



**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Series:** Meet Jesus the Sacrifice and...  
Winter Year 2, Lesson 47

# Get Life, Now and Forever

**Take Home Point:** \*Jesus gave up his life so that we can have life with God now and forever.

\*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson.

**Bible Event:** Mark 15:22-39. Jesus dies on the cross.

**Key Verse:** John 10:10, "But I came so that my sheep will have life..."

**We will help kids know:**

- The Bible event of Jesus' crucifixion.
- Through Jesus giving up his life for us, we can have life with God, now and forever.
- To have the guarantee of life with God forever, we claim Jesus' sacrifice for us. We can be confident of our salvation.




**We will help kids feel:**

- Excited about their life with God through the sacrifice of Jesus.
- Confident of their salvation if they trust in Jesus as their Savior.

**We will help kids do:**

- Imagine those things in this life that they really enjoy, and see the connection between that type of enjoyment and the enjoyment of a life with God, now and forever.
- Complete a drawing which illustrates how Jesus' sacrifice for us gives us life with God, now and forever.

# THIS LESSON'S ROADMAP

DESTINATION	PAGE #	DISCOVERIES ON YOUR JOURNEY	SUPPLIES NEEDED
<b>Small Group Warm-Up</b> 	3	Kids discuss what they would choose if they could do anything – with no limitations – every day for the rest of their life. Then, they talk about how we have wonderful possibilities with a relationship with God, both now and forever.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>shepherd needs to bring from home an object representing something they would like to do every day for the rest of their lives, with no limitations</li> </ul>
<b>Large Group</b> 	3  6-7  8  8-9  9-11	<b>Overview</b>  <b>Meet Jesus the Sacrifice Series Introduction</b>  <b>Audience Participation Game:</b> “Meet Jesus the Sacrifice” Game Show. – Kids will try and guess the phrase, “Get life with God, now and forever.”  <b>Video:</b> <i>JESUS</i> from the JESUS Film Project. – Jesus’ crucifixion.  <b>Bible Reading:</b> Mark 15:22-39 with Observation Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>JESUS</i> video from the JESUS Film Project, Show the section about Jesus’ crucifixion (Mark 15:6-41).</li> <li>treasure chest</li> <li>sign: “Meet Jesus the Sacrifice Game Show”</li> <li>small sign attached to the treasure chest that reads “Meet Jesus the Sacrifice and ...”</li> <li>sign in the treasure chest that reads “Get _____ with God, _____ and _____.”</li> <li>an object that represents new life, i.e: a flower, a newborn chick, etc.</li> <li>a <i>Now and Later</i> piece of candy</li> <li>bowl of cottage cheese with a spoon</li> <li>egg timer</li> <li>section of scripture (Mark 15:22-39) on an overhead</li> <li>Gordy puppet</li> </ul>
<b>Small Group Application</b> 	4-5	Kids make a paper puzzle as they discuss where they are on their path to Jesus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>one 8 1/2" x 11" tracing paper per child, light weight copy paper or onion skin paper</li> <li>pens or markers</li> <li>copies of illustrations 1, 2, and 3 (p. 12-14) for each child</li> <li>illustration 4 for shepherd (p. 15)</li> <li>tape</li> </ul>

## Small Group Warm-Up: 15 minutes



**Purpose:** *Get pointed in the right direction!* Build relationships and help guests feel at ease. Do the learning readiness activity that will point your group in the right direction for the lesson.

Key Warm-Up Question:

**If you could do anything, with no limitations, every day for the rest of your life...what would you do?**

*This can be a fun question, which inspires imaginations to soar. Would it be snow skiing a perfect hill every day, playing a sport, going to Disney World, or playing on the beach? Some children might offer more than one idea. What is important here is for the children to begin to think about their future life with all the fullness of possibilities. Today we will talk about how we have wonderful possibilities for a relationship with God, both now and forever. This relationship was made possible through the sacrifice of Jesus for us.*

To help start the conversation, the shepherd may want to bring an object from home which illustrates how the shepherd would answer the same question. For example, a special book would illustrate the shepherd's desire to have a special reading time every day. This object could then be passed around the circle as children take turns telling their ideas and listening to one another.

Prepare the children for large group with a wrap-up thought, such as the following:

**Today we will look at and talk about one of the most important events of all history...Jesus' death on the cross for us. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, we will get something wonderful. It is even more wonderful than reading a book every day and skiing down a mountain. Get ready to think about what we get because Jesus gave himself up for us.**

Encourage the children to bring their Bibles along to large group.

