



# CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION



## LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Jesus died on the cross, and God raised Him from the dead.

## SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

John 19:1-42;20:1-18

## SUGGESTED FOR THE WEEK OF

April 4

## UNIT VERSE

God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
*Romans 5:8 (CSB)*

## WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE

God proves his own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
*Romans 5:8 (CSB)*



## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Punishment is painful. It involves accusation, consequence, shame, guilt, and yes, pain—emotionally, physically, mentally, and spiritually. No one wants to accept punishment, especially undeserved punishment.

Jesus was innocent yet accepted the punishment for all sinners. In fact, He willingly chose to bear brutal, undeserved punishment to save anyone who believes in Him from sin that separates all people from God. He felt the flogging on His back, the thorns in His scalp, and the insult and humiliation in His heart. Skin tore and muscles ached as He carried a cross that was meant for a criminal but belonged to Him. The pain of the nails was excruciating. Suffocating to death was worse. By the time a soldier crammed a spear in His side, Jesus was dead. It was the only pain on the cross from which Jesus was exempt. Pain and death were the dark side of Jesus’ purpose.

Jesus’ legs did not need to be broken in order to remove His body from the cross prior to the special Sabbath, all of which fulfilled Old Testament prophecy. After Jesus died, Joseph of Arimathea, along with Nicodemus, prepared Jesus’ body according to Jewish burial traditions and laid His lifeless body in the tomb. The Sabbath came and went. Then Mary Magdalene went to Jesus’ borrowed tomb in the darkness just before dawn. To her surprise the tomb was open! Mary left and returned with Peter and John who saw the grave clothes but no body. Concerned and in disbelief, the men left, but Mary remained. Filled with sorrow she pleaded with “the gardener” to tell her where Jesus was. At the sound of her name she recognized the man standing in front of her was not the gardener. The man was Jesus! He is alive! Victory over sin and death and the promise of new life are the bright and glorious side of Jesus’ purpose.

By dying Jesus defeated sin and death. By His resurrection He gives new life. Are you punishing yourself for your sin, or are you asking Christ to forgive you and make you new?

How can you help the kids in your group understand that Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection were all part of God’s plan of salvation? Jesus offers everyone a way to make things right with God.



## PRACTICE BIBLE SKILLS

### ROMANS 5:8 KITE TAILS

- › Form two teams. Point out the kites, word strips, and Bibles. Mention that each kite tells where the Unit Verse is found. Ask kids if Romans is in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Guide teams to work together to locate Romans in the Table of Contents page of their team's Bible. Assist teams in finding Romans 5:8. Let a volunteer from each group read the verse aloud. Explain that the words of the verse are printed on the paper strips, but are not in order. Tell the teams they will place the words of Romans 5:8 in order on the tail of their kites. Using the yarn strips and tape, assist the kids to attach the paper strips to the kite. Suggest teams look at Romans 5:8 in their Bibles to help them know the order and to check their work.
- › When the kites are complete, lead the kids to each find Romans 5:8 in their own Bibles. Let volunteers read the verse from their translations. Point out that Romans 5:8 is the verse they will learn during Unit 2.

- › Printables: "Kite Pattern"
- › Construction paper, scissors, yarn, tape
- › Use the "Kite Pattern" to trace two kite patterns on construction paper. Cut the kites apart. Print the reference *Romans 5:8* on each kite. Cut approximately 40 1-by-3-inch strips of paper. Print each word of Romans 5:8 on a separate strip of paper. Make 2 sets of the verse. Display the 2 sets of Romans 5:8 in random order.
- › Cut 2 16-inch length strips of yarn.



## INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITY

### FACE TO FACE

- › Welcome kids to the group. Line kids up in a single line, one behind another, facing forward. If you have a large group, make several lines. Explain that you will name facial expressions that show emotions. The first person in each line must turn to the person behind him and make a face showing that emotion to the person behind him. When each child in the line has made the face to the person standing behind him, call out a different emotion. Continue to play using facial expressions such as: sad face, crying face, scared face, worried face, surprised face, and happy face. Point out that people in today's Bible story experienced these emotions and more.

