



GOOD FRIDAY FAMILY DEVOTIONAL

JESUS ENDURES THE CROSS

MATTHEW 26:57-27:2, 27:11-66

Central Truth: The Son of God died to save His people.

Key Verse: “When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, ‘Truly this was the Son of God!’” (Matt 27:54).

Supporting Truths:

1. Jesus died to save His people from their sin.
2. Jesus is the Son of God.
3. Jesus died according to the Scriptures.
4. Supernatural signs attested to the fact that Jesus is the Son of God.
5. Jesus died to save both Jews and Gentiles.

Objectives (what we hope your kids can articulate after the lesson):

1. Explain why Jesus died.
2. Describe how Jesus confirmed He was the Son of God before the religious leaders.
3. List some of the Old Testament references that pointed to the death of Jesus.
4. Explain how the supernatural signs testified to who Jesus was.
5. List the responses to Jesus’ death at the end of chapter 27.

Lesson Summary:

Early Friday morning, the leaders of the Jews met together to condemn Jesus, their King whom they had rejected. Later that morning, Pilate condemned Jesus too, succumbing to the pressure of the leaders and the people. On the cross, Jesus was killed alongside two common criminals. Yet there were supernatural signs that gave testimony to the fact that Jesus was the Son of God who died to save His people.

Spotlight on the Gospel:

When Jesus died the temple veil was torn in two. The splitting of the veil showed that the way into God’s presence was now open to everyone through a new and living way (Heb 10:19-22). Now, through Jesus, any man can come to God directly without priest, sacrifice or ritual. Jesus has provided access into God’s presence. He has paid the price of sin for any who believes in Him. You must respond with faith and repentance, submitting to Him as your Savior and your King.

Read the Lesson: *Matthew 26:57-27:2, 27:11-66*

Define the Words in the Text:

- **False Testimony/Witness:** deliberately lying, providing untrue or made-up information, or misrepresenting the truth
- **Testify:** to give evidence or proof of something, sort of like sharing your side of the story and promising that it is true
- **Blasphemy:** really disrespecting God, making fun of God, or speaking against God; it is the opposite of respecting God
- **Mockery/Mocking:** mean teasing, making people feel bad and laughing at them, or bullying

Lesson Questions for Ages 3-5:

1. Did Jesus make a defense during the trials?
 - a. *No. Jesus was silent as a sheep before its shearers.*
2. When people saw Jesus on the cross, what did they do?
 - a. *They mocked Him.*
3. What were the signs that accompanied Jesus' death?
 - a. *The veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, there was a great earthquake, rocks were split, and saints came back to life.*
4. Why did Jesus die on the cross?
 - a. *So we could have forgiveness of sins.*

Lesson Questions for Ages 6-11:

1. Who did Jesus claim to be?
 - a. *He claimed to be the Son of Man and the Son of God. This meant He claimed to be the Messiah and God.*
2. Did the people want Pilate to release Barabbas or Jesus?
 - a. *Barabbas.*
3. In what ways did the soldiers make Jesus suffer?
 - a. *They scourged Jesus with a whip, placed a crown of thorns on His head, spit at Him, and beat Him. They were mocking Jesus when they did these things.*
4. How was Jesus killed?
 - a. *He was crucified on the cross.*
5. When people saw Jesus on the cross, what did they do?
 - a. *They mocked and insulted Him.*
6. What were the signs that accompanied Jesus' death?
 - a. *The veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, there was a great earthquake, rocks were split, and saints came back to life.*
7. Who was ultimately in control of Jesus' death?
 - a. *God. Jesus' death occurred in accordance with the Scriptures.*
8. Why did Jesus die on the cross?
 - a. *So we could have forgiveness of sins.*

Optional Cartoon Videos to Supplement the Lesson:

Why Good Friday is GOOD by Minno Bible Stories for Kids (2:45) (Arrest through the Crucifixion)

LEGO Bible Stop-Motion Animation, The Story of Easter by Go Chatter Studios (4:26) (Palm Sunday through the Resurrection)

God's Story: Easter by Crossroads Kids' Club (4:36) (Arrest through the Resurrection)

