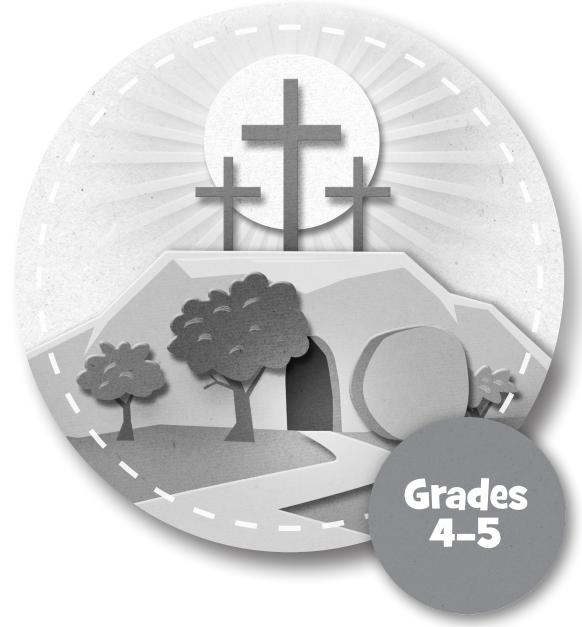
## **Answers Bible Curriculum**









Answers Bible Curriculum was developed to present the gospel, beginning in Genesis, to all generations; to train believers to know, obey, and defend God's Word; and to encourage believers to become conformed to the image of Christ.

Certain principles guided our writers, editors, and reviewers as we developed Answers Bible Curriculum. These principles are reflected in the teaching, activities, and illustrations presented throughout the curriculum.

- We can trust all of God's Word beginning in Genesis.
- God's attributes are displayed throughout the Bible.
- The Bible presents true history.
- We must carefully and accurately interpret the Bible.
- God's plan of redemption is woven throughout Scripture.

- We must be ready to give a defense for what we believe.
- We are to live in light of what the Bible teaches.

Answers Bible Curriculum is a 200-lesson curriculum that covers the entire Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, in chronological fashion. The first 120 lessons survey the Old Testament, and the final 80 lessons survey the New Testament. Where appropriate, lessons include apologetics material confirming the accuracy of the biblical record, as well as historical background and life application.

- 200-lesson, four-year curriculum (50 lessons per year); but take as long as you need to complete it
- Available in six age levels: Pre-K-1, Grades 2-3, Grades 4-5, Middle School, High School, Adult
- Chronological Bible teaching for all levels
- Synchronized lessons—all ages study the same scriptures each week

#### Order online at AnswersBibleCurriculum.com

Answers Bible Curriculum

Grades 4–5 Teacher • KJV

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Scripture taken from the King James Version. Public domain.



# Jesus Died for Sinners

Jesus came to Jerusalem to die on the cross for our sins.

#### Lesson Focus

Jesus entered Jerusalem, and the people welcomed him as their king and Messiah. The Jewish religious leaders were jealous and sought to kill Jesus. Jesus' disciple Judas betrayed him, and Jesus was arrested, tried, and crucified. Jesus' death on the cross took the punishment we deserve for sin so that all who repent and trust in him will be saved.

#### Key Passages

Matthew 21:1-11, 26:26-29, 26:63-68; Luke 23:32-38, 23:44-48

#### **Objectives**

Students will be able to:

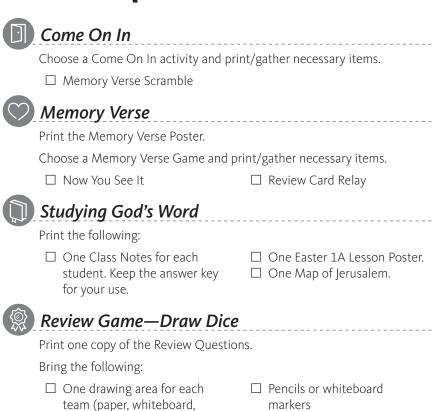
- Describe how Jesus was welcomed as a king when he entered Jerusalem.
- Identify why Jesus suffered and died on the cross.