- › **Option:** "Crucifixion and Resurrection" coloring page (Printables)



## MISSIONS EMPHASIS

- › Display the "Map of Canada" and say: "J.D. Fasolino is from Venezuela, but he and his family now live in Toronto, Canada."
- › Show the video "Meet the Fasolinos," or tell the missions story.
- › Lead kids to discuss how the Fasolinos' lives are different now than they were in Venezuela. Talk about how missionaries experience different cultures or ways of doing things when they move to other countries.
- › Pray for the Fasolinos as they reach other Hispanics in Toronto, Canada.

- › Videos
- › Printables: "Unit 2 Missions: Toronto, Canada," "Map of Canada"
- › Print the missions story and the map.



## STUDY THE BIBLE

### 1. INTRODUCE THE UNIT

» Ask kids: “Who is Jesus?” Remark that Jesus is God’s Son. Point out that when Jesus died on the cross, He took the punishment for our sin. Tell kids that during today’s Bible story, you will point to them and kids should show on their faces how the people in the story felt. Open your Bible to John 19–20 and tell the Bible story in your own words.

**Option:** Show the “Notebook Bible Story” video.

### TELL THE BIBLE STORY: CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION

Jesus had been arrested and was taken to Pilate, the Roman governor. Pilate did not want Jesus to be put to death. But angry Jewish crowds pressured him, shouting, “Crucify Him!” Finally Pilate gave Jesus over to be crucified.

When they got to Golgotha, Jesus was nailed to the cross. There were two criminals on either side of Him. Jesus could see His mother, Mary, standing near the disciple, John, whom Jesus loved. Jesus told the disciple to take care of His mother. Soon Jesus said, “It is finished.” Then He bowed His head and died. *(Point to the kids.)*

Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for Jesus’ body. He and Nicodemus took the body of Jesus and wrapped it in linen cloth with fragrant spices. They placed His body in a new tomb in a nearby garden. It was Friday.

Early Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb. Mary Magdalene had been there when Jesus died on the cross. When she got to the tomb, she could see that the stone sealing the tomb had been removed. She ran to find Simon Peter and John. “They’ve taken the Lord and we don’t know where they’ve put Him!” she cried. *(Point to the kids.)*

The two disciples raced to the tomb. When they got there, Simon Peter went inside the tomb first. He saw the tomb was empty! The linen cloths and head wrapping were folded in their place. Then John, the disciple Jesus loved, went into the tomb and saw it, too. The disciples returned to the place where they were staying. *(Point to the kids.)*

Mary was crying as she stood outside the tomb. *(Point to the kids.)* She looked in and saw two angels in white where Jesus’ body had been. *(Point to the kids.)* “Why are you crying?” they asked her. Mary told the angels that she thought someone had taken Jesus’ body. When Mary turned around, she saw Jesus, but she didn’t recognize Him. Jesus spoke to her, “Why are you crying? Who are you looking for?” Mary thought He was the gardener. “Sir, if you’ve carried Him away, tell me where you’ve put Him,” she said. Then Jesus spoke her name, “Mary.” At that moment Mary recognized Jesus. “Teacher!” she cried. *(Point to the kids.)* Jesus instructed Mary to go tell the disciples that soon He would be going to see His Father in heaven. Mary Magdalene

- » Pack Items:
  - 13: “Unit 2 Banner”
  - 14: “Romans 5:8”
  - 15: “Unit 2 Questions”
- » Printables: “Definition Cards”
- » Teaching Picture 5
- » Music, Videos, sticky notes
- » Cover the word *sinners* on the Romans 5:8 poster with sticky notes.
- » Print and cut apart the “Definition Cards.”
- » Place the “Unit 2 Banner” and the “Romans 5:8” poster on the focal wall. Display the posters throughout Unit 2.

**Option:** Print the “Life Point Posters” for Unit 2 (Printables) to display throughout the unit.

went and found the disciples. “I have seen the Lord!” she exclaimed. Then she told them what Jesus had said to her. (*Point to the kids.*)

— BASED ON JOHN 19:1-42; 20:1-8

## 2. SHOW THE TEACHING PICTURE

- » Let kids describe what they see in the Teaching Picture. Ask if the picture happened before or after Jesus was raised to life again.
 

