



Date: _____
Series: Jesus Gave Himself for Me
Winter Year 1, Lesson 47

Jesus Goes to the Cross

Take Home Point: *JESUS IS MY SAVIOR... *Jesus died and rose for me.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (CAPS). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Bible Event: Luke 22:33, 44-56

We will help children know:

- The Bible event of Jesus being crucified.
- Jesus' crucifixion was both a sad and a happy event.
- Jesus did not stay dead; three days later he rose from the dead.


We will help the children feel:



- Sad that Jesus died.
- Joy that Jesus died to forgive them their sins.
- Hope in Jesus' resurrection, the forgiveness of sins, and eternal life.

We will help the children do:

- Interact with puppet presentation to introduce the Bible Event.
- Participate in the Bible event.
- Craft: Make a Sad/Happy Cross.
- Snack: Graham Cracker Cross.
- Game: Cross Balance.
- Teach Albie the Take Home Point: JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...Jesus died and rose for me.
- Sing and Pray.

THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
Large Group Opening 	3	Puppet Presentation	<i>Puppet Presentation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judy puppet holding a tissue • Bible <i>Bible Event:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • chair for presenter • overhead image of Calvary scene (three crosses on a hill) Option: cross shadow on wall • male with microphone backstage with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hammer • piece of wood • piece of material to be torn • metal sheeting or poster board to make thunder • Mystery Box containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ palm branch • goblet • flat bread • plant • rooster picture from last week's craft
	5	Bible Event	

<p>Small Group Application</p> 	<p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Activity 1: Craft</p> <p>Activity 2: Snack</p> <p>Activity 3: Game</p> <p>Prayer Time</p>	<p><i>Activity 1: Craft</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 cross per child on dark card stock (use Appendix A as a template) • printed label with words: Jesus died and rose for me. • Squares of brightly colored tissue paper • glue <p><i>Activity 2: Snack</i></p> <p>napkins, cups, water or juice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • three graham cracker rectangles per child • plastic knives or craft sticks • small amount of chocolate pudding or frosting for each child • multicolored sprinkles • hand wipes <p><i>Activity 3: Game</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: masking tape • Option 2: 8-foot 2" x 4" board and two 3 foot 2" x 4" boards
<p>Large Group Wrap-up</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Singing (Optional)</p> <p>Lesson Review with Puppet Skit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your choice of music • Albie puppet • Example of craft • Example of snack

Pre-Session Singing (10 minutes)

Purpose: *When all children are in one group singing, it is easy for children arriving later to join the group and immediately get involved.*

Large Group Opening (15 minutes)



Purpose: *The puppet demonstrates today's lesson. The children are introduced to the take home point and experience the Bible event.*

Puppet Presentation

Supplies: Judy puppet holding a tissue; Presenter holds a Bible

Presenter: Boys and girls, let's call Judy. (Children call "Judy".)

Judy: (sniffing and wiping her eyes with a tissue, replies sadly) Hi everyone.

Presenter: Judy, what is wrong?

Judy: I am sad and scared.

Presenter: Why?

Judy: My great-grandmother died.

Presenter: Oh, Judy, I am so sorry.

Judy: I am so sad that I will never see her again.

Presenter: I can understand that. Why are you scared?

Judy: I am scared because I am afraid of dying.

Presenter: Judy, you do not have to be afraid of dying.

Judy: Why?

Presenter: Because our Bible event today is about Jesus dying on the cross.

Judy: Jesus died too? How is that supposed to make me feel better?

Presenter: Calm down Judy. I agree that Jesus' death is a bad thing. But it is also happy.

Judy: How could such a sad thing possibly be a good thing?

Presenter: Jesus' death is a bad thing. Because we do bad things and make bad choices called sin, we need to be punished. When Jesus died, he took our punishment. It was like our sins died on the cross with Jesus. If we love Jesus and believe that he died for us, our sins are forgiven.

Judy: Why do we need our sins to be forgiven?

Presenter: So when we die, we will be with Jesus in heaven.

Judy: Oh, that really is a good thing.

Presenter: When God looks at us, he does not see our sins. Because our sins are gone, we don't have to be afraid of dying. We know when we die we will be with Jesus in heaven.

Judy: When I go to heaven, will I see my great-grandmother?