### Memory Verse

**John 11:25** Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

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## **Lesson Preparation**



We recommend the following order for churches using a large group/small group format:

#### Large Group

Studying God's Word Group Prayer Optional Video Clip

#### **Small Group**

Come On In Memory Verse Review Game Optional Activity Take Home Sheet

## Go to Prayer

etc.)

Dear Lord, thank you for the Easter season. Thank you for Jesus, our Savior and King! May my students recognize the importance of Jesus coming to Jerusalem as the promised Messiah. Help them understand that Jesus' arrest and crucifixion were part of your plan to save us from our sins. Open my students' eyes to their own sin so that they will repent, turn to Jesus, and trust in him for salvation.

☐ Two dice (one per team)

## **Optional Supplements**

На	nds-On Activities
Do	these activities when you think best—before, during, or after the lesson.
•	Pom-Pom Paint Craft
	Students will make a cross design using pom-poms and paint.
•	Jerusalem Road Relay
	Students will race across the room using towels/paper plates as stepping stones.
•	Coloring Sheet
	Students will color as you review today's lesson with them.
•	Word Search
	Students will search for words from today's lesson. Make it a challenge: have students race against each other or the clock to find all the words.
Vic	deo Clips
	e Centurion's Testimony (5:10)
Poi	werPoint
	u may want to use the PowerPoint presentation to enhance your teaching. Before
	ening the slides, be sure to download and install the fonts provided.
te	<b>S</b>

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## **Prepare to Share**

#### Scriptural Background

Prepare to teach by preparing your heart. Read the key passages for this lesson along with this background.

Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday each mark important events in the life of Jesus. Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey as prophesied by the Old Testament prophet Zechariah (Zechariah 9:9). Good Friday is the day we remember Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross, bearing the punishment for sin and the wrath of God for sinners (John 1:29). Then, Easter Sunday marks the joyous celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Without these events, the Christian faith would be futile and meaningless, and mankind would be lost and hopeless. Significantly, all four Gospels record these events, but with different perspectives and details to give us the full picture of what happened.

Every detail was sovereignly orchestrated by God. When Jesus neared Jerusalem before the Passover, he sent two disciples into a village to collect a donkey and a colt. The animals were right where Jesus said they'd be, and the disciples were permitted to collect them and bring them to Jesus (Matthew 21:1-7). Jesus rode the colt into the city, where the crowds spread their garments (cloaks) and tree branches on the road ahead of him and welcomed him with cries of "Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest" (Matthew 21:8-11). The people had heard about Jesus' teaching and miracles and hoped he was their Messiah and King, as their cry of "Hosanna" (save us) indicates. However, many people, including the disciples, misunderstood what their Messiah planned to do. He was not coming to Jerusalem to gather an army and overthrow the Romans. He had a much bigger purpose-to save mankind from the punishment of sin and death.

Jesus told his disciples of his coming suffering and death (Matthew 16:21–23, 26:1–2), but they did not understand. As predicted, the chief priests and elders plotted to arrest Jesus and kill him (Matthew 26:3–5). Imagine their glee when Judas, one of Jesus' own trusted friends and disciples, came and offered to deliver Jesus to them (Matthew 26:14–16). But God was in control of the timing of Judas' betrayal,

and Jesus would share a final Passover meal with his disciples before his arrest.

In another demonstration of his omniscience, Jesus directed his disciples to find a man carrying a jar of water and follow him to a house, which would have a guest room for them to celebrate the Passover meal together (Mark 14:12–16; Luke 22:8–13). Jesus turned the last Passover meal into the first observance of the Lord's supper, using the bread to symbolize his body sacrificed for the salvation of men and the cup to symbolize his blood shed for the forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:26–29; Luke 22:14–20). Instead of the Passover meal looking ahead to the Messiah, the perfect sacrifice to come, the Lord's supper looks back to Jesus' final sacrifice on the cross. Also at the meal, Jesus identified Judas as his betrayer, and Judas left the house.

