucified

and also the punishment for the sins of the whole world. This was so terrible for Him that He cried out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?"

Then Jesus said, "It is finished!" This meant that His suffering was over and the sins of the world were paid for. Now everyone who believes that Jesus died for them will be able to go to heaven.

At the very time that Jesus died, the earth shook and big rocks split apart. God was showing the people that this was not an ordinary man that was on the cross. This was the Son of God.

Only the Son of God could pay for the sins of the whole world.

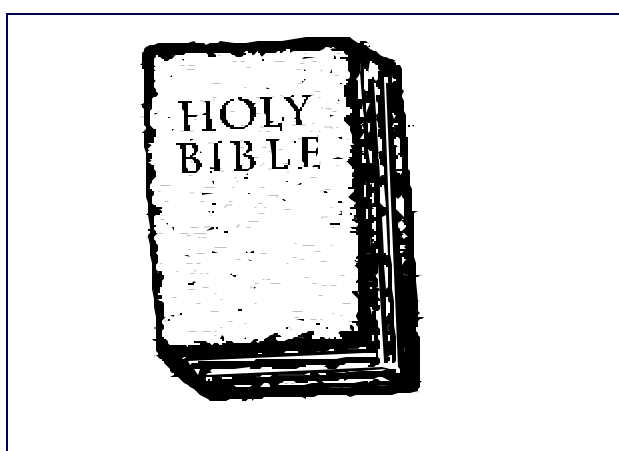
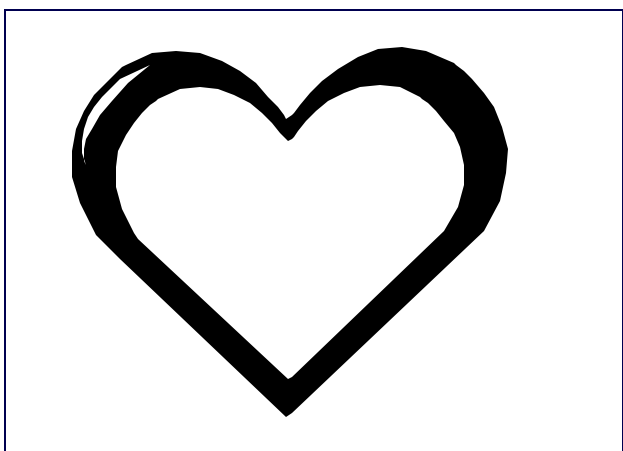
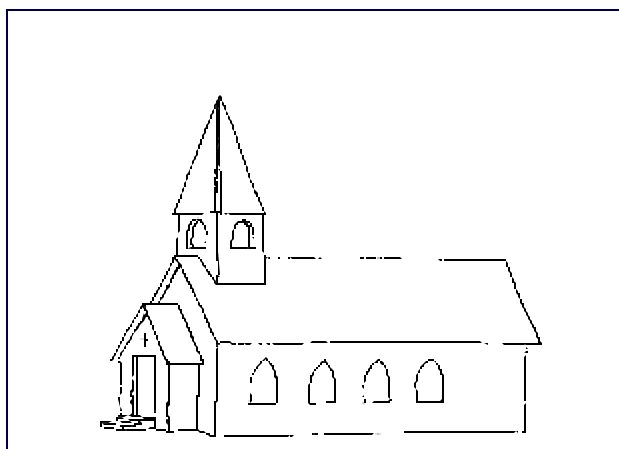
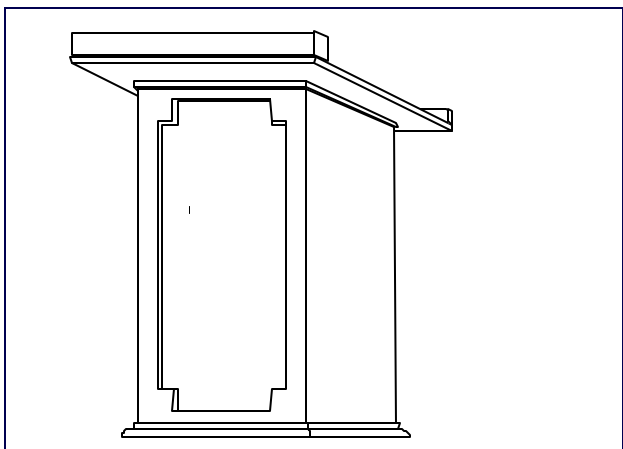
## Questions

What do you think of when you see a cross?

