



2011

Go And Make Disciples

The Cross and Beyond

Lesson 16: **Jesus is Buried**

Scripture

Matthew 27:51-66
 Mark 15:38-47
 Luke 23:45-56
 John 19:31-42
 Isaiah 53:1-12

Memory Verse

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

Lesson Goals

Understand that Jesus died just as the Old Testament said He would.

Understand that Joseph and Nicodemus buried Jesus' body.

Understand that Mary Magdalene and the others saw where and how Jesus body was buried.

The following is a summary of the Bible story to help supplement your preparation. In your personal study time, use this summary as a guide, and make notes to help you remember your plans for the lesson. Please do **NOT** read to the children.

We have been looking at Jesus' journey to the cross. We have seen how "He suffered the things we should have suffered. He took on Himself the pain that should have been ours. . . He was crushed because we had done what was evil. . . His wounds have healed us." (Isaiah 53:4-5 NIV) We realized this as we learned about the beating Jesus received as well as His crucifixion.

In our last lesson, we learned that as soon as Jesus died, "the temple curtain was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook. The rocks split. . . The Roman commander and those guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened. They were terrified. They exclaimed, 'He was surely the Son of God!'" (Matthew 27:51, 54 NIV) Others who were standing there beat their chests because they were feeling such strong emotions. But those who knew Jesus were watching from not very far away. Some of these were women who had followed Jesus in Galilee. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James and Joses, and Salome, the mother of Zebedee's sons, James and John. These women had taken care of Jesus' needs over the years. Many other women were there as well. "They had come up with Him to Jerusalem." (Mark 15:41b NIV)

The day that Jesus was crucified was the Preparation Day for a special Sabbath the next day. Because it would be such a special day surrounding the Passover, the Jewish leaders didn't want the bodies left on their crosses. "So they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down." (John 19:31b NIV) Breaking their legs would cause those crucified to die sooner. With their legs broken they couldn't push up to breathe. So the soldiers went to one criminal and broke his legs. They went to the other criminal and did the same, but when they came to Jesus, He was already dead. Because Jesus was already dead, they didn't break His legs, but just as had been written hundreds of years before in the Old Testament, they pierced His side with a spear. (Exodus 12:46, Numbers 9:12, Psalm 34:20, Zechariah 12:10) When they did, blood and water flowed out.

As evening approached, a good and honest rich man named Joseph went to Pilate on Jesus' behalf. Joseph was from the town of Arimathea, but owned a new tomb in the garden there at Golgotha. The tomb had been cut out of rock and had never been used. "Joseph went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body." (Mark 15:43a NIV) This is surprising because, although Joseph was a follower of Jesus who was waiting for God's kingdom, he had "followed Jesus secretly because he was afraid of the Jews." (John 19:38b NIV) You see, Joseph "was a leading member of the Jewish Council." (Mark 15:43b NIV) Pilate ordered that Jesus' body be given to Joseph.

Application

What does Jesus' crucifixion mean for you and for me? Last week we talked about how His wounds have healed us. Jesus' death paid the price for our sin. (Romans 3:23, 6:23)

Jesus' death provided for our salvation from sin. Don't you want to be rescued? Jesus is waiting. Let's talk.

Jesus' crucifixion should also be an example of how we should live. Our memory verse states it clearly, "My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but

Christ lives in me.

So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." (Galatians 2:20 NLT)
The life you live isn't to be lived satisfying all your wants and desires. Your life should be lived by daily crucifying your wants to do what pleases God. Are you willing to surrender your life to Him? There are no better hands to place your life in!

A man named Nicodemus went with Joseph to bury Jesus' body. Nicodemus was a Pharisee, one of the Jewish religious leaders. Years before, Nicodemus had visited Jesus at night. It was that conversation that led Jesus to say the words many of us know well, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NIV) Nicodemus brought about 75 pounds of mixed spices to use as he and Joseph prepared Jesus' body. "The two men took Jesus' body. They wrapped it in strips of linen cloth, along with the spices. That was the way the Jews buried people's bodies." (John 19:40 NIV)

The women who came with Jesus from Galilee, and who had been at the cross, followed Joseph and Nicodemus. They sat across from the tomb where Joseph and Nicodemus placed Jesus' body. They saw how the body was placed inside the tomb. Then Joseph "rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb." (Matthew 27:60 NIV) Joseph, Nicodemus and the women left and went home. The women prepared other spices that evening so that they could rest on the Sabbath.

The next day, the Sabbath (or Saturday), the chief priests and the religious leaders went to Pilate. "'Sir,' they said, 'we remember something that liar said while He was still alive. He claimed, "After three days I will rise again." So give the order to make the tomb secure until the third day. If you don't, His disciples might come and steal the body. Then they will tell the people that Jesus has been raised from the dead. This last lie will be worse than the first.'" (Matthew 27:63-64 NIV) Pilate sent some guards with the religious leaders to secure the tomb. "They put a seal on the stone and placed some guards on duty." (Matthew 27:66b NIV)

Preparing for the Next Lesson

Jesus is Alive!



Preschool Lesson

Teachers:

Bring linen (fabric) and perfume to class.

Do you remember in our last lesson that we talked about Jesus being nailed to a cross? Jesus died on that cross. After He died, the earth shook and rocks split apart!

The Roman guards who were at the cross when Jesus died, saw the things that were happening to the earth. They had also been there when there was total darkness in the middle of the day. They were afraid, but they realized that Jesus was really God's Son.