After the meal, Jesus and his disciples went to the garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives, where Judas led the mob to arrest Jesus in the garden. The hasty and clandestine trials held at night by the Sanhedrin and high priest were unsuccessful in finding fault in Jesus. But the high priest accused Jesus of blasphemy when Jesus told the truth that he was the Christ, the Son of God (Matthew 26:63–68).

Because they could not kill him without Roman authorization, the Jews took Jesus to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor staying in Herod's palace in Jerusalem. After sending Jesus to Herod and receiving him back, Pilate ordered that Jesus be flogged and then crucified, even though he knew that Jesus was innocent and the Jewish leaders were jealous (Matthew 27:18–26).

Soldiers stripped Jesus and put a scarlet robe on him then placed a crown of thorns on his head, mocking him as the King of the Jews before leading him away to be crucified at Golgotha (Matthew 27:27–33). As Jesus suffered the pain of nails in his hands and feet and the agony of simply trying to breathe on the cross, he endured the scoffing of soldiers, Jews, and the criminals crucified with him. Amid this abuse, Jesus prayed for the Father to forgive them (Luke 23:32–39). A supernatural darkness fell over the earth, the ground shook, and the temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom. Then Jesus gave up his life and breathed his last (Luke

23:44–46; Matthew 27:45–51). Jesus' death opened the way for mankind to approach the throne of grace and obtain mercy and forgiveness (Hebrews

4:14–16). And his death was not the end, as we read of his glorious resurrection after he was placed in a tomb (Matthew 28:1–10).

#### Historical/Apologetics Background

One question that often arises from the Gospel accounts is how we fit three days and nights between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Jesus told the scribes and Pharisees that his death and resurrection would be a sign to them: "For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Matthew 12:40). Most Christians believe that Jesus was crucified on a Friday and raised from the dead on Sunday, which would be three days and two nights according to our modern calendars. A Sunday resurrection is based on Matthew 28:1, which says, "In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre." Many scriptures record Jesus' resurrection being on the third day (see Luke 24:5-7; Luke 18:33; Acts 10:40; 1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:46). Since the resurrection was a Sunday, the first day of the week, and this was the "third day," some have proposed a Thursday crucifixion to reconcile this with the prophetic statement from Matthew 12:40 about being in the belly of the great fish. But this creates more difficulties, with Sunday becoming the fourth day.

A better solution to this question is that Jesus was crucified on a Friday, but the Jewish method of counting days was different from ours. If we counted three days and nights as we do today, Jesus would have to rise on the fourth day. But when we compare other passages (Matthew 12:40, 28:1; Luke 24:5-7), we learn that people in Bible times saw "the third day" as equivalent to "after three days." For the Jews of Jesus' day, part of a day would be counted as one day, and each new day began and ended at sundown. Applying this understanding to Jesus' timeline in the Gospels, Jesus died on Good Friday, which was day one. Even though he died in the afternoon on Friday, that was the first day and night to be counted. Saturday, the Sabbath, was day two. Then Jesus rose in the morning of the Sunday, which was day three. Thus, by Jewish counting, we have three days and nights, and Jesus rose on the third day.

While it is useful to have answers to questions about the Bible's accounts, the important thing to emphasize is the good news of the gospel: that Jesus died for our sins, was raised from the dead, and returned to heaven to prepare a place for those who repent and trust in him. What a wonderful example of love, mercy, and forgiveness!

## Come On In

☐ Slide #1

As students arrive, direct them to the activity you chose for today.

## **Memory Verse**

Practice the memory verse using the Memory Verse Poster and a memory verse game.

John 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

#### Slide #2

> After all the students arrive, pray with them before beginning the lesson.

➤ Don't forget! Review the Optional Supplements and determine where you can use them.

## 📦 Studying God's Word

#### Introduction

Today we are starting to look ahead to a special holiday. What is it? Easter or Resurrection Sunday

- ? What do we celebrate at Easter? Allow discussion.
- Easter is about remembering the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. What does that word "resurrection" mean? Allow answers.

Resurrection is rising from the dead! That is an amazing event!! But what Jesus did when he came to earth about 2,000 years ago was very important to every single person—including you and me!