Why is the cross so important to us?

Name some places where you might see a cross.

**Activity** - Complete these pictures by drawing a cross where you think it should go. Then color the pictures.



## Memory Passage

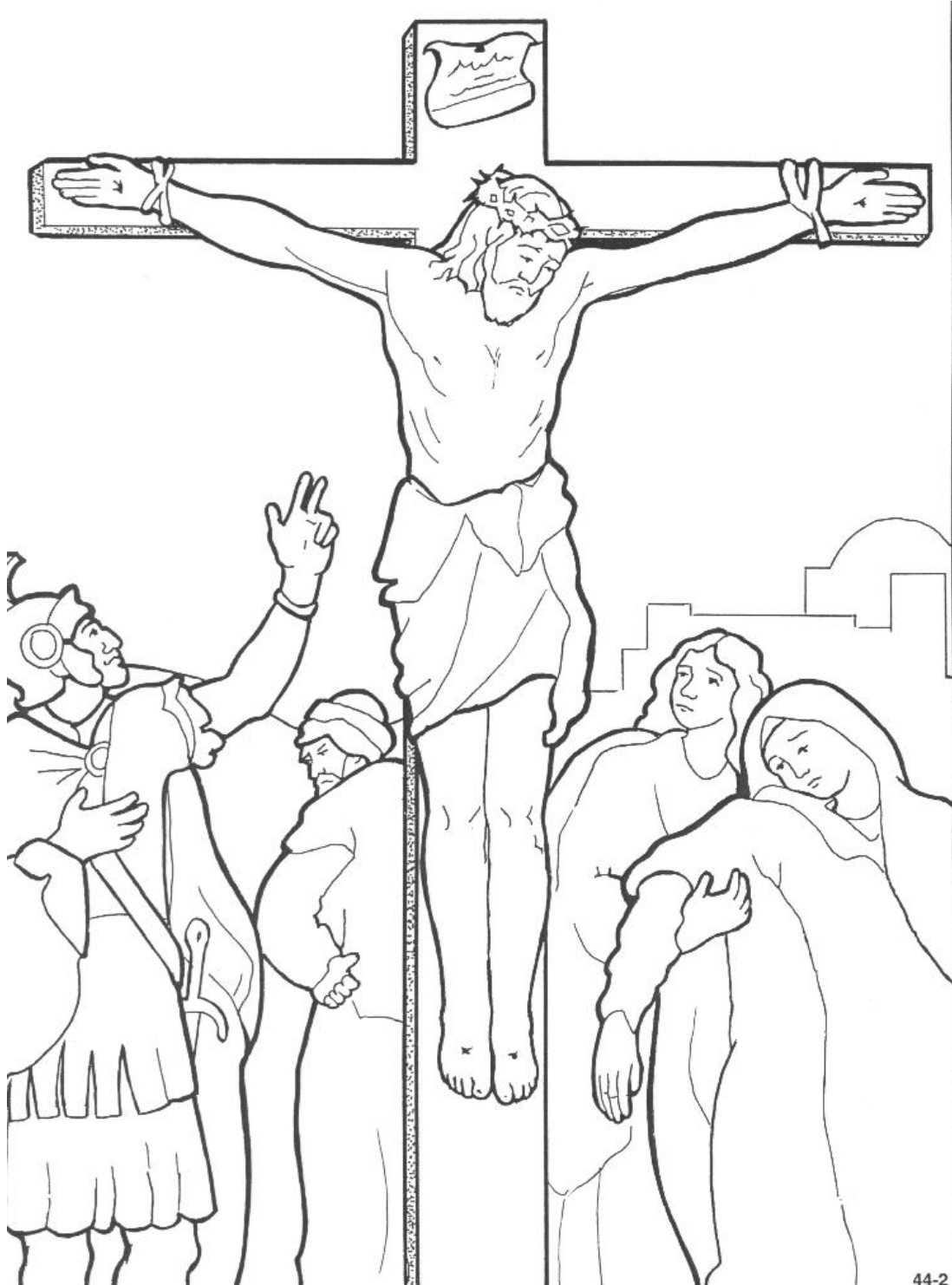
**Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away  
the sin of the world! John 1:29**

## Prayer

Dear Jesus, I feel so bad about my sins when I know how much You had to suffer to pay for them. Please forgive me for all the wrong things that I do and help me to live as Your child. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. Amen.