Presenter: Absolutely! You will miss her for a while, but some day you will be with her again in heaven.

Judy: That is good news.

Presenter: Judy, that is not the end of the good news.

Judy: There's more good news?

Presenter: Yes. Jesus died on the cross, but he did not stay dead. On Easter he came back to life!

Judy: That is great! I still miss my great-grandmother, but I feel much better.

Presenter: Would you like to learn more about this Bible event?

Judy: Yes.

Presenter: First, let's practice the take home point. I'll say the first part and you say the second part. JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...Jesus died and rose for me.

Judy: OK

Presenter: *JESUS IS MY SAVIOR... now you say, "Jesus died and rose for me."

Judy: Jesus died and rose for me.

Presenter: Do you think you can teach the boys and girls?

Judy: Sure.

Presenter: Okay everybody, *JESUS IS MY SAVIOR....

Judy: (and everyone): Jesus died and rose for me.

Presenter: Wonderful. Say “goodbye” Judy.

Judy: Bye everyone!

Bible Event: Mystery Box

Supplies: chair for presenter; male with microphone backstage; also backstage, hammer, piece of wood, piece of material to be torn, metal sheeting or poster board; on stage: Mystery Box containing palm branch, goblet, flat bread, plant, rooster picture; Calvary scene on overhead or shadow of cross on wall

Jesus Goes to the Cross

The presenter sits on a chair with Mystery Box and begins. He omits key words in the text that are underlined and let's children fill them in.

Presenter: Boys and girls, I have the Mystery Box today. In the box are some objects that will help us remember some of the Bible events that we have learned in the last few weeks. I am going to leave out some important words and I want you to tell them to me.

Take out palm branch.

Presenter: On Palm Sunday, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. People lined the streets, throwing their coats on the ground and shouting praises to Jesus. The children waved (pause for children to answer) palm branches. The people were shouting “Hosanna to the King!”

Put away palm branch and take out goblet and bread.

Presenter: Several days later, Jesus had a special meal to help his disciples remember that he would die for them and always be with them. At the meal, Jesus taught his helpers that the (pause for children to answer)(hold up bread) bread was his body and the (pause for children to answer and hold up goblet) wine was his blood, given to them so they could be forgiven.

Put away bread and goblet and bring out plant.

Presenter: After the special meal, Jesus and his disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane to (put hands in prayer position and pause for children to answer) pray. Jesus asked his Father to help him with the hard thing about to happen. That hard thing would be dying on the cross. After he was done praying, Jesus was arrested.

Put away plant and take out picture of rooster but don't let children see it yet.

Presenter: While Jesus was standing before the men who were judging him, three times people asked Peter if he knew Jesus and three times Peter said, "No." Then Peter heard the sound of the (hold out picture of rooster and pause for children to answer) rooster crowing. Suddenly, Peter knew he had lied and said "No" to Jesus. He felt bad and went away to cry.

Put away picture of rooster.

Presenter: Later that night, Jesus was sentenced to die. Let's find out what happened.

Lights dim, so that only the Calvary scene is lighted.

Presenter: Jesus, along with two criminals, was led to a hill called Golgatha, where Jesus was nailed to a cross. (*Hammering is heard offstage.*) The two criminals were also nailed to a cross, one on Jesus' left and one on his right. Jesus said:

Jesus' voice offstage: Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.

Presenter: On the cross above Jesus' head, was a sign that said, "Jesus, the King of the Jews." The sign was meant to make fun of Jesus. The people did not realize it was true. The soldiers divided Jesus' clothes between them. People who were walking by made fun of Jesus.

Voice offstage: *Save yourself! Come down from the cross if you are the Son of God!*

Presenter: In the same way, the chief priests, teachers, and elders made fun of Jesus and said, "If you are the Son of God, save yourself."

One of the criminals who hung of the cross next to Jesus also made fun of him, saying, "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

But the other criminal believed that Jesus was the Savior. He said, "We are being punished for the bad things we have done, but Jesus has done nothing wrong." Then he asked Jesus, "Will you remember me when you come into your kingdom?" Jesus answered:

Jesus' voice offstage: I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in heaven."

Presenter: Nearby were several women who loved Jesus. One was his mother Mary. She was very sad and was crying.