**Note:** If kids ask about the women in the Teaching Picture, point out that the Bible tells us that there was another woman named Mary who also went to the tomb.
- » Choose six volunteers to hold “Definition Cards.” Read aloud the words and definitions on each card. Ask the volunteers to place the words on the floor next to their matching definitions. Read the definitions again. Point out that Jesus died on the cross, and God raised Him from the dead. Explain that because many people saw Jesus after He was resurrected, we can know Jesus is alive and in heaven today. Clap two times, and lead kids to shout: “Jesus is alive!”

## 3. LEARN ROMANS 5:8 AND SING

- » Lead kids to read Romans 5:8 from the poster. Let kids guess the word that is covered up. Remove the sticky notes to reveal the word *sinners*. Read the definition of *sin* from the “Definition Cards.” Emphasize that our sins are forgiven when we trust in Jesus. Remind kids that Jesus died on the cross, and God raised Him from the dead.
- » Guide kids to repeat the Life Point with you: “Jesus took the punishment for my sin.” Explain to the kids that every person has sinned. Jesus died for each person because of His love. Sing “Alive Today.”

## 4. PRAY

- » Ask kids to name things they can thank Jesus for. Include thanking Jesus for dying for our sins and thanking Him that He is alive. After the prayer, clap two times and lead kids to shout: “Jesus is alive!”

## SHOW THE “MOOSEBERRY LIFE ACTION” VIDEO.

## 5. REVIEW

- » Tell kids that when you call out a number, they must get in groups of that number. Explain that you will ask questions from the Bible story. They must answer the question within their groups. After the first Session 1 question is asked and answered, call out a different number. Instruct kids to get in groups of that number. Continue until all questions have been asked and answered. If a child is not a part of a numbered group, he may ask the question or be a part of a group with a leader.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

- » Why did Pilate give Jesus over to be crucified? (*The crowds pressured him and shouted “Crucify Him!”*)
- » What did Joseph of Arimathea do with Jesus’ body? (*wrapped it in linen cloth with fragrant spices, placed it in a tomb*)
- » What did Mary Magdalene see when she got to the tomb early Sunday morning? (*The stone that sealed the tomb had been removed.*)
- » What did the 2 disciples see at the tomb? (*They saw an empty tomb with only linen cloths and a head wrapping folded in place.*)
- » What did Mary see when she looked in the tomb? (*2 angels in white sitting where Jesus’ body had been*)
- » When did Mary recognize Jesus? (*when He spoke her name*)
- » What did Jesus tell Mary to do? (*go and tell the disciples that soon He would go to heaven to see His Father*)
- » What is the definition of *sin*? (*actions, attitudes, words, or thoughts that do not please God.*)

**Teaching Tip:** Be available to kids who may have questions about becoming a Christian.



## LIVE IT OUT

### CHOICE 1

- › Kids Activity Pages
- › Pack Item:  
16: “Who Saw What?  
Cards”
- › Scissors
- › Cut apart the cards.

### CHOICE 2

- › Kids Activity Pages
- › Pack Item:  
15: “Unit 2 Questions”
- › Music, jumbo and regular craft sticks (1 of each size per child), thin markers, paint pens, glue sticks, modeling clay, dessert-size plastic plates (1 per child), river rocks (1 per child), purple ribbon (1 strand per child), Easter grass or green shredded paper, art paper
- › Cut a 5-inch strip of purple ribbon for each child.
- › Cover the work area with the art paper.

### CHOICE 1

#### WHO SAW WHAT?

- › Complete the Kids Activity Page.
- › Ask kids after hearing today’s Bible story, how they can know that Jesus is alive. (*Many people saw Jesus after He was resurrected.*) Explain that many people saw Jesus crucified, and some of them saw Jesus or the empty tomb after He was resurrected. Read aloud the peoples’ names on the “Who Saw What? Cards.” Remind kids that these people are a part of today’s Bible story. Mention that all of these people saw something. Show the cards telling what they saw. Suggest that kids match the person or group of people’s names to what the person or people saw. After the group has determined who saw what, mix up the cards and turn them facedown.
- › Guide kids to play a matching game. When all cards have been matched, ask the group to put the cards in order of how they happened. Ask what else Mary Magdalene saw. Mention that Mary Magdalene was the first person to see Jesus after He was raised from the dead. Inquire about what instructions Jesus gave her. Ask how the disciples must have felt when Mary told them what she had seen.
- › Suggest kids use the “Who Saw What? Cards” to retell today’s Bible story to each other. Remind the kids that Jesus died on the cross, and God raised Him from the dead.
- › Pray together, thanking God for Jesus.