# The Crucifixion of Jesus

Matthew 27:32-56; Mark 15:21-41; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:17-30



## The Story

On Good Friday, at 9:00 in the morning, the soldiers led Jesus to a hill outside of Jerusalem called Golgotha. Here He would be crucified, nailed to a cross. This was the punishment that was used for the worst of criminals. Jesus had done nothing wrong. He was willing to be put to death on the cross to pay for our sins. He took the punishment that we deserved because He loves us so much.

Jesus was supposed to carry His own cross, but He was so weak from being beaten the night before that a man named Simon was chosen to carry His cross for Him.

Soon after the soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross, Jesus showed how much He loved even His enemies. He prayed, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."

There were two other criminals who were crucified with Him. One of them made fun of Jesus, but the other one said that he believed Jesus had done nothing wrong. He was sorry for his sins. He spoke to Jesus and begged Him, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus told him, "Today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Even while Jesus was suffering, He thought about others instead of Himself. When He saw his mother at the foot of the cross, He asked His disciple John to take care of her.

In the middle of the day it

became very dark for three hours. During this time Jesus was suffering not only the pain of the crucifixion, but also the punishment for the sins of the whole world. This caused Him to cry out to His Heavenly Father, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

Before Jesus died, He said, "It is finished." This meant that His suffering was over and He had paid for the sins of the world. Jesus suffered all of this because of our sins. Just think of how much He loved us! Now everyone who believes that Jesus died for them will be saved.

When Jesus died, there were some strange things that happened. The heavy curtain that was in the temple was torn in half. There was also an earthquake. Large rocks were split apart and graves were opened. Many believers who had died, came out of their graves and appeared in Jerusalem. Everyone that saw this knew that this was not an ordinary man that had died. This was the Son of God. Only He could pay for the sins of the whole world.