Crying heard from offstage.

Presenter: When Jesus saw his mother crying and his special disciple John, he said:

Jesus' voice offstage: Woman, here is your son. Son, here is your mother.

Presenter: From that time on, John took Mary into his home. Then the sky turned dark. After about three hours of darkness, Jesus called out again and said:

Jesus' voice offstage: My God, my God, why have you left me alone?

Presenter: Jesus, knowing it was almost time for him to die, said:

Jesus' voice offstage: I am thirsty.

Presenter: Jesus was given a drink of sour wine vinegar on a stick. After he finished the drink, Jesus said:

Jesus' voice offstage: It is finished. (In a loud voice.) Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!

Presenter: Then Jesus bowed his head and died. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn from top to bottom.

Offstage material is torn into the microphone.

Presenter: There was an earthquake. The earth shook and the rocks split.

Offstage the sheet metal is wobbled so that it makes a loud noise into the microphone.

Presenter: All the people were amazed and scared. One of the soldiers even said, "Surely he must be the Son of God." After Jesus died, some of his followers took his body from the cross and buried it in a cave called a tomb, and all his followers were sad.

But, the story does not end there, because three days later something wonderful happened. Jesus came back to life! We will learn about that next week.

While it is sad that Jesus died, we can be happy to know that he died for us. We all make wrong choices and sin. Because Jesus took our punishment on the cross, we are forgiven and someday will be with Jesus in heaven.

Boys and girls, let's practice the take home point together. I will say the first part and you repeat the last part. *JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...Jesus died and rose for me.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You sent your Son Jesus.
Jesus died and rose for me.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Mary Had A Little Lamb*)
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

JE-sus IS my SAV-a-VIOR.
SA-a- VIOR. SA-a- VIOR.
JE-sus IS my SAV-a-VIOR.
He DIED and ROSE for ME.

Small Group Application (30 minutes)



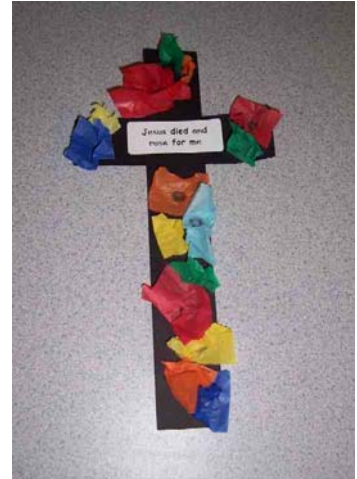
Purpose: Children will break into small groups. Smaller groups enable children to develop closer relationships with adults and peers in the church. In your small groups you will reinforce the take home point with a fun hands-on activity and discuss the Bible event. Review questions help kids apply the take home point to their daily lives.

Activity 1: Craft: A Sad/Happy Cross

Supplies: Using Appendix as a template, cut out a cross using dark colored card stock, one per child; printed label with words: Jesus died and rose for me; squares of brightly colored tissue paper; glue

Before class, cut out crosses.

Boys and girls, today we are going to make a Sad/Happy cross. It is sad because Jesus died on the cross. He never did anything wrong and it was painful for him. It is happy because Jesus did not stay dead. Three days later, Jesus came out of the grave. He is alive! The dark color of the cross reminds us of the sad and the bright colors reminds of the happy.



First, put your label in the middle of the cross. Now wad up the tissue paper and glue the pieces on the cross.

Review the Bible Event.

What was sad about today's Bible event? (*Jesus was nailed to a cross; he was in pain; he died.*)

Let's practice the take home point. ***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...Jesus died and rose for me.**

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You sent your Son Jesus.
Jesus died and rose for me.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
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Amen.

Song:

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Activity 2: Snack: Graham Cracker Cross

*Supplies: napkins, cups, water or juice; three graham cracker rectangles per child'
plastic knives or craft sticks; chocolate pudding or frosting; multicolored
sprinkles; hand wipes*

*****CAUTION:** *Be aware of food allergies children may have, before you give them anything to eat.*

Before we eat our snack, let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You sent your Son Jesus.
Jesus died and rose for me.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Boys and girls, today we are going to make and eat a cross. I will give each of you three graham cracker rectangles. Break one graham cracker rectangle in half.

