



Tree House

Holy – Lesson 4

2s and 3s

Memory Verse: Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus.” (KJV)

Key Point: Jesus saves us from our sin.

Bible Verse: Matt. 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, John 18 & 19

SCHEDULE:

Center Time

around 10 minutes

Help the individuals transition by actively engaging them from the beginning. Try setting up centers to color, play with blocks and Play-Doh, or do puzzles.

Memory Verse

Use the Memory Verse page and images to go over the memory verse by placing them in the correct order on the board (personal or pocket chart).

Coloring Sheet

Big Group Time

Lesson

- Read through the lesson below. For a shortened version, just read the bolded words.
- Within the lesson, there are numbers that correspond to the story point pictures. For example, (1) corresponds to the first story point and picture, and so on.
- Allow individuals to place pictures on the board (personal or pocket chart) in sequential order.

- Key Point
- Use the review questions to check for understanding.

Repeat Key Point & Memory Verse

Use the activities below for repetition of the story points, key points, and memory verse.

- Act out the Story.
- Bean Bag Toss: restate part of the story, memory verse, or key point when tossing.

Activity

Five Finger Gospel (optional)

LESSON:

This is a story from John 18 in the Bible. **The soldiers first take Jesus to a man named Caiaphas, the high priest (1). Caiaphas asks Jesus, “Are you then the Son of God?” (2) and Jesus answers, “You rightly say that I am (3).”** This makes all the Jewish leaders very mad.

In the morning, **they take Jesus to a man named Pilate, the Roman Governor, who** has the power to put criminals to death. Pilate **asks Jesus if he is a king (4). Jesus replies that he is (5),** but “not of this world.” Although Pilate knows Jesus has done nothing wrong, **Pilate sends Jesus to a man named Herod, another Roman ruler, who makes fun of Jesus (6)** and says mean things to him. Then Herod returns Jesus to Pilate’s court.

To make the Jews happy, **Pilate places a purple robe on Jesus’ shoulders and puts a crown of thorns on Jesus’ head (7).** The Jews still say they want Jesus to die. The Bible tells us **Jesus is**

hung on a cross along with two criminals (8). As Jesus looks down from the cross at the people who have put him there, He asks God to forgive them. All of this was God's plan. God sent Jesus to live a perfect, holy life, and then to die in our place to pay for our sins. God sent Jesus to be our Savior!

In the end, **Jesus** cries out, "It is finished!" and **dies on the cross, taking** the punishment for all **our sin forever** (9). Jesus has broken down the wall between God and us so we can have a relationship with him. God wants us to be sorry for our sin—not just sorry we got punished or sorry we got caught. **Joseph** of Arimathea, a follower of Jesus, **gets** permission to take **Jesus' body to bury it**. He puts it **in a tomb** (10) that has never been used. Pilate seals the tomb and places a guard outside.

Key Point: Jesus saves us from our sin.

Review Questions

1. **Where did the soldiers take Jesus when they arrested him?** (They took him to Caiaphas, the high priest.)
2. **Caiaphas had the soldiers take Jesus to Pilate, the Roman governor. Did Pilate think Jesus was guilty of any crime?** (No.)
3. **What did Pilate put on Jesus to make fun of him for saying he was a king, but not a king of this world?** (He put a purple robe and a crown of thorns on Jesus.)
4. **Who demanded that Jesus be hung on the cross?** (The Jewish leaders and people.)
5. **Where was Jesus' body put after he was crucified?** (Joseph of Arimathea put Jesus' body in a tomb.)

ACTIVITIES:

The Way Back to God

Supplies

- Roll of painters tape (one per bin)
- Large vinyl cross banner (one per bin)
- "God" sign (one per bin)

Have children remove their shoes to protect the cross banner from getting dirty. Use the tape to create two parallel lines six feet apart. Have the children line up shoulder-to-shoulder behind one of the lines. Then place the God sign on the other side of the opposite line.

(The lines will represent the edges of a deep valley.) Have the children all line up behind the line and then say:

Sometimes we do things we should not do. We disobey and that is called sin. Can anyone give me an example of disobeying? (Allow for answers and provide help if needed.) **When we make wrong choices, no matter how small, it is called sin. Sin separates us from God. Let's pretend that these two lines are the edges of a deep valley or hole in the ground. We are on one side and God is on the other side. Sin separates us from God and we cannot get across.** (Hold up the God sign on the other side.) **But there is good news!**

Today, we talked about how Jesus died on the cross so our sins can be forgiven. (Unfold and lay the big cross down to bridge the gap.) **When we tell Jesus we are sorry for disobeying and ask him to be in charge of our lives, Jesus forgives our sins. He loves us so much, he made a way for us to be in a relationship with him. The cross is like a bridge. Because of Jesus taking the punishment of our sin on the cross, we have a way to get back to a relationship with God.** (Let the children walk across the cross to be with God on the other side.) **That is GOOD NEWS!**

Please gently roll the banner back up for the next session/storage.

Resurrection Eggs

Supplies

Set of Resurrection Eggs (one per bin)

There should be a set of Resurrection Eggs in your room. Please feel free to use these to go over the Easter story. There is an information booklet in the box, but you can just summarize

each part. Please be careful to return the items to the correct eggs so that they can be used again and again throughout the unit.