## Large Group: 20-30 minutes



**Purpose:** *Help kids observe what the Bible says. Present the Bible event in creative fashion. Help kids begin to interpret what it means.*

### Overview

**Audience Participation Game:** "Meet Jesus the Sacrifice" Game Show. – Kids will try and guess the phrase, "Get life with God, now and forever."

**Video:** *JESUS* from the JESUS Film Project. – Jesus' crucifixion.

## **Small Group Application:** 20-25 minutes



**Purpose:** *Help kids map out the meaning of the Bible event in their lives. Use the questions to stimulate discussion but don't feel tied to them. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you. Include personal examples from your own faith journey. The example of Christ at work in your life will leave lasting impressions of how Christ can work in the children's lives.*

*Use your Bibles! Children need to learn how to look up references and follow along when scripture is read aloud. Allow for quality time of prayer at the close of the lesson.*

*Typically, observation questions are discussed in the small group. However, during this series, observation questions will be given in the large group as the children follow along in their Bibles.*

### Application Activity:

*There will be three parts to this activity as the children do a paper puzzle. Discussion questions are included as kids do these parts. Each child will need a 8 ½" x 11" thin piece of tracing paper and copies of illustrations 1-3 (see appendix). The tracing paper needs to be thin enough so that kids can see through it to copy the design from underneath.*

#### *Part One:*

Before the first question, give kids tracing paper, a pen or marker, and illustration one (see appendix). Place illustration one beneath the tracing paper. Have each child carefully trace the lines. As you do so, tell them that they are tracing an intersection of two streets coming together. Oftentimes, when people are on roads, they make decisions. Will they turn left? Will they turn right? Will they go straight ahead? Today we meet Jesus as our Sacrifice, and we saw the painful way he died on the cross.

Ask:

**Why did Jesus choose to sacrifice and die on the cross?** (So we could have forgiveness, so we could be loved, so we could have life, because his Father asked him.)

#### *Part Two:*

Next, pass out illustration two. Have the children continue to draw on their tracing paper, adding new lines to match up to illustration two.

Ask them what they see now. Do they see a cross cut into a wall? Have them label the wall: "Wall of Sin."

**What do you think hurt Jesus the most when he was on the cross?**

After answering, point out that the pain he suffered was because he was taking the punishment we deserve upon himself. **What are some sins that you have done that Jesus took the punishment for?**

*Part Three:*

Pass out illustration three. If they overlay their tracing paper on this illustration, they have a completed picture of a road going through the wall of sin and leading to a heavenly castle. The children can trace the entire picture onto their paper, or they can tape the two sheets together. In either case, they need to write the word “now” by the road which is on this side of the wall. They also need to write “forever” on the other side of the wall.

See figure four for the finished look.

Then ask:

**Do you know for sure if you will go to heaven? If so, why?** Let the children discuss as they come to the conclusion for today: ***“It is because Jesus gave his life for me.” Jesus says in John 10:10, “But I came so that my sheep will have life...”***

**If we know that now, we are on the path and Jesus made a hole through the wall of sin that keeps us from heaven. That means we will be with him forever. *\*Jesus gave up his life so that we can have life with God now and forever.***

Another good discussion question is:

**Where are you on the path right now? If you trust Jesus as your Savior and follow him as your Lord, then you are walking on the path. If you decide not to follow him, you can get off the path. Some people even try to take ladders and climb over the wall of sin, thinking they can do just enough good things to earn heaven. That does not work.**

An important concluding thought:

**If you are on the path already, what do you need to do for your friends who are not on the path? How can you help them get on it?**

Closing Prayer:

Thank Jesus for choosing to give his life as a sacrifice for our sins. Thank him for having made a way for us to be with God, now and forever. Mention by name prayers for any people that do not know Jesus.

