



2011

Go And Make Disciples

The Cross and Beyond

Lesson 15: Jesus is Crucified

Scripture

Matthew 27:31-50
 Mark 15:20-37
 Luke 23:26-46
 John 19:17-30
 Isaiah 53:1-8

Memory Verse

But the servant was pierced because we had sinned. He was crushed because we had done what was evil. He was punished to make us whole again. His wounds have healed us.
 Isaiah 53:5 (NIV)

Lesson Goals

Understand that Jesus could have chosen to end the crucifixion at any moment.

Understand that He was pierced, crushed and punished for your sins and mine.

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.

What do you do when you are sick? Maybe your mom fixes you some hot tea. If you are sick enough, maybe you go to the doctor. And if your sickness is serious, you may even go to the hospital. Did you know that all of us are sick? We are all sick with sin. (Romans 3:23) There isn't a tea to drink for sin sickness, though, so what do we do? Listen to find out!

After Jesus was beaten and sentenced to death by Pontius Pilate and made fun of by the soldiers, He was made to carry His own cross. He carried it a while and then a man named Simon, who was from Cyrene, was forced to carry it for Him. Simon "was on his way in from the country." (Luke 23:26 NIV) Maybe Simon, like many others, was in town to celebrate the Passover.

Many people followed Jesus. Some of them were women and they were very sad for Jesus. Jesus wasn't alone on His way to the cross, though. "Two other men were also led out with Jesus to be killed. Both of them had broken the law." (Luke 23:32 NIV)

The soldiers led them to Golgotha, which means The Place of the Skull. "There they mixed wine with bitter spices and gave it to Jesus to drink. After tasting it, He refused to drink it." (Matthew 27:34 NIV) And at about nine o'clock that morning, they nailed Jesus and the other two criminals to their crosses, with Jesus between the two. They placed a sign above Jesus' head that read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." It was written in three different languages, Aramaic, Latin, and Greek.

Jesus wasn't focused on His own pain on the cross. His decision not to escape God's will had already been made in the garden as He prayed. So, from the cross, "Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing.'" (Luke 23:34 NIV)

So many things seemed to be going on at the same time. "When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes." (John 19:23 NIV) Now, they divided them so that each of the four soldiers took something. There was one piece of Jesus' clothing that was really special, though. It was His long, inner robe. It was made very well and would have been expensive, so the soldiers agreed not to tear it. "Let's cast lots to see who will get it. . . So that is what the soldiers did." (John 19:24 NIV)

Some of Jesus' friends and family were there at His crucifixion. John the disciple, Mary Magdalene, Jesus' mother and His aunt were standing near the cross. When Jesus saw them there, He said to His mother, "Dear woman, here is your son." He said to [John], "Here is your mother." (John 19:26b-27a NIV) And from that time on, even though Mary had other children (Matthew 13:55-56), she went to live with John.

The other people who were standing around watching, shouted at Jesus and made fun of Him. "The rulers even made fun of Jesus. They said, 'He saved oth-

Application

Our memory verse explains Jesus' death for us. It says that Jesus "was pierced because we had sinned. He was crushed because we had done what was evil. He was punished to make us whole again. His wounds have healed us." Isaiah 53:5 (NIV) Our salvation was bought with a precious price . . . the life of the One who loves us like no other ever will.

Do you remember in our lesson when the rulers made fun of Jesus? They said, "He saved others. Let Him save Himself if He is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." (Luke 23:35 NIV) Could Jesus have saved Himself? Yes! He had around 70,000 angels He could have called at any moment, but He didn't. Why not?

Jesus stayed on the cross because you and I have a problem with sin—we are sick with it. Jesus' death is the only way to cure us. "His wounds have healed us." (Isaiah 53:5 NIV) He offers this as a gift. Just as the tea or medicine your mom offers when you have a cold doesn't work unless you take it, Jesus gift has to be accepted to have its effect in your life.

Will you accept that gift today?

ers. Let Him save Himself if He is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." (Luke 23:35 NIV) They all mocked Jesus, saying they would believe in Him if He came down from the cross. "In the same way the robbers who were being crucified with Jesus also made fun of Him." (Matthew 27:44 NIV) And, as if all that weren't enough, even the soldiers poked fun at Jesus. "They offered Him wine vinegar. They said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.'" (Luke 23:36b-37 NIV)

Then, something changed. One of the criminals said, "'Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself! Save us!' But the other criminal scolded him. 'Don't you have any respect for God?' he said. 'Remember, you are under the same sentence of death. We are being punished fairly. We are getting just what our actions call for. But this Man hasn't done anything wrong.'" (Luke 23:39-41 NIV) In the time that they had been on the cross, one of these criminals saw Jesus, not as another criminal hanging on a cross, but as his Savior, the One who could heal his sin sickness. "Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.'" (Luke 23:42 NIV)

Jesus' answer teaches us a lot about salvation. Jesus answered, "What I'm about to tell you is true. Today you will be with Me in paradise." (Luke 23:43 NIV) This criminal became a "new creation" at the moment he believed. He didn't have time to do a lot of good things. He didn't even have time to be baptized. Those are things that should happen afterward as a sign of the decision we make, but not doing them wasn't going to keep this criminal out of heaven. Jesus promised him eternal life, "**today**, you will be with Me."