#### ☐ Slide #3

Resurrection: rising from the dead; coming back to life

> Why did Jesus come to earth? It has to do with a problem we all have. Allow discussion.

Our problem is sin. We are born with it and continue to sin by breaking God's laws. God is holy and cannot sin. Because we are sinners, we are separated from God and deserve punishment. But God promised to send a Savior, the Messiah, and that was Jesus. We celebrate his birth at Christmas. At Easter, we remember his death and resurrection. Today, we'll take a closer look at his death and why we should remember it.

When Jesus was about 30 years old, he began to travel from place to place teaching people about the kingdom of God, healing people, and training his disciples. Many people were excited about Jesus and the miracles he did. They wondered if he could be the promised Messiah. Jesus and his disciples began the journey to Jerusalem, where the temple was. Jerusalem was the center of worship for the Israelites.

? If we knew someone important were coming to our city, what are some things we might to do welcome him or her? Allow discussion.

Copyright © 2019 Answers in Genesis. All rights reserved. Permission to copy granted. If you like these lessons, visit AnswersBibleCurriculum.com for more information. We might have a parade and all come out to cheer and wave. We may put on a special program with speeches and music. Some famous people, like actors and celebrities, even walk down a red carpet while photographers jostle to get pictures of them.

But how would the people in Jerusalem welcome Jesus when he came? Let's go to our Bibles to find out!

### The Triumphal Entry

Turn to Matthew chapter 21. Matthew is the first book in the New Testament, and the first of the four Gospels.

#### Matthew 21:1-11

Slides #4−9

- **?** Who will help us read verses 1–11? Assign readers.
- **?** What did Jesus tell two disciples to do when they got close to Jerusalem? Go into the village, find a donkey (an ass) and a colt, and bring them to him.
- **?** What were the disciples to say if anyone asked them what they were doing when they took the animals? *The Lord needs them*.
  - And things happened just as Jesus said they would! The disciples found the animals and brought them to Jesus. Mark's account of this event tells us that Jesus rode on the colt, which was the young donkey.
- **?** Why did Jesus choose to ride a donkey into Jerusalem? Look at the beginning of verse 4. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet.
  - The prophet was Zechariah, who wrote many years earlier that Israel's king would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey. This king would be just (or righteous) and meek (or humble), and he would bring salvation.
- **?** What did the people do when Jesus came riding into Jerusalem? *Matthew* 21:8. They spread their garments (cloaks) and tree branches on the road.
  - Refer to the Easter 1A Lesson Poster. Back in Jesus' day, spreading clothing on the road was used to honor someone of royalty, like a king!

Slides #10−11

- **?** What did the people shout? Hosanna to the son of David. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.
- **?** Does anyone know what Hosanna means? Allow guesses.
  - Hosanna means "save now," so the people were hoping that Jesus was their Savior, or Messiah. They called him the Son of David, which was the family line God promised the Messiah would come from.

**Hosanna:** save

**?** Even though the crowds greeted Jesus as a king, what did some people say about who he was at the end of verse 11? Did they say he was their Messiah, or Savior? No. They said he was a prophet.

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Jesus' coming stirred up the whole city. He entered the temple and cleared out all the merchants and money changers saying, "My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves."

**?** Why do you think Jesus was upset to see people buying and selling in the temple? *Allow answers*.

The temple was a special house built for worshipping God. But the people at the temple weren't respecting God. They were cheating people and turning the temple into a business place.

After Jesus entered the city as a king and cleaned out the temple, people wondered who he was, and everyone was talking about him. They knew about his teaching and his miracles. They hoped he was their Savior, but they didn't understand what that meant.

You see, the Jewish people during the time of Jesus were oppressed people. The Romans had conquered them and now ruled over them and made the laws. Anyone who disobeyed faced severe punishments and death. Many Jews who read the prophecies in the Old Testament, like the one from Zechariah, thought that their coming king would gather an army and defeat the Romans and make them a free people again.

- ? But is that what Jesus came to do? No.
- **?** What did Jesus come to save us from? Our sins.

