

THE STORY OF EASTER

Matthew 26-28

1. Why did some leaders want to stop Jesus from his mission to spread God's love to everyone? What was their plan to stop him?

Multi-Sensory Idea: Have the students get an idea of how Judas was tempted with 30 silver coins by making 30 coins with paper or play dough. Discuss with the students what they think is a lot of money to them and how Judas must have felt being offered a lot of money to bring the people to Jesus.

Prompts for Deeper Discussion: Can you think of a time when you felt jealous of someone? What did you do? How does God want us to respond when we feel this way?

2. How did Jesus feel in the garden when he knew that it was almost time for him to save everyone from their sins? What did Jesus do when he felt this way? What can we learn from his example?

Multi-Sensory Idea: Make a prayer journal. Have the students fold a few pieces of paper together and staple them at the crease. Let the students decorate the cover page. Talk about the importance of prayer and how Jesus modeled this in the garden.

Prompts for Deeper Discussion: Think about a time when you felt sad or upset and you prayed about it. How did talking to God help you? Why do you think it's so important to pray when we are feeling sad or upset?

3. Why did Jesus give his life for everyone? Why is this good news and why should we share it with others?

Multi-Sensory Idea: Make a megaphone. Have the students decorate one side of a piece of paper and then roll it up in a cone and tape it. Have students take turns sharing the good news of Jesus with their classmates. Let them take the megaphone home with them as a reminder that they can share the good news with everyone.

Prompt for Deeper Discussion: Why do you think that Jesus gave his life for us even though it was very painful for him? What clues do we have about the prayer he prayed in the garden to show us what he was thinking? (*Hint: Read Matthew 26:39*)

Prayer Prompt: Tell students that God loves us very much and it makes him happy when we come to him in prayer. Ask them to join you in prayer right now.

Heavenly Father,
Thank you for this day that you have given us. Thank you for loving us by sending your Son Jesus into the world to be our Savior. Help us to remember to come to you in prayer. Please help us to always follow you.
Amen

Today's Takeaway: Jesus Gave His Life For Us.

THE STORY OF EASTER

Matthew 26-28

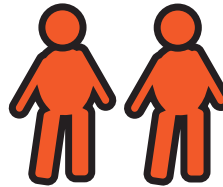
Instructions: Read the questions, then ask (or assist) the student to point to the correct answer.

1. Who does Jesus love?



Everyone

OR



One or Two People

2. How did Jesus's friends feel when he gave his life for everyone on the cross?



Happy

OR



Sad

3. How did Jesus's friends feel three days later when they found out that Jesus was alive?



Happy

OR



Sad

4. How did Jesus save us from our sins?



Say a Prayer

OR



Give His Life For Us

THE STORY OF EASTER

Matthew 26-28

Instructions: Lead the student into prayer. Invite them to point to who they would like to pray for.

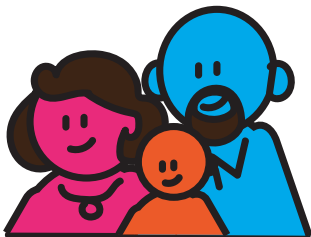
Say: God loves us and hears our prayers. It makes God happy when we pray to him because he loves us so much and he wants us to stay close to him. Would you like to pray with us? Close your eyes and bow your head.

Prompt: Ask the student if he/she would like to point to what they would like to pray for today from the visuals below. Then read the prayer below and add in the requests. (For more options, please use the WW Prayer Prompt Board)

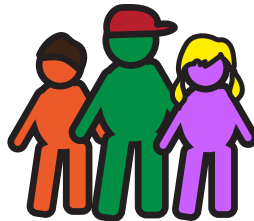
Heavenly Father,
Thank you for this day that you have given us. Thank you for loving us and sending your Son, Jesus, into the world. Please be with my _____ today. Thank you that we can always come to You in prayer.

In Jesus's name, we pray. Amen.

