



The Way to the Cross

April 15

Luke 23:26-33

Object Lessons and Storytelling Ideas

- Using age-appropriate language, talk about what it means that Jesus was crucified. Talk about how it was painful and a terrible thing, but also why it is good news. What did Jesus accomplish by dying on the cross?
- Tell the story of Passover from Exodus 12 or talk about how, in the Old Testament, sacrifices were required for people to be forgiven (temporarily). Jesus is our sacrificial, Passover lamb!
- Bible Project has a good [overview of holy week](#).
- At school, sometimes the whole class has to listen to a lecture or miss recess because of just a few students. How does that feel? On Good Friday, Jesus took the punishment for sin onto himself, and he did nothing to deserve it. How do you think he felt? Why do you think he was willing to do this?

Discussion Ideas and Questions

- Why do we not have to make sacrifices to be forgiven?
- Why is Good Friday good news?
- Why did Jesus have to die? Just like the criminal beside Jesus, we all deserve to die for our sins. But also just like the criminal, if we trust Jesus he will save us - not from our body dying but from the punishment for our sins.
- Jesus died for our sin, but he also died for everything else that is wrong in our world - for the sin of every person that has or ever will live, for the ways creation has gone wrong, for the sin that governments and countries do. What can you think of that is something 'gone wrong' that Jesus died for?
- How does "the last will be first" truth of the kingdom of God connect to Jesus on the cross?

At Home Connections

- Have a time of reflective worship as a family - prayer, singing, journaling, etc. Help your children to process the feelings of sadness that come with Good Friday, but also of gratitude and repentance.
- If you built a Lenten journey, this is the end. Tip over your Jesus character as a symbol that Jesus has died. Now we wait to see what God will do!