### CHOICE 2

#### JESUS IS ALIVE TABLETOP SCENE

- › Complete the Kids Activity Page.
- › Briefly review today’s Bible story using the “Unit 2 Questions” for today’s Bible story.
- › Suggest kids make a “Jesus Is Alive” tabletop scene with a cross and a stone, to help the kids remember what Jesus did. Ask kids what the cross can be a reminder for. (*Jesus died for our sins*). Remark that the cross can help kids remember what Jesus did. Lead kids to repeat: “Jesus took the punishment for my sin.” Ask what the stone will help them remember. (*Jesus is risen and is alive.*)
- › Give each child a jumbo and regular size craft stick. Lead kids to print *Jesus Is Alive!* across the smaller craft stick. Tell the children to write their names and today’s date on the back side of the jumbo craft stick. Demonstrate how to glue the craft sticks together to form a cross, using the larger craft stick as the vertical stick. Set aside while the glue dries.
- › Give each child a river rock. Lead kids to print *He Is Risen!* on their stones with a paint pen. Assist kids in assembling their scenes on a plastic plate. Give each child enough modeling clay to be the base for

her cross. Rub a glue stick lightly on the plate and place the Easter grass or shredded paper on the plate. Place the stone on the plate and anchor it with clay if needed. Distribute a purple ribbon to each child to drape around the cross.

- » Talk with kids about where they could place their tabletop scenes at home. Encourage kids to tell their families that Jesus is alive! Lead kids to sing “Alive Today.”

### CHOICE 3

#### VISIT THE TOMB

- » Complete the Kids Activity Page.
- » Read Romans 5:8 aloud together from the poster. Remind kids that Jesus died on the cross, and God raised Him from the dead. Remark that in today’s Bible story, two disciples raced to the empty tomb. Ask kids how they think the disciples felt when they saw the tomb was empty.
- » Point out the tomb and the “Plan of Salvation Cards.” Explain that kids will take turns visiting the tomb to retrieve a card. Lead the kids to begin going to get a card and bringing it back to the group. After all the cards have been chosen, lead kids to work together sorting the caption cards from the Scripture cards. Explain that the caption cards tell what people need to know about how to become a Christian. The other cards are Bible verses that support each caption. Help kids to match the caption cards with the Scripture cards. After all of the cards have been paired, place the pairs of cards in order. Use the “Sharing the Gospel with Kids” on page 4 of this leader guide to show the correct order.
- » Read each Scripture card and talk about what the verse says. The leader guide lists additional Scripture verses for discussion. **Note:** Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit and be available to any child wanting to know more about becoming a Christian.
- » Lead the kids to say the Life Point: “Jesus took the punishment for my sin.” Pray, thanking God for sending Jesus.

### WRAP UP

#### CLOSE IT OUT

- » Ask kids to turn to the person next to them and say: “Jesus is Alive!”
- » Remind kids to give their “One Conversation” pages to their parents.
- » Lead kids to sing “The Savior King.”

#### THIS WEEK:

- » Send a postcard to kids that visited your class today. Write a prayer to God focused on Romans 5:8. It might be a prayer of praise, confession, or gratitude.

### CHOICE 3

- » Kids Activity Pages
- » Pack Items:
  - 14: “Romans 5:8”
  - 17: “Plan of Salvation Cards”
- » Bible, large sheet of paper, scissors, tape
- » Cut the large sheet of paper into the shape of a tomb. Tape to a wall.
- » Cut apart the pack item cards. Place them near the tomb on the wall.

**Teaching Tips:** Letting kids make up motions for each icon will help them to remember. You can download a kid-friendly gospel presentation at [lifeway.com/kidsgospelpresentation](http://lifeway.com/kidsgospelpresentation).

### WRAP UP

- » Music