

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

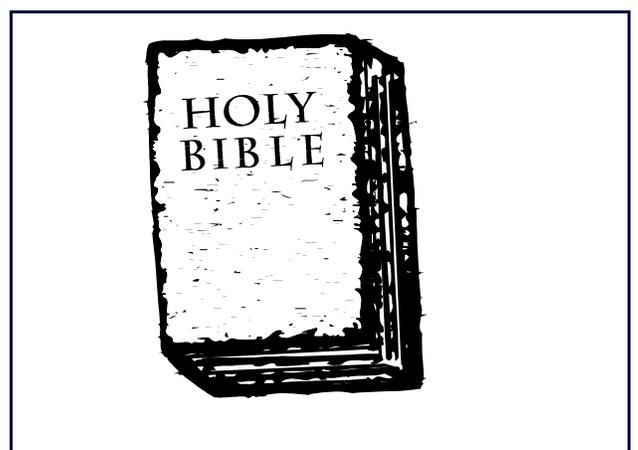
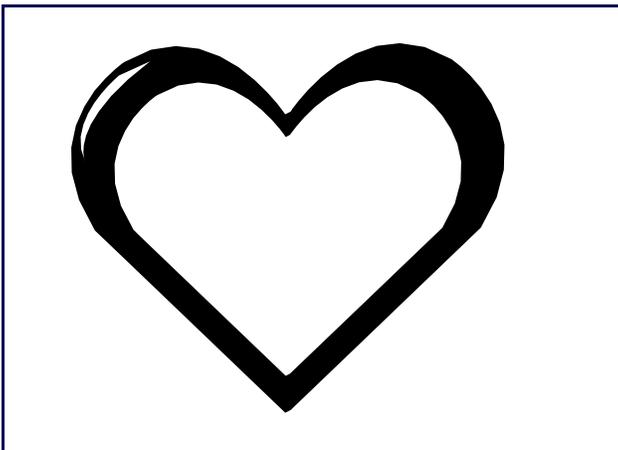
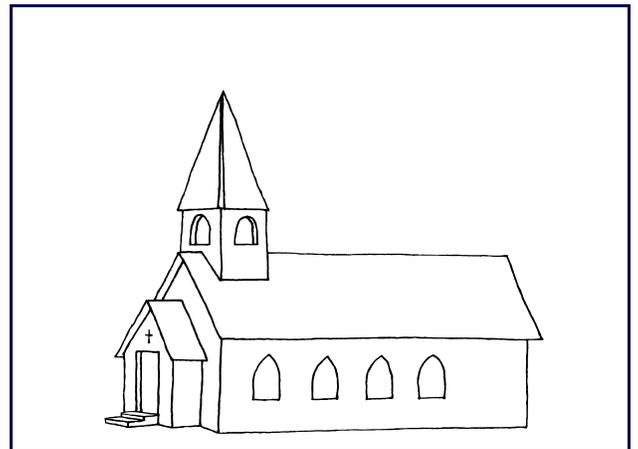
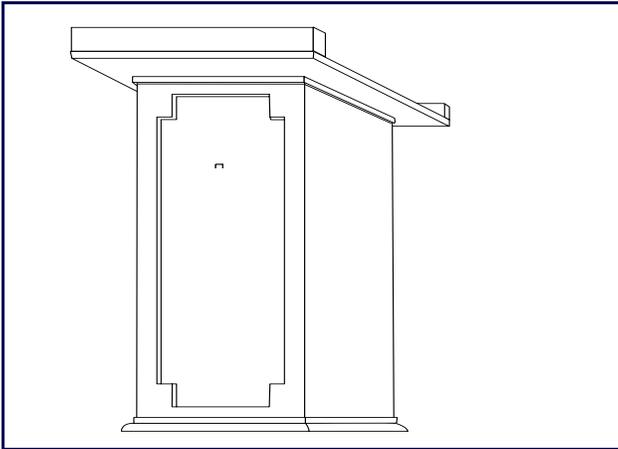
Prayer

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

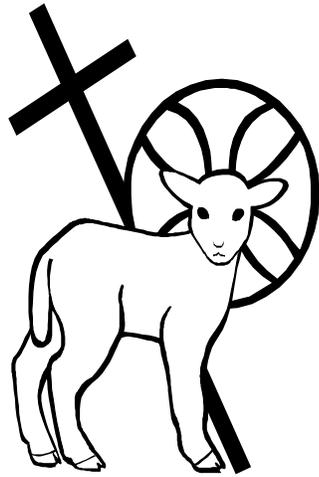
What do you think of when you see a cross?

Why is the cross so important to us?

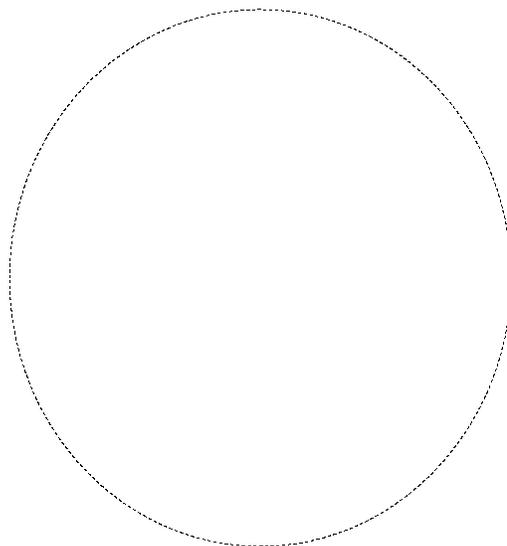
Name some places where you might see a cross.

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