**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.

## Meet Jesus the Sacrifice Series

*This six-week series helps children understand that Jesus gave himself as a sacrifice. This is a key concept. Jesus gave up something so we can get something. Each week we explore an aspect of how Jesus gave up his life for us so we can have a new life in him.*

**Treasure Chest:** *A treasure chest will be used from week to week. Each week there will be a different object that illustrates what we might receive as we meet Jesus the Sacrifice. With the object is a sign that contains blanks where the audience will guess the main phrase. For example, the first week we meet Jesus the Sacrifice and get “Jesus as Lord.” The object in the treasure chest is a crown and the sign will say, “Get \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_.”*

**“Meet Jesus the Sacrifice” Game Show:** *This audience participation game show is a version of Charades. We recently played Meet the God/Man Game Show that involved kids up front. This game show involves shepherds up on stage trying to help the audience guess the blanks that fill in the special phrase for the day. Two shepherds try to be the first to have their respective half of the audience guess the mystery phrase for the week. OPTION: If there are too many kids in the audience that make the guesses hard to discern, pick teams of kids to come forward to guess each shepherd’s clues. The losing shepherd has to do something yucky like eat baby food or chocolate pudding without a spoon.*

**Video:** *Each week the large group will see a short clip from the video, JESUS from the Jesus Film Project. Typically, the video clips are approximately two minutes each, except for the last two weeks when they are approximately 12 minutes each. Use a video imager or large screen TV, if possible.*

**Bible Observation:** *The Bible event will be read in large group while children follow along in their own Bibles. Kids should be reminded to bring their Bibles to large group. Simple observation questions will be asked during large group and kids can use their own Bibles to find the answers.*

**Week 1: Triumphant Entry** (Video length: 2:05)

Meet Jesus the Sacrifice and...get Jesus as Lord.

*\*Jesus gave up his life so we can know Jesus as our Lord.*

**Week 2: Cleaning Up the Temple** (Video length: 1:53)

Meet Jesus the Sacrifice and...get clean on the inside.

*\*Jesus helps us get clean on the inside.*

**Week 3: Widow’s Offering** (Video length: 0:38)

Meet Jesus the Sacrifice and...get a giving heart.

*\*Jesus gave up his life so we can get a giving heart.*

**Week 4: Gethsemane** (Video length: 2:14)

Meet Jesus the Sacrifice and...get to be sons and daughters of God.

*\*Jesus gave up his rights as Son of God so we can get a new status as sons and daughters of God.*

**Week 5: Arrest and Trial** (Video length: 12:27)

Meet Jesus the Sacrifice and...get freedom.

*\*Jesus gave up his freedom so we can get true spiritual freedom.*

**Week 6: Crucifixion** (Video length: 11:17)

Meet Jesus the Sacrifice and...get life forever.

*\*Jesus gave up his life so we can get life forever.*

# Large Group Presentation: 20-30 minutes

## Meet Jesus the Sacrifice Game Show Audience Participation Game

This audience participation game is a version of “Charades.” The game show host will invite two shepherds from the audience to come forward. The audience is divided in half with each half working with one of the two up front shepherd contestants. *OPTION: If there are too many kids in the audience that make the guesses hard to discern, pick teams of kids to come forward to guess each shepherd’s clues.*

A treasure chest with clues and signs will be needed each week. Two signs are needed for the setting of the show throughout the series: One large marquee---“Meet Jesus the Sacrifice Game Show” and another sign placed above the treasure chest: “Meet Jesus the Sacrifice and ...” Each week a new sign will be taken out of the treasure chest along with an object. This week's sign reads, “\_\_\_\_\_ with God, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.” The words to guess are “... Get life with God now and forever.” Along with this sign in the treasure chest place an object that represents new life, i.e: a flower, a newborn chick, etc. and a *Now and Later* piece of candy.

The two shepherds compete with one another until a child guesses the phrase that is being acted out. The losing shepherd today will be required to eat cottage cheese without a spoon. Have an extra action available in case of a tie breaker. For example, have each shepherd act out a different animal.

Option: Use an egg timer and allow only a certain number of seconds to solve the puzzle. Ring a bell or buzzer when time is up. You need to decide what is most appropriate and challenging for your group. You might start with thirty seconds. Adjust accordingly so that the kids usually win.

Review a few of the standard signs. Holding up one finger signifies “first word.” Cupping one’s hand over an ear signifies “sounds like.” Making enthusiastic gestures of inviting someone to come closer signifies “getting closer to the word.”

After game, have the contestants exit and go quickly into the puppet script.

## **Video** ***JESUS from the JESUS Film Project***

*Gordy appears briefly to help the presenter transition to the video.*

Gordy: Mr. King, Guess what I want to do every day, now and forever?

**Mr. King:** What, Gordy.

Gordy: Hang glide!

**Mr. King:** Whoa! That could be very dangerous.



Gordy: But my shepherd said I could pick anything I wanted to do every day for the rest of my life with no limitations.