PLEASE BE WITH MY:



Family



Friends



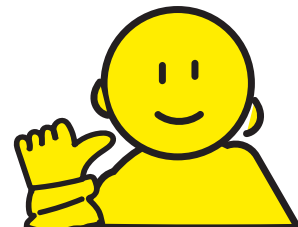
Teacher



Pastor



Team



Me

Today's Takeaway: Jesus Gave His Life For Us.

THE STORY OF EASTER

Matthew 26-28

For Leaders:

At the end of today's video, **The Story of Easter**, we see a child praying and inviting Jesus to become their personal Savior. There is no decision that will ever be more important for any of our students. If you have a student who benefits from adapted lessons, and who you feel may be ready for this step, you can use the script below to guide you as you invite them into this decision. For students who are nonverbal or minimally verbal and benefit from visuals, please include the visual prompts and prayer on the next page.

Say:

Today we learned that Jesus can save us from our sins because he gave his life for us. Sins are the wrong things that we have done that keep us away from God. Isn't it awesome to know that we have a Savior who can save us from those things? One of the best things about Jesus is that he can save us even now.

Our video reminded us that, "God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son so that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but have eternal life." (John 3:16). If we choose to invite Jesus into our hearts and trust in him, he forgives us of our sins, and he will give us eternal life. **Would you like to invite Jesus into your heart today?** (Allow time for response.)

If the student says...

"No, they are not ready yet" then respect their decision. Remind them that Jesus loves them and that they can invite him to be their personal Savior whenever they feel ready.

"Yes, they are ready" then invite them to pray the prayer below with you. You can ask the student to repeat each line after you read it out loud.

Pray Together:

Jesus, I confess my sins and ask for forgiveness. (pause and wait for the student to repeat)

I invite you into my heart. (pause and wait for the student to repeat)

Be my Lord and Savior. (pause and wait for the student to repeat)

Help me to follow you. (pause and wait for the student to repeat)

Today I say, (pause and wait for the student to repeat)

Jesus is Lord of my life! (pause and wait for the student to repeat)

Amen! (wait for the student to repeat)

Next Steps:

After your student accepts Jesus as their Savior, celebrate with them. Tell them what a wonderful decision they just made. Share the good news with their parent or caregiver. Invite them back to church to continue growing in their faith!

THE STORY OF EASTER

Matthew 26-28

For Leaders: At the end of today's video, **The Story of Easter**, we see a child praying and inviting Jesus to become their personal Savior. There is no decision that will ever be more important for any of our students. If you have a student who is nonverbal or minimally verbal and who you feel may be ready for this step, you can use the script and visuals below to guide you as you invite them into this decision.

Say: Jesus gave his life to save us from our sins. Sins are the wrong things that we have done that keep us away from God. Isn't it awesome to know that we have a Savior who can save us from those things? If we choose to invite Jesus into our hearts and trust in him, he forgives us of our sins, and he will give us eternal life. **Would you like to invite Jesus into your heart today?**

Prompt: Ask the student to point to one of the responses.



Yes!



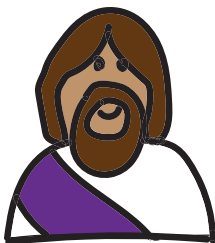
Not yet.

If the answer is not yet, then let the student know that Jesus loves them, and they can invite him to be their Savior whenever they are ready.

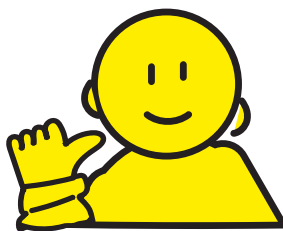
If the answer is yes, ask (or assist) the student to point to the icons as you read the prayer below.

Jesus,
(Child's name) would like to invite you into his/her heart. Would you forgive him/her of any wrongs he/she has done? Be his/her Lord and Savior. Help him/her to always follow you. Today we declare, Jesus is Lord of our lives.
Amen!

SALVATION PRAYER



Jesus,



I invite you



into my heart.



Forgive me of my sins.



Help me to follow you.



Jesus is My Lord and Savior.