Put the two longer graham cracker rectangles one above the other. Using the broken graham cracker, put a piece on each side. Spread the pudding (or frosting) on the graham cracker cross with your knife. Now you can put the candy sprinkles on the cross. You may eat your cross.



Review the Bible event.

What was the happy news in today's Bible event? (*Jesus did not stay dead; because he died on the cross, our sins are forgiven and we will someday be with him in heaven.*)

Let's practice the take home point. *JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...Jesus died and rose for me.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Mary Had A Little Lamb*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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Activity 3: Game: Cross Balance

Supplies: Option 1: masking tape. Option 2: 8-foot 2x4" board and two 3-foot 2x4's

Form a large cross on the floor with the masking tape, placing two parallel pieces of tape about 4" apart. (If using option 2, make a cross with the boards.) Have the children all try to stand on the cross at one time. The goal is for them to balance on the cross until the count of ten without anyone falling off. If someone falls off, they must start over. If the children have a hard time staying on the cross, they may receive adult help to balance them.

Just as you were on the cross, Jesus nailed your sins to the cross when he died. Our sins were buried with Jesus. While Jesus rose from the dead, our sins will remain buried forever, if we love and trust in Jesus.

Review the Bible event.

Who did Jesus die for? (*You, me, everyone.*)

Let's practice the take home point. *JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...Jesus died and rose for me.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

Dear God,
We love you.
You sent your Son Jesus.
Jesus died and rose for me.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Mary Had A Little Lamb*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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Prayer Time:

Why are you glad that Jesus died on the cross? *(Let the children express what the good news means to them.)*

One of the criminals on a cross with Jesus was sorry. He believed that Jesus could forgive him. If we are sorry for our sins and believe that Jesus forgives us, we will be forgiven too. We will be with him in heaven.

Ask children for prayer requests and pray as a group for child's request.

Let's practice the take home point. *JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...Jesus died and rose for me.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

**Dear God,
We love you.
You sent your Son Jesus.
Jesus died and rose for me.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. *(To the tune of Mary Had A Little Lamb)*
Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.

Large Group Wrap-Up (10 minutes)



Purpose: The crazy bird puppet, Albie, struggles with learning the take home point. We try to teach him the take home point, but each time he confuses words or concepts. After three attempts, he finally gets it right.

Singing: (Optional, two or three songs, as time allows)

Supplies: Albie the puppet, sample of today's craft and snack.

Lesson Review with Puppet Skit

Presenter shows Albie an example of each of the Activities done in small group. Then the kids attempt to teach Albie the take home point.

Presenter: We want to welcome all our guests today and thank them for coming. (If you give guests a gift for coming, do it now.)

Presenter: Albie, look at the craft the children made today. It is a Sad/Happy Cross. The children are going to teach you our take home point. Listen carefully.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...**

Kids say:

...Jesus died and rose for me.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...**

Albie says:

Could Jesus have been any braver?



Presenter: Albie, look at the snack we ate. It looks like a cross. Now listen carefully to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...**

Kids say:

...Jesus died and rose for me.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...**

Albie says:

Jesus is a real lifesaver!

Presenter: Albie, today we played a game called Cross Balance. Now, please listen closely to the take home point.

Presenter: (says to kids):

***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...**

Kids say:

...Jesus died and rose for me.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...**

Albie says:

By dying on the cross, Jesus did us a favor.

Presenter says:

"Albie, listen one last time.

***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...**

Kids response:

...Jesus died and rose for me.

Presenter: (says to Albie):

***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...**

Albie's response:

(Warms up his singing voice with “*Mee, mee, mee, mee...*” and sings in a silly dramatic opera-like voice)
***JESUS IS MY SAVIOR...Jesus died and rose for me.**

Presenter says to Albie: Good job, Albie!

Albie can leave stage or join in the prayer and song.

Let's fold our hands and pray. Repeat after me.

**Dear God,
We love you.
You sent your Son Jesus.
Jesus died and rose for me.
Thank you, thank you, thank you.
In Jesus' name.
Amen.**

Song:

Let's sing our song of the week. (To the tune of *Mary Had A Little Lamb*)

Capitalized letters indicate emphasis on that syllable when the rhyme is sung.

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Goodbye boys and girls. Remember that God loves you and Jesus died and rose for you.