**Mr. King:** You are right, Gordy. That was your warm-up activity. Today we will see how we can get something even more wonderful than hang gliding. Watch this video to see how *\*Jesus gave up his life so that we can have life with God now and forever.*

Using the *JESUS* video from the JESUS Film Project, show the section about Jesus' crucifixion (Mark 15:6-41). There are two places to begin. One would begin at the nailing sequence and include material that might be too graphic for sensitive children. This section of video begins when the soldier reaches into the bucket of nails and lasts for approximately one minute.

If this section is used, it might be wise to speak to the children beforehand and tell them it is okay to close their eyes. Sometimes it hurts to see how much Jesus sacrificed for us when he was nailed to the cross.

A second option is to begin the film at the lifting up sequence. This is when the cross is planted into the ground. From this point, the next seven minutes show Jesus' crucifixion. It concludes with a closing scene of Jesus on the cross at sunset, with the narrator speaking, "... before the Sabbath commenced at sundown."

### **Bible Reading: Mark 15:22-39**

Read the Bible passage inviting the kids to follow along in their own Bibles. Remind kids to bring their Bibles from small group warm-up!

OPTION: The section of scripture can be put on overhead to make it easier.

### **Observation Questions: What Happened?**

Typically, observation questions are discussed in the small group. However, during this series, observation questions will be given in the large group as the children follow along in their Bibles. It will be important that the large group presenter move through the crowd with a microphone or quickly call on kids with answers so this portion of the learning does not drag. If a child gives an incorrect answer, the large group presenter can refer to and read the correct answer from the text. The reward for a child's correct answer can be a piece of candy or simply giving the chance to speak into the microphone.

Note change in this lesson: In past lessons of this series, the kids compete with Gordy. He answers first and usually gives wrong answers which the children can gladly correct. (Comments marked in parentheses are Gordy's.) Because this Bible event is more serious in nature, you may eliminate Gordy's answers, but instead have him ask the questions.

1. **When Jesus was crucified they took his clothes. What did they do with them?**

(Wow. I can't believe they even took his clothes How embarrassing. But he let them do it.)

***They cast lots to see who would get to keep it.***

2. **When he was on the cross, they offered Jesus wine mixed with myrrh. Did he take it?**

(Isn't that what they used as something to help reduce the pain?)

***Yes, it was used to reduce the pain, but Jesus did not take it. He was willingly taking the pain of death and sin on himself as our sacrifice.***

3. **People shouted insults at Jesus. They said, "You saved others, so why don't you..." Do what?**

(I know what I would do. I would save myself.)

***They were mocking him and telling him to save himself. Even though we might do that, Jesus chose not to do that because that was the only way for us to be saved from our sin. He had to give his life for us.***

4. **When Jesus died on the cross, something happened in the temple in Jerusalem. What was it?**

(Isn't the temple where people made sacrifices to God?)

***Yes. The curtain that separated the holy of holies was torn in two. It was as if there was a way now made for anyone to come into the holy presence of God.***

5. **Do you think the Roman soldier watching Jesus being crucified believed that he was the Son of God?**

(I think I would.)

***Yes. The Bible says that he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God."***

**Mr. King:** Today we meet Jesus, the Sacrifice, who gave up his life so that we might have life with him, now and forever. Our key verse today is John 10:10, ***"I came so that my sheep will have life."*** Since Jesus sacrificed his life for us, the sin that keeps us away from God does not have to keep us away anymore. When we trust in Jesus, the Bible says we have life in him. That means he is right here in our lives today. It also means that we will be with him forever in heaven.

Gordy, when you go back to your small groups, you will be able to think of ways that are wonderful with Jesus being with you now and forever. You can do this because he gave up his life for you so that you could get life, now and forever. Would you say a closing prayer for us?

Gordy: Sure. Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to be our sacrifice. Thank you that because he died on the cross, but came alive again and now lives forever, we too can have life with you now and forever. We love you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