Refer to the Map of Jerusalem. This is a map of Jerusalem during Jesus' day. Your Class Notes have the same map. Let's follow where Jesus has gone so far. See where it says road to Jerusalem on the bottom right side? Write a #1 in the circle next to that since that's where we'll start Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. Now find the temple and write #2 in the circle beside it. Then trace the dotted line from the road to Jerusalem to the temple. Have students mark their Class Notes map. They can use the Map of Jerusalem for reference.

All the attention Jesus was getting made the Jewish religious leaders jealous and angry; they wanted the people to listen to them, not Jesus. But Jesus kept teaching the people, pointing out sins, and healing, even on the Sabbath day when the leaders said he wasn't allowed to! This made them even angrier.

The high priest, named Caiaphas, and all the chief priests and elders gathered together and made a plan to kill Jesus. But they needed to be sneaky and arrest him when other people weren't around because the people loved Jesus.

Jesus knew what they were planning because he is God, and he didn't run away from the city to save himself. He knew what he had come to do. He told his disciples that at a holiday called the Passover, he would be crucified.

- ➤ Pass out the Class Notes to the students.
- ☐ Slides #12–13

#### The Last Supper

Even though Jesus told his disciples the reason he came to Jerusalem, they didn't understand. Jesus wanted to have one final special meal with his friends. This meal was part of the Passover celebration. Jesus and his 12 disciples gathered in an upper room at a home in Jerusalem.

#### Matthew 26:26-29

Let's read what Jesus said at the last supper. Find Matthew 26:26–29. *Assign readers*.

Slides #14−15

- **?** What did Jesus say about the bread? This is my body.
- **?** And what did he say about the drink in the cup, which was wine? This is my blood of the new testament, or covenant.
- **?** Why would Jesus compare his body to bread and his blood to wine? *Allow answers.*
- ? The answer is at the end of verse 28. Why did Jesus say his blood would be shed? For the remission, or the forgiveness, of sins.

Jesus was telling his disciples, using bread and wine as a picture, that his body would be broken, or killed, and his blood spilled to save us from our sins.

This is so important to understand about Jesus' death. Only Jesus could die in our place and take our punishment for sin because only he is perfect and without sin. No sinful human could die for the forgiveness of sins. It had to be the perfect Son of God. And Jesus loved us so much, he was willing to offer himself so we could be saved. We remember this sacrifice Jesus made when we have communion or the Lord's supper at church.

Let's go back to your Class Notes map. Find the upper room house and write #3 next to it. Jesus went to the upper room with his disciples about five days after his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, so many other events happened during those days. But on our maps, we'll trace the line from the temple to the upper room. Have students mark their Class Notes map.

♀ Slide #16

After the meal, Jesus and the disciples, except Judas, went to the garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives. Find garden of Gethsemane and write #4 next to it. Then trace the line from the upper room house to the garden. Have students mark their Class Notes map.

#### The Crucifixion

In the garden, Jesus spent time in prayer with God the Father, but the disciples fell asleep.

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While they were there, one of Jesus' disciples, named Judas Iscariot, had gone to the religious leaders and told them he'd lead them to where Jesus was so they could arrest him. Judas was given 30 pieces of silver to betray Jesus. Judas led a mob of people to the garden and pointed out Jesus as the one to arrest. The disciples woke up and wanted to fight to protect Jesus and themselves, but Jesus said no. The disciples panicked and fled, leaving Jesus alone.

Slides #17−18

Refer to the Map of Jerusalem. Jesus was brought to the high priest's house before the leaders to be put on trial. But Jesus had done nothing wrong! No witnesses could agree on anything Jesus had done that was worthy of death.

Find the high priest's house on your Class Notes and write #5 next to it. Trace the line from the garden of Gethsemane to the high priest's house. Have students mark their Class Notes map.

