

Week Two – DAY 11

Living with Jesus – (Jesus' Death & Resurrection)

Game: Gospel Treasure Hunt - *Supplies: Print pictures of the following items: a cup, a loaf of bread, praying hands, silver coins, an ear, a rooster, a gavel, a leather whip, a crown of thorns, nails, a cross, a sword, and a stone.*

Split the class into teams for this Easter game. Tell your kiddos that there are pictures hidden around the room, and they are to find them. After the kiddos have found all the pictures, explain how each pictured item relates to Jesus going to the cross and being placed in the tomb.

Craft: Cross Bookmark - *Supplies: Card stock cutouts, glue, markers, glitter, colored yarn, hole punch*

Provide your kiddos with a card stock cutout of a cross (or alternately, cut vertical and horizontal rectangles and have the children glue them together to form a cross). The cross should be small enough to fit in a standard bible. If they are old enough your kids can glue, tape, or carefully tie a piece of yarn to the top of the cross. To tie the yarn through the cross, use the punch to make a hole in the top of the cross and gently tie it. Have your kids write a memory verse on the cross and decorate the cross as they choose.

Read (The Message):

Matthew 27:27-50 ---- ²⁷⁻³¹ The soldiers assigned to the governor took Jesus into the governor's palace and got the entire brigade together for some fun. They stripped him and dressed him in a red toga. They plaited a crown from branches of a thornbush and set it on his head. They put a stick in his right hand for a scepter. Then they knelt before him in mocking reverence: "Bravo, King of the Jews!" they said. "Bravo!" Then they spit on him and hit him on the head with the stick. When they had had their fun, they took off the toga and put his own clothes back on him. Then they proceeded out to the crucifixion.

³²⁻³⁴ Along the way they came on a man from Cyrene named Simon and made him carry Jesus' cross. Arriving at Golgotha, the place they call "Skull Hill," they offered him a mild painkiller (a mixture of wine and myrrh), but when he tasted it he wouldn't drink it.

³⁵⁻⁴⁰ After they had finished nailing him to the cross and were waiting for him to die, they whiled away the time by throwing dice for his clothes. Above his head they had posted the criminal charge against him: this is Jesus, the king of the Jews. Along with him, they also crucified two criminals, one to his right, the other to his left. People passing along the road jeered, shaking their heads in mock lament: "You bragged that you could tear down the Temple and then rebuild it in three days—so show us your stuff! Save yourself! If you're really God's Son, come down from that cross!"

⁴¹⁻⁴⁴ The high priests, along with the religion scholars and leaders, were right there mixing it up with the rest of them, having a great time poking fun at him: "He saved others—he can't save himself! King of Israel, is he? Then let him get down from that cross. We'll *all* become believers then! He was so sure of God—well, let him rescue his 'Son' now—if he wants him! He did claim to be God's Son, didn't he?" Even the two criminals crucified next to him joined in the mockery.

⁴⁵⁻⁴⁶ From noon to three, the whole earth was dark. Around midafternoon Jesus groaned out of the depths, crying loudly, "*Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?*" which means, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

⁴⁷⁻⁴⁹ Some bystanders who heard him said, "He's calling for Elijah." One of them ran and got a sponge soaked in sour wine and lifted it on a stick so he could drink. The others joked, "Don't be in such a hurry. Let's see if Elijah comes and saves him."

⁵⁰ But Jesus, again crying out loudly, breathed his last.

Matthew 28:5-6 ---- The angel spoke to the women: "There is nothing to fear here. I know you're looking for Jesus, the One they nailed to the cross. He is not here. He was raised, just as he said. Come and look at the place where he was placed.

Questions:

1. Why do you think Jesus had to die?
2. Why do you believe He died and rose again for you personally?
3. What do you think it means for Jesus to be your Savior?
4. Have you asked Jesus into your life? (Romans 10:9-10)
5. Have you ever told someone that you are a follower of Jesus (if you are)?
6. We'd love to celebrate with you if you recently have prayed to receive Jesus as your Savior. Simply email Pastor Jim Doyle at jim@northcoastcalvary.org and let him know about your decision to follow Jesus.
7. Check out our New Believers web page at: <https://www.northcoastcalvary.org/im-new/new-followers/>.

Prayer:

1. Lord, thank you for loving me so much. Help me to live my life for you, Jesus. In Your name, Amen.