

Jesus, Part 16

Crucifixion

Objective:

Explore some key events in and around the crucifixion and the significance of Jesus' sacrifice and trusting in Him for salvation from sin.

Checklist:

- Have The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe video clip cued up and ready to play (see below)
- Optional: Copy of "Jesus' Hours on the Cross" handout for each person (see below).

Sacrifice

Ask: What are sacrifices you might be willing to make for someone you love?

Say: Keep that in mind during our time today...

Lion, Witch, Wardrobe Video Clip

Show The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe video clip (using the 2005 movie).

- Start at about 1:31:40 where the queen/witch enters the camp and is announced
- End about 1:42:20 after the queen/witch stabs Aslan.

Ask: What parallels do you see between the video and what Jesus did when He was crucified?

Jesus' Crucifixion

Have everyone open up to Mark 15:16-39 and follow along while three volunteers read...

- Have one volunteer read verses 16-20
- Another read verses 21-32
- And a third read verses 33-39

Digging In

Ask:

- What kind of physical pain was involved around Jesus' crucifixion?
- How was Jesus verbally assaulted? (Who mocked Him and what did they say?)

Say:

- When Jesus cried out "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me" many understand that at that moment, God the Father turned His back on Jesus as the sin of people He was dying for was put on Him.
- 2 Corinthians 5:21 says: "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."
- And, 1 Peter 2:24 says about Jesus: "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed."
- While Jesus may have felt pain as if He was being forsaken at that time, the Psalm He seems to be quoting from goes on to show confidence in not ultimately being abandoned.

Ask: What happened to the curtain of the temple when Jesus died?

Say: This seems symbolic of people being able to come into God's presence because of Jesus' death to cleanse them of sin.

Ask:

- What did the soldier say about Jesus when He died?
- Anything else significant you saw related to Jesus' crucifixion?

Optional: Jesus' Hours on the Cross

Hand out copies of "Jesus' Hours on the Cross" to teens.

Very briefly explain that it lists a basic draft of the timeframe and sequence of some major events around Jesus' crucifixion - but many of the times listed are not necessarily precise. Make note that the events from His arrest to His death happened in less than 24 hours.

Let them know they can take the chart home and look at it on their own.

Jesus Chart

Ask: What should we add to our chart about Jesus based on what we saw today?
(add a few key ideas to the chart)

Importance of Jesus' Sacrifice

Say:

- Jesus didn't stay dead. Next week, we'll talk about Jesus' resurrection.
- Listen to some things some other verses say about the importance of Jesus' death for sin, and trusting in Him for eternal life...
- Romans 5:6-9 says: "For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God."
- Romans 6:23 says: "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
- Romans 10:9-10 says: "if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."
- The Bible says those who believe in Jesus will be saved for eternal life from the punishment they deserve in hell.

Response

Ask: So how should we respond to the sacrifice Jesus made to pay for sin?
(Accept the gift to pay for sin by faith in Him. Thank Him. Live in appreciation.)

Also...

- Perhaps give an opportunity for those who have believed in Jesus for the first time today to pray to ask Him to forgive them of their sin and save them.
- Tell kids that if they asked Jesus to save them for the first time today or would like to talk more about it, to tell you right after class. Follow up as needed!

Close in Prayer

References:

Jim Burns, "The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ" and "The Death of Christ," *The Life of Christ Series Leader's Guide* (Eugene: Harvest House, 1989), p25-28.

Doug Fields, "Jesus as Savior," *Creative Bible Lessons from the Life of Christ* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 1994), 87-91

Scott Firestone IV, "Iron Man" lesson, *Group Magazine* (Nov/Dec, 2008), p73.

Brent Hinsley, "Bible Study on Jesus' Death" (date not known).

Kelli and David Trujillo, "Jesus Christ: Lesson 7: Jesus' Suffering and Death," from *CoreTruth™ Quarter 1: The Trinity* curriculum (Group Publishing, 2007).

Also there was a leader guide for the 2005 version of The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe that had been referred to. (publisher information not known at this time).

All Scriptures quoted are from the English Standard Version, unless noted otherwise.

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