## Crossword Puzzle - Use these words to fill in the crossword puzzle below.

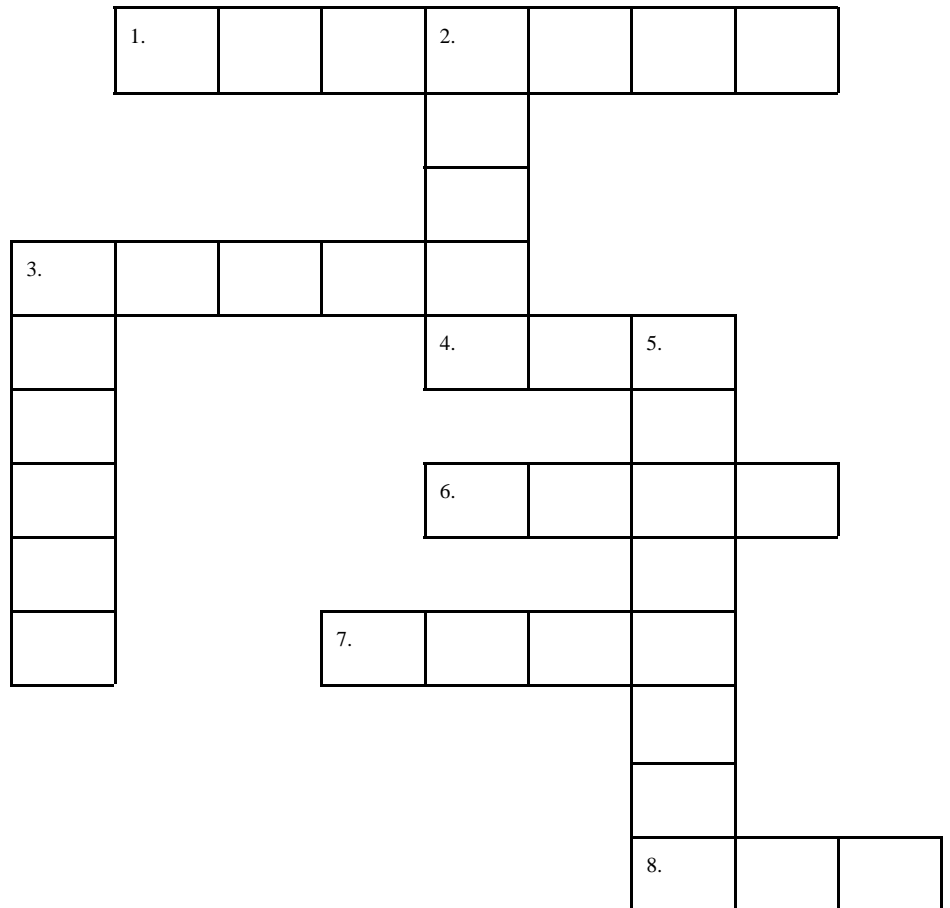
JESUS MARY SAD JOHN CRUCIFY SIN JOYFUL CROSS DARKNESS

### ACROSS

1. to put to death on a cross
3. the Son of God
4. how we feel when we hear the story of Jesus' death
6. Jesus' mother
7. the disciple who took care of Mary
8. Jesus death paid for our \_\_\_\_\_.

### DOWN

2. what Jesus died on
3. how we feel about our sins being forgiven
5. this covered the earth for three hours while Jesus was on the cross



## Something To Think About

1. Why did Jesus, Who had done nothing wrong have to suffer and die?
2. How do you feel when you hear how Jesus suffered for your sins?
3. How did Jesus set an example for us even when He was dying on the cross?
4. Why is the cross so important to us?
5. Name some places where you might see a cross.

# Memory Passage

John 1:29 - Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away  
the sin of the world!

## Hymn Study (Common Service Book # 544)

There is a green hill far away,  
Outside a city wall,  
Where the dear Lord was crucified,  
Who died to save us all.

There was no other good enough  
To pay the price of sin;  
He only could unlock the gate  
Of heaven, and let us in.

Talk about what the hymn writer means by these words.

1. "green hill" \_\_\_\_\_

2. "dear Lord" \_\_\_\_\_

3. "no other good enough" \_\_\_\_\_

4. "unlock the gate of heaven" \_\_\_\_\_

## Prayer

Dear Jesus, I feel so bad about my sins when I know how much You had to suffer to pay for them. Please forgive me for all the wrong things that I do and help me to live as Your child. Thank You for dying on the cross for me. Amen

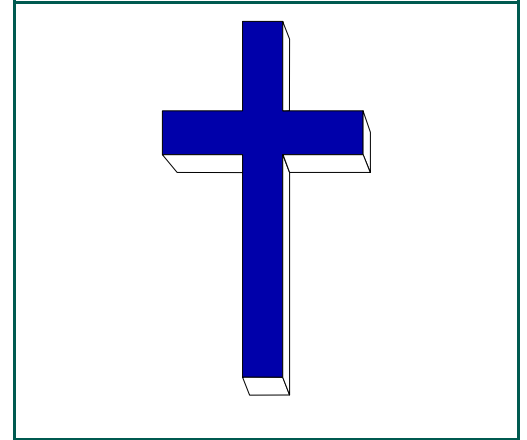
# The Crucifixion of Jesus

Matthew 27:32-56; Mark 15:21-41; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:17-30

What did the cross mean to the people of Jesus' day?

What does the cross mean to you?

Why is the cross the symbol for Christianity?



## Prayer

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to suffer and die on the cross for our sins. As we hear about the suffering and death of Jesus, help us to realize the seriousness of sin in our lives. Make us truly sorry for our sins and help us to look to Jesus and the cross for forgiveness. Bless our study of Your Word today. Amen.

## THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

(Matthew 27:32-56; Mark 15:21-41; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:17-30)

Pilate was afraid of what the people would do so he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified. The soldiers led Jesus out of the city to a hill called Golgotha which means "The Place of the Skull." Jesus had to carry the cross on which He would be nailed, but He was so weak from the terrible beating the night before that He collapsed under the weight of the cross. A man in the crowd named Simon from Cyrene was made to carry the cross.

Jesus was offered sour wine mixed

with gall to help numb the pain of the crucifixion, but He refused to drink it.

After the soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross, He prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

The soldiers that had put Jesus on the cross divided His garments among themselves. His inner robe didn't have a seam in it so they cast lots (like throwing dice) to see who would get it.