#### Matthew 26:63-68

☐ Slides #19–22

- **Look ahead to Matthew 26:63–68. Who will read that?** Assign readers.
- **?** What did the high priest, Caiaphas, finally ask Jesus in verse 63? Tell us whether you are the Christ, the Son of God.
- **?** Caiaphas wanted Jesus to admit that he was the Messiah, the Son of God. Did he ask this because he believed in Jesus or because he wanted to trap him? *Trap him*.
- **?** How did Jesus answer? Thou hast said. (You have said so.) He said it was so. He was the Christ.
- **?** What judgment did the leaders give Jesus? *Death.*

They said he deserved death because they thought he was just a man claiming to be God, which is the sin of blasphemy. Then they mocked him and struck him. But the Roman laws wouldn't allow the Jews to put someone to death, so they had to take Jesus to the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate.

☐ Slides #23–24

Show the Map of Jerusalem. Jesus was taken to Pilate, who sent him to King Herod at the Palace of Herod Antipas. Point out the Palace of Herod Antipas on the map. Jesus refused to speak or defend himself before Herod, so Herod sent him back to Pilate. The Bible doesn't give the exact location for Jesus' trial before Pilate, but it was either at the palace of Herod the Great or the Antonia Fortress. Point to these locations on the map.

For your Class Notes, we'll use the Antonia Fortress for Jesus' final trial before Pilate. Find the fortress on your Class Notes and write #6 next to it. Then trace the line from the high priest's house to the Antonia Fortress. Have students mark their Class Notes map.

After talking to Jesus, Pilate realized that Jesus was innocent and that the religious leaders had brought him to be killed because they were jealous of him. But Pilate didn't want to upset the crowds and start a riot, so he handed Jesus over to his soldiers to be beaten and then crucified.

The Roman soldiers whipped Jesus' back and made a crown out of thorns and put it on his head. They put a robe on him and mocked him. They hit him and beat him and even spit on him. Then they forced Jesus to carry his own cross to the place where he would be crucified.

Crucifixion was a terrible punishment the Romans used to kill criminals and law breakers who were not Roman citizens. They would nail a person's hands and feet to a wooden cross and let them hang there to die. After fighting for breath for hours—or even days—the person being crucified would die slowly and painfully.

#### Luke 23:32-38

- ? Let's turn to the Gospel of Luke, chapter 23 verse 32. Who will read verses 32–38? Assign a reader.
- Slides #25–28

- **?** Who was crucified with Jesus? Two malefactors, or criminals.
- ? Where were Jesus and the two criminals crucified? Calvary.

The place was called Calvary. Another name for it was Golgotha, which means "The Skull." It may have been called that because so many people were killed there.

Show the Map of Jerusalem. Find Golgotha on your Class Notes maps. Trace the dotted line from the Antonia Fortress to Golgotha and write a #7 there in the circle. Have students mark their Class Notes map.

☐ Slides #29–30

- **?** What did Jesus pray for the people who crucified him? Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.
  - The Roman soldiers were casting lots for Jesus' clothing. That means they were betting, kind of like rolling dice, to see who got Jesus' garments.
- ? What were the rulers and soldiers saying and doing while Jesus hung on the cross? Deriding, which means scoffing and mocking him; saying he couldn't save himself; offering him vinegar.
- **?** What superscription, or sign, was placed over Jesus? Luke 23:38. This is the King of the Jews.

Those who mocked Jesus were saying that if he really were the Messiah, he would save himself. Remember that Jesus was the Son of God! At any time, he could've ended his suffering by calling thousands of angels to rescue him, by zapping his enemies, or by simply returning to heaven! But he didn't. Instead, he asked God to forgive the sins of those who mocked him and sent him there to die. That is amazing love and forgiveness!

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#### Luke 23:44-48

#### ☐ Slides #31–33

Follow along in Luke 23 starting in verse 44 as I read what happened at Jesus' death. Jesus was placed on the cross at 9:00 a.m., and he'd been hanging there for about three hours. *Read Luke 23:44–48*.

**?** What came over the land about the sixth hour? Darkness.

The sixth hour is about noon, so from noon to 3:00 p.m. there was a supernatural darkness over the whole land.

**?** What happened to the veil, or curtain, in the temple? It was rent in the midst. That means it was torn in two.

This curtain separated the holy place from the most holy place, the room with the ark of the covenant where only the high priest was allowed to enter once a year. Matthew's Gospel says that this curtain was torn from top to bottom.