"It was now about noon. The whole land was covered with darkness until three o'clock." (Luke 23:44 NIV) Around three o'clock, after hanging on the cross for six hours, "Jesus cried out in a loud voice. He said, 'Eloi, Eloi lama sabachtani?' This means 'My God, My God, why have you deserted me?' —(Psalm 22:1)" Matthew 27:46 NIV) Remember, Jesus wasn't hanging on the cross because He had done something wrong. He "was pierced because we had sinned. He was crushed because we had done what was evil. He was punished to make us whole again. . . ." (Isaiah 53:5 NIV) Jesus was carrying the weight of your sin and of mine. No wonder He felt deserted. If my own sin, and your own sin, separates us from God and makes us feel alone, imagine what Jesus must have felt carrying all that sin!

Later, Jesus said that He was thirsty. Someone from the crowd ran and soaked a sponge in wine vinegar and gave it to Him to drink. "After Jesus drank, he said, 'It is finished.'" (John 19:30 NIV) And even though Jesus was being crucified outside of the city, at that moment inside of the city of Jerusalem, in the temple of God, the temple curtain that separated God from man was torn in two—from top to bottom.

Then, "Jesus called out in a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my very life.' After He said this, He took His last breath." (Luke 23:45b-46 NIV)

Preparing for the Next Lesson

Jesus is Buried



Preschool Lesson

Teachers:

Bring hot tea, cough syrup, and a doctor's bag to use during the introduction of the lesson, today.

What do you do when you are sick? Maybe your mom fixes you some hot tea. If you are sick enough, maybe you go to the doctor. And if your sickness is serious, you may even go to the hospital. Did you know that all of us are sick? We are all sick with sin. (Romans 3:23) There isn't a tea to drink for sin sickness, though, so what do we do? Really, **we don't do** anything. Jesus did it all. How? Let's see!

After Jesus was beaten, He was given a heavy cross to carry. On His way to the cross, a man named Simon was forced to carry it for Him the rest of the way. Once they arrived at "The Place of the Skull" they nailed Jesus to the cross and hung Him between two criminals.

The soldiers, the people standing around, and even the two criminals on the other crosses made fun of Jesus.

Then, one of the criminals realized who Jesus really is. He scolded the other criminal, reminding him that they were both criminals who deserved punishment. He told him that Jesus was hanging with them, but He had done nothing wrong. And then the criminal talked to Jesus. He knew Jesus could help him. He asked Jesus to remember him when He got to heaven.

Jesus answered the criminal and told him that he would be there that very day! "Today you will be with Me in paradise." (Luke 23:43 NIV)

And then, right in the middle of the day, the sky turned black. The sun didn't shine. The darkness lasted three hours! And then, after hanging on the cross for about six hours, Jesus said, "It is finished!" He had finished everything He came to earth to do.

Then, "Jesus called out in a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my very life.' After He said this, He took His last breath." (Luke 23:45b-46 NIV)

Jesus, thank You for dying for me so that I don't have to stay sick with sin!



Activities

- Memory Verse Activity - Provide coloring pictures of mugs or tea cups. Print the verse at the bottom of the coloring page and talk about what Jesus did for our sin sickness.
- 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 tea and cookies for the snack.
- Review the lesson. Read Isaiah 53:1-8.
- Sing “Does He Still Feel the Nails,” “Were You There,” “Amazing Love,” or another song related to the lesson.
- Listen to the song “Watch the Lamb.”
- Find Jerusalem on a map. Find Golgotha on a detailed map of Jerusalem.
- Dig Deeper: Jesus’ answer to the criminal on the cross teaches us a lot about salvation. Discuss this. Talk about the fact that belief (faith) is necessary for salvation and nothing else. Jesus did what needed to be done. We don’t need to, nor can we, do anything to earn our salvation.
- Dig Deeper Still: In John 19:30 we read that some of Jesus’ last words were, “It is finished.” “*Tetelestai* is the Greek word for ‘It is finished.’”^{*} This word finds deeper meaning in an age old practice. When a man found himself in debt, he would write down that debt on a piece of paper to be kept by the one owed. Once the debt had been paid, “the person holding the piece of paper would write *tetelestai* across the paper which meant ‘paid in full.’”^{*} Jesus’ death “paid in full” the debt owed by our sin.

^{*}Arhtur, Kay and Janna Arndt. Discover 4 Yourself® Inductive Bible Studies for Kids: Jesus-To Eternity and Beyond! Harvest House Publishers: Eugene, OR. 2001. p70.

But the servant
was **pierced**
because we had sinned.

He was **crushed**
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He was **punished** to
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His wounds
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Isaiah 53:5

HIS

wounds

have healed

US.

Isaiah 53:5

Trace the letters.

IT IS

FINISHED

Focus on the Story

○
Story Title:

Scripture References:

Main Characters:

Story Summary:

When?

○
Where?

What?

How?



Word Search

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

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

But the servant was pierced because we had sinned.

He was crushed because we had done what was evil.

He was punished to make us whole again.

His wounds have healed us.

Isaiah 53:5



Word Search

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

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Preschool Word Search

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

JESUS

CROSS

TWO CRIMINALS

BELIEVE

SKY BLACK

IT IS FINISHED



Preschool Word Search

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

JESUS

CROSS

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IT IS FINISHED