Pilate had a sign put on the cross to tell the people why Jesus was being





punished. These words were written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek - *Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews*.

Two other criminals were crucified with Jesus, the one on His right side and the other on His left. The one criminal mocked Jesus and said, "If You are the Christ (Messiah), save Yourself and us." But the other one scolded him and said, "Don't you fear God at all? We deserve to die for our crimes, but this Man has done nothing wrong." Then he turned to Jesus and said, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus answered, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Jesus also showed His love and concern for His mother when He saw her at the foot of the cross with His disciple John. He said to her, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to John, "Behold your mother!" Then John took Mary to his home.

At noon darkness fell over the whole world. The darkness lasted until 3:00 PM. At the height of Jesus' suffering, He cried out, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

At this time He was suffering the punishment of hell for the sins of the whole world.

When Jesus knew that His suffering had paid for the sins of the world, He called out, "I thirst!" One of the soldiers filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick and put it in His mouth.

Then Jesus shouted, "It is finished!" This was a cry of victory. Jesus had completed the work of paying for the sins of the world.

After that He said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." Then He bowed His head and died.

When Jesus died, the heavy curtain in the temple was torn in half. There was also an earthquake. Rocks were split apart and graves were opened. Many believers who had died came out of their graves and appeared in Jerusalem. When the Roman captain saw these things, He said, "Surely, this was the Son of God!"

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**Outer Aim - Jesus, the Son of God, was crucified.**

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**What Do You Remember?** Put "(Y)es" or "(N)o" in the blank.

1. \_\_\_\_ A soldier carried Jesus' cross.
2. \_\_\_\_ Jesus' mother was there when He was on the cross.
3. \_\_\_\_ Jesus asked God to punish His enemies.
4. \_\_\_\_ Jesus spoke three times when He was on the cross.
5. \_\_\_\_ One of the criminals repented while on the cross.
6. \_\_\_\_ The soldiers divided Jesus' clothing among themselves.

**Recalling Details** - Complete each sentence with one word.

1. Jesus was crucified on a hill called\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Two \_\_\_\_\_were crucified with Jesus.
3. \_\_\_\_\_put a sign on the cross.
4. Jesus told \_\_\_\_\_ to take care of His mother.
5. Darkness covered the earth for \_\_\_\_\_hours.
6. When Jesus died, the curtain in the \_\_\_\_\_ was torn in half.

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**Inner Aim**

**Jesus allowed Himself to be crucified to pay for the sins of the world.**

**Passage** - Look up Matthew 20:28 and fill in the missing words.

The Son of Man did not come to be \_\_\_\_\_, but to  
\_\_\_\_\_ and to give His \_\_\_\_\_ a ransom for many.

**Hymn** - TLH 175 v. 1-4

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast  
Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Which verse of Hymn 175 pictures Jesus dying on the cross?

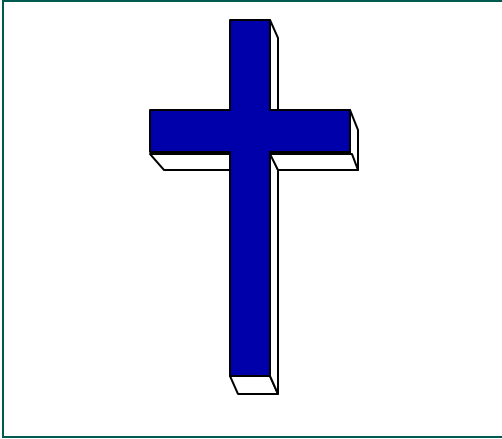
## Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus,

When I hear again how You suffered and died for my sins, it makes me feel very sorry for all the wrong I have done. You took the punishment that I should have suffered and willingly died for me. Forgive me for all the sins I have committed and help me to follow in Your footsteps daily. Help me to show my thankfulness to You by my words and actions. Help me to love others as You love me. Keep me faithful to You and Your Holy Word. In Your name I pray. Amen.

# The Crucifixion of Jesus

Matthew 27:32-56; Mark 15:21-41; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:17-30



What did the cross mean to the people of Jesus' day?

What does the cross mean to you?

Why is the cross the symbol for Christianity?

## Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for sending Your Son Jesus to suffer and die on the cross for our sins. As we hear about the suffering and death of Jesus, help us to realize the seriousness of sin in our lives. Make us truly sorry for our

sins and help us to look to Jesus and the cross for forgiveness. Bless our study of Your Word today. Amen.

## The Crucifixion of Jesus

(Matthew 27:32-56; Mark 15:21-41; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:17-30)

Pilate was afraid of what the people would do so he handed Jesus over to them to be crucified. The soldiers led Jesus out of the city to a hill called Golgotha which means "The Place of the Skull." Jesus had to carry the cross on which He would be nailed, but He was so weak from the terrible beating the night before that He collapsed under the weight of the cross. A man in the crowd named Simon from Cyrene was made to carry the cross.

Jesus was offered sour wine mixed with gall to help numb the pain of the crucifixion, but He refused to drink it.

After the soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross, He prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

The soldiers that had put Jesus on the cross divided His garments among themselves. His inner robe didn't have a seam in it so they cast lots (like throwing dice) to see who would get it.

Pilate had a sign put on the cross to tell the people why Jesus was being punished. These words were written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek - *Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews*.

Two other criminals were crucified with Jesus, the one on His right side and the other on His left. The one criminal mocked Jesus and said, "If You are the Christ (Messiah), save Yourself and us." But the other one scolded him and said, "Don't you fear God at all? We deserve to die for



our crimes, but this Man has done nothing wrong." Then he turned to Jesus and said, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." Jesus answered, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Jesus also showed His love and concern for His mother when He saw her at the foot of the cross with His disciple John. He said to her, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to John, "Behold your mother!" Then John took Mary to his home.

At noon darkness fell over the whole world. The darkness lasted until 3:00 p.m. At the height of Jesus' suffering, He cried out, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken me?" At this time He was suffering the punishment of hell for the sins of the whole world.

When Jesus knew that His suffering had paid for the sins of the world, He called out, "I thirst!" One of the soldiers filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick and put it in His mouth.

Then Jesus shouted, "It is finished!" This was a cry of victory. Jesus had completed the work of paying for the sins of the world.

After that He said, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit." Then He bowed His head and died.

When Jesus died, the heavy curtain in the temple was torn in half. There was also an earthquake. Rocks were split apart and graves were opened. Many believers who had died came out of their graves

and appeared in Jerusalem. When the Roman Captain saw these things, He said, "Surely, this was the Son of God!"

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### Outer Aim

**Jesus, the Son of God, was crucified.**

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### Discussion Questions

1. Where is Cyrene located? Why do you think Simon was in Jerusalem at this time?
2. How was Scripture fulfilled when the soldiers cast lots for Jesus' clothing? (Matthew 27:35)
3. How was it possible for the thief on the cross to receive eternal life?
4. What did Jesus say to show that He was suffering the pain of hell?
5. Why could only the sinless Son of God pay the price for the sins of the world?
6. What was the significance of the veil in the temple being torn in half?
7. What did Jesus mean when He said, "It is finished"?
8. How do you feel about your sins when you think of what they cost Jesus?

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### Inner Aim

**Jesus allowed Himself to be crucified to pay for the sins of the world.**

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**Using Your Bibles** - Find the Scripture reference for each of the seven "words" that Jesus spoke from the cross.

Father forgive them..... \_\_\_\_\_

Today you will be with Me in Paradise. \_\_\_\_\_

Woman behold your son. \_\_\_\_\_

My God, My God..... \_\_\_\_\_

I thirst. \_\_\_\_\_

It is finished. \_\_\_\_\_

Father into Your hands..... \_\_\_\_\_

**Passages** - Read each passage and tell how it applies to the story.

Matthew 20:28 -

John 1:29 -

Ephesians 1:7 -

1 Peter 1:18-19 -

**Hymn** - Read the words of Hymn 179. Tell what these words mean to you. Try to put it into your own words.

## Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, when I hear again how You suffered and died for my sins, it makes me feel very sorry for all the wrong I have done. You took the punishment that I should have suffered and willingly died for me. Forgive me for all the sins I have committed and help me to follow in Your footsteps daily. Help me to show my thankfulness to You by my words and actions. Help me to love others as You love me. Keep me faithful to You and Your Holy Word. In Your name I pray. Amen.