**?** Why is that significant? No man could do it.

It was God who tore the curtain, and this meant that no longer would people need the high priests making animal sacrifices for sin. Because of Jesus' death, we can all come directly to God for forgiveness of sin.

**?** What did Jesus call out before he died? Luke 23:46. "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."

Remember, Jesus is God. He was still in control even while he hung there on the cross. Jesus gave up his life and took his last breath.

**?** What did the Roman centurion say when he saw all these events and how Jesus died? Luke 23:47. He glorified (praised) God and said, "Certainly this was a righteous man."

This Roman centurion, who commanded 100 soldiers, believed that Iesus was the Son of God.

**?** What were the people doing as they returned home after seeing Jesus' death? How were they feeling? Smoting (beating) their breasts. They were sad.

Beating their chests was how people back then showed grief and sorrow. They thought this was the end; their hope of a Savior was gone. But it wasn't! God had a plan that would surprise everyone, even Jesus' family and disciples. We will see what happened in our next lesson, and it won't be sad.

#### ➤ This would be a good place to show the video clip "The Centurion's Testimony."

#### **Application**

Slide #34

Refer to the Easter 1A Lesson Poster. Jesus came to Jerusalem riding on a donkey, and the people rejoiced that their Messiah and King had come. But the religious leaders were jealous and sought to kill Jesus. Before he was betrayed by Judas, Jesus shared a special meal with his disciples

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called the last supper. He told them that he would die, and his death would be for the forgiveness of sin.

**?** But did the disciples understand what he was saying? *No.* 

Like many other Jewish people, the disciples were expecting Jesus to fight the Romans. But that isn't why Jesus came. Jesus came for a much bigger purpose—to die on the cross to take the punishment for the sins of mankind. And that's what he did. He let the religious leaders arrest him and hand him over to the Romans to be crucified. Even when he suffered terrible pain and was being mocked on the cross, he forgave the people who sinned against him.

Nothing compares to the love that Jesus has for you and me! It's sad that Jesus had to suffer so we could be saved, but he bore the punishment that you and I deserve.

Because of Jesus, we can pray directly to God and ask him to forgive our sins. When you put your trust in Jesus and what he did for you, God will forgive you and make you part of his family. You'll become a child of God! Those who trust in Jesus will spend eternity with God when they die. Those who refuse to accept what Jesus did for them on the cross will be punished forever in hell, a place of torment and separation from God. This Easter is a good time to think about what Jesus did for you. If you're already a child of God, you can pray and thank him for sending Jesus to die for you.



## **Group Prayer Time**

Be sure to pray with your students.

- Thank God for Jesus and his great love to die in our place on the cross.
- Thank God for the salvation he offers to everyone through his Son, Iesus.

➤ Pass out the Student Take Home Sheets and remind students to practice the memory verse.



## Review Game—Draw Dice

We encourage you to play the following review game. Teams will answer questions and roll the dice to complete a simple drawing to win. Who will finish their drawing first?

#### **Materials**

Review Questions

One drawing area for each team (paper, whiteboard, etc.)

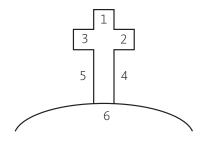
Pencils or whiteboard markers

Two dice

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#### Instructions

Print one copy of the Review Questions. Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a sheet of paper and a pencil, or divide the whiteboard in half. Draw a cross on the board as an example (see illustration) and write out what they'll draw according to the following rolls:



6 = hill 3 = left crossbeam

5 = left base of cross 2 = right crossbeam

4 = right base of cross 1 = top of cross

Ask the first team a review question. If they answer correctly, have them roll the die. To begin drawing their cross, each team must wait until they roll a six. They will then draw the hill on their paper or the board. After they have drawn the hill, as they give correct answers to the questions, they can continue to draw the other parts of the cross according to the numbers they roll.

Continue giving each team a turn to answer a question, roll the die, and draw for rolls they haven't made yet. Repeat the questions as necessary. The first team to finish their cross on the hill wins.