The two criminals didn't die as quickly as Jesus, but by the time they died it was getting late. Two followers of Jesus asked for permission to take Jesus' body down from the cross. They wrapped His body in linen and perfume. Then, they placed Jesus' body in a brand new tomb in a garden close to the cross where Jesus had been hanging earlier.

Some women who had followed Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem also followed Him into the garden. They saw the tomb where His body was placed. They saw how Jesus' body was placed inside the tomb. Then they went home.

The next day was Saturday. It was a day when Jewish people rested. The religious leaders were not resting, though. They went to see Pilate, the Roman governor. They called Jesus a liar and told Pilate that Jesus' disciples might try to steal His body and trick people into believing He had come back to life. Pilate sent some guards with the leaders. They sealed the tomb. Some of the guards stayed at the tomb to guard it.

We know something that the religious leaders didn't want to believe. Jesus was no liar. Jesus only and always told the truth. And Jesus was about to do something amazing!



Activities

- Memory Verse Activity - Provide small squares of linen fabric for each student. Spritz each square with perfume. Pin the squares of linen to a note card where the memory verse has been recorded.
- Encourage your students to fill out the journal/note page found on page 8. This can be used during the story to help focus your students or after the story as a review.
- Bring rock candy for the snack. An alternative snack could be anything that includes the spice cinnamon, like snickerdoodles, etc.
- Make resurrection cookies. (These are merengue cookies that are “cooked” in a preheated, “sealed” oven that has been turned off. After several hours when the cookies are ready, they will be “empty” inside just like the tomb on Resurrection Sunday! Recipes are available on the internet.)
- Review the lesson. Read Isaiah 53:1-12. Talk about how everything written by the prophet Isaiah 700 years earlier had all come true.
- Sing “I Am Crucified With Christ (based on Galatians 2:20,” “Amazing Love,” or another song related to the lesson.
- Read Galatians 2:20 in several versions, including the Message and the Amplified Bible.
- Find Jerusalem on a map. Find Golgotha and the garden on a detailed map of Jerusalem.

My old self has been
crucified with Christ.
It is no longer I who live,
but Christ lives in me.
So I live
in this earthly body by
trusting in the
SON OF GOD,
who loved me
and gave Himself for me.
Galatians 2:20

Trace the letters.

The tomb

was sealed.

Focus on the Story

○
Story Title:

Scripture References:

Main Characters:

Story Summary:

When?

○
Where?

What?

How?

○



Word Search

R E H D E I F I C U R C E P E
B Y T R U S T I N G E H P E S
S H E Y D O B Y L H T R A E Y
D O N E W H A T W A S I V I N
G A V E H I M S E L F S H H O
A W I T H C H R I S T T E E L
L A V T S H E R F O H L E A O
A G A H I I E N F H C I E L N
T A D E H S V N U P S V W E G
I I D C H W I L L O V E D M E
A N L R O O L O E L W S M U R
N G U T H U I N D N E I E S I
S O N O F G O D I M H N L F J
W E H F L E S D L O Y M O L O
R E T H E S E F O R M E N A L

Find the underlined words from the memory verse in the puzzle above.

My old self has been crucified with Christ.
It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me.
So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God,
who loved me and gave himself for me.
Galatians 2:20



Word Search

R	E	H	D	E	I	F	I	C	U	R	C	E	P	E
B	Y	T	R	U	S	T	I	N	G	E	H	P	E	S
S	H	E	Y	D	O	B	Y	L	H	T	R	A	E	Y
D	O	N	E	W	H	A	T	W	A	S	I	V	I	N
G	A	V	E	H	I	M	S	E	L	F	S	H	H	O
A	W	I	T	H	C	H	R	I	S	T	T	E	E	L
L	A	V	T	S	H	E	R	F	O	H	L	E	A	O
A	G	A	H	I	I	E	N	F	H	C	I	E	L	N
T	A	D	E	H	S	V	N	U	P	S	V	W	E	G
I	I	D	C	H	W	I	L	L	O	V	E	D	M	E
A	N	L	R	O	O	L	O	E	L	W	S	M	U	R
N	G	U	T	H	U	I	N	D	N	E	I	E	S	I
S	O	N	O	F	G	O	D	I	M	H	N	L	F	J
W	E	H	F	L	E	S	D	L	O	Y	M	O	L	O
R	E	T	H	E	S	E	F	O	R	M	E	N	A	L

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Preschool Word Search

R C L I N E N S E P U S
I T I S F I N I S H E D
H A R I G U A R D S T S
F T R F I J U D E S E T
J L A V E O U L N Y L S
H S E A L E D T O M B O
R O C K I E V E I M R E
H E O N E T H I R S U S
M D I L E T E R E S E S
D I A J N J E S U S E N
L A K I N G G O S E Y J
T W O F O L L O W E R S

JESUS

TWO FOLLOWERS

LINEN

ROCK

SEALED TOMB

GUARDS



Preschool Word Search

R C L I N E N S E P U S
I T I S F I N I S H E D
H A R I G U A R D S T S
F T R F I J U D E S E T
J L A V E O U L N Y L S
H S E A L E D T O M B O
R O C K I E V E I M R E
H E O N E T H I R S U S
M D I L E T E R E S E S
D I A J N J E S U S E N
L A K I N G G O S E Y J
T W O F O L L O W E R S

JESUS

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