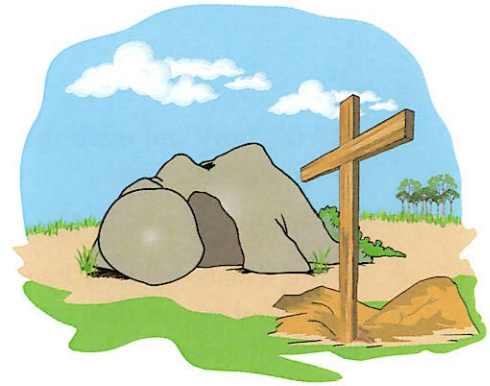


Lesson 10

Jesus Dies on the Cross

Theme: Thankfulness — Being thankful Jesus was willing to die for us



Sunday Morning Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: I Know My Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Use the text on pages 65-66 to copy the Memory Verse on paper, one for each student. Cut apart the words of each verse and put the pieces in a Ziploc® bag. Give each student a bag of words to put together correctly at his or her desk. Briefly talk about the meaning of the verse and how it relates to the quarter's study. Return the word pieces to the Ziploc® bags.

Prayer

Lesson of the Day

Ideas for Telling the Story

1. For non-reading students, read Mark 15:22-26, 33-37 (See also Matthew 27:35-50; Luke 23:33-46; John 19:17-30. Note: These paragraphs describe the single most important event that ever happened in the entire world. Depending on the age of your students, you may want to read part or all of these paragraphs). Have reading students find and mark Mark 15:22 in the classroom Bibles.
2. Ask students to bring the Bibles and move to the Bible story area.
3. Ask students to identify the time and place of events studied in this series—Jesus' last week and Jerusalem.
4. Establish the setting more specifically by using the "Last Week" Time Line.
5. Introduce *The Cross & the Empty Tomb Lesson Graphics* using "Heart to Heart."
6. Tell the story using the *The Cross & the Empty Tomb Lesson Graphics*.

7. Tell the story and teach the lesson emphasizing the following scenes and points, tailored to the students' ages:
 - Retell the story of Jesus' death on the cross at a level appropriate for your students.
8. Using visuals, tell how Jesus died on the cross. Next, let students retell the lesson, naming as many things as they can think of that happened from nine in the morning until three in the afternoon while Jesus was on the cross. List on the board the things they name. If the students can write, give each student paper. Ask each student to write his or her own prayer thanking God for sending Jesus to die on the cross and telling Him why he is thankful. If the students cannot write, the teacher leads the class in discussing what to thank God for. Pray together, thanking God for all He did in sending Jesus to die on the cross.
9. Take a knitting needle and ask for a volunteer to have it stuck through his or her hand or wrist. Now bring out a hammer and a long nail, like a guttering nail. Ask for a volunteer.
 - Ask the students why no one will do this.
 - Talk about why Jesus was willing to do it.
 - Did He deserve it?
 - Did it hurt?
 - Did He complain?
 - Should we appreciate what Jesus did for us?
 - How can we appreciate this?

**Things to Get or Do
for Sunday Morning**

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Lesson 10

Jesus Dies on the Cross

Theme: Thankfulness — Being thankful Jesus was willing to die for us

Wednesday Night Lesson

Pre-Class Activity

Bible Facts: I Know My Bible Facts

Memory Verse: Use the text on pages 65-66 to copy the Memory Verse on paper, one for each student. Cut apart the words of each verse and put the pieces in a Ziploc® bag. Give each student a bag of words to put together correctly at his or her desk. Briefly talk about the meaning of the verse and how it relates to the quarter's study. Return the word pieces to the Ziploc® bags.

Prayer

Starter

When something bad happens to us, we tend to tell the story of what happened with many details. If, for example, you cut yourself with a knife, in telling your story you might tell what you were doing with the knife and how it slipped to cut your finger. You might tell about the blood that gushed out and how deep the cut was. If you had to have stitches, you might tell about the way the doctor deadened your finger and how many stitches it took. This is the way most of us tell this kind of story. But when you read the Bible record of Jesus' death on the cross, you find something different.

The writers who tell the story of Jesus' death don't give a lot of details about the physical part of His suffering. Doctors and others have written about the pain and suffering Jesus went through, but the Bible writers tell us little about these things. The writers tell us mostly about Jesus' words on the cross and what a few other people said and did. Since this is what God guided the writers to record, we should mainly learn these things.

Briefly Review the Lesson from Sunday Morning and Read Mark 15:22-26, 33-37.

Illustrations and Applications

1. *Objective: Do a quick review of Jesus' last week.*

Use the pieces of the "Last Week" Time Line, laying them out in random order. Have students work together to put them in correct order. Discuss the pictures, letting the students tell what is happening in each picture.

 2. *Objective: Demonstrate what Jesus' death does for us.*

Cut a figure of a man out of card stock or foam core to represent Jesus. Make a mixture of mud and dead grass in a container. Have each student hold out his or her hand and put about a tablespoon of the mixture on the back of each hand and smear it around. This represents people's sins. Explain they can't do anything to get rid of it. It belongs to them. They can't touch it. Then wipe each one clean in one stroke with a wet paper towel and immediately transfer it to the figure of Jesus. Explain this is what Jesus did for us. Have each student say, "Jesus died and took our sins away." You may explain that when the students are older they will sin by disobeying God. Jesus died for sinners.

3. *Objective: Show how Jesus' words on the cross were not about Himself but expressing His love for others.*

Cathy tried to do right and make good grades at school. The teacher liked her because of it and often asked Cathy to do special things for her. Some other girls in Cathy's class were jealous and started calling her, "Teacher's Pet" and made up bad stories about her. They said that her father was a bad man and that her mother was crazy. Gradually, Cathy had no friends. She went home sad, and her mother asked her what was wrong. List some of the things you would say if you were Cathy. Write them on the board as students call them out. Notice that when we are hurt, we tend to focus on ourselves. Examples of Cathy's words are:

- Everyone's mean to me.
- No one wants to be my friend anymore.
- I didn't do anything wrong, but everyone hates me.
- Why is everyone making up stories about me?

Ask the students to tell things Jesus experienced and write them on the board. Talk about what Jesus said on the cross. The only thing He said about Himself was, "I am thirsty." And this was after He cared for everyone else. Jesus didn't feel sorry for Himself or talk about people being fair. Who was He concerned about while he was being crucified? What can we learn from this? Refer to Lesson 9, Wednesday Night Lesson, Activity #3.

 4. *Objective: Illustrate how long Jesus' last two days were and how tired He must have been, yet He did not sin or come down from the cross.*

Provide a large clock on which you can move the hands. Refer to the "Arrest, Trial & Crucifixion" box of the "Last Week" Time Line on page 8. Explain that the times are approximate. As you review the events, have different students move the clock hands ahead accordingly.

5. Talk with the students about Thaddeus and how he served or showed love for Jesus during the last week. Send Thaddeus home with another student.

**Things to Get or Do
for Wednesday Night**

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