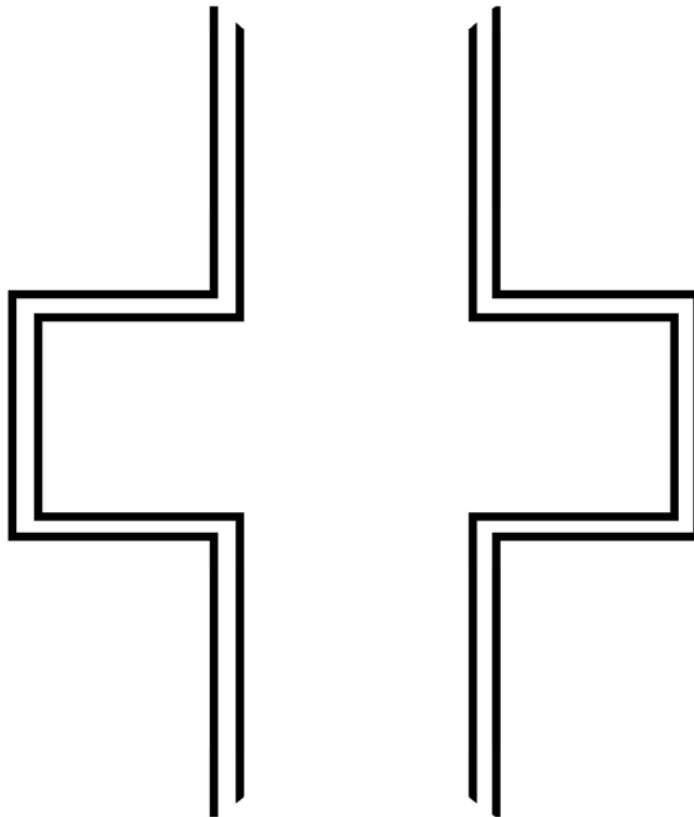


Illustration 1

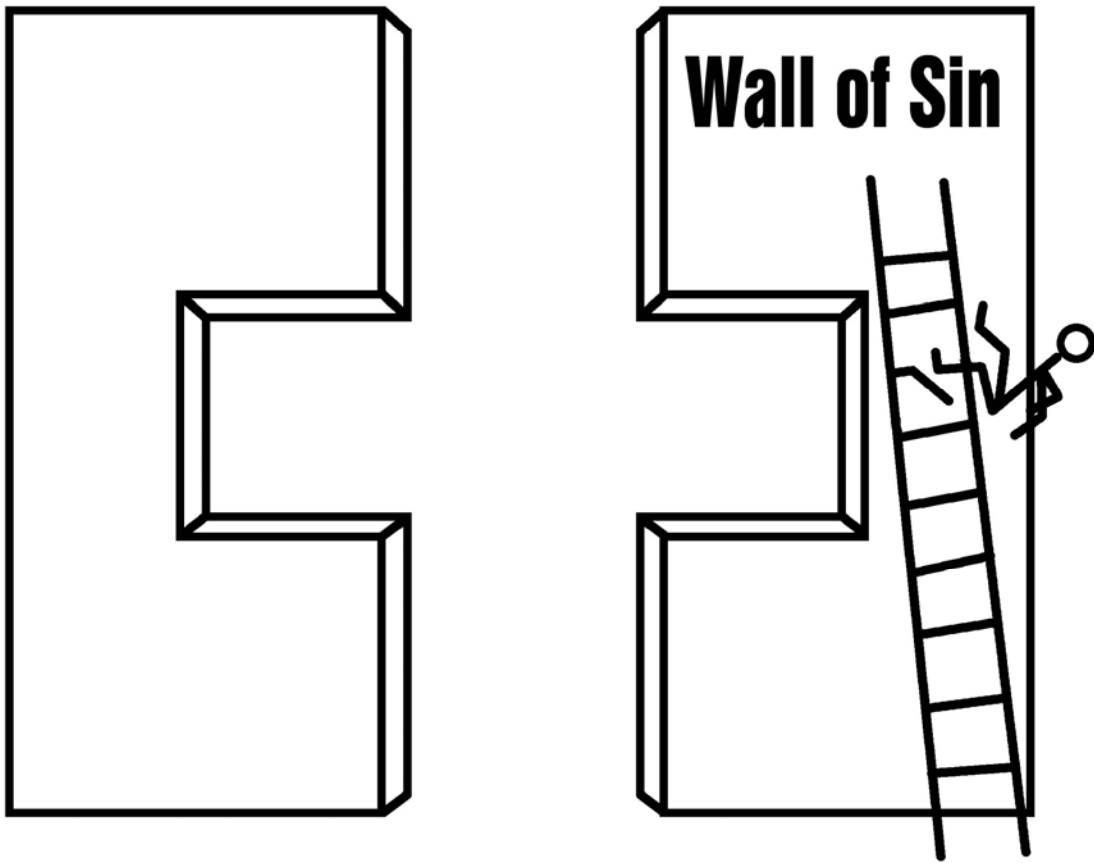


Illustration 2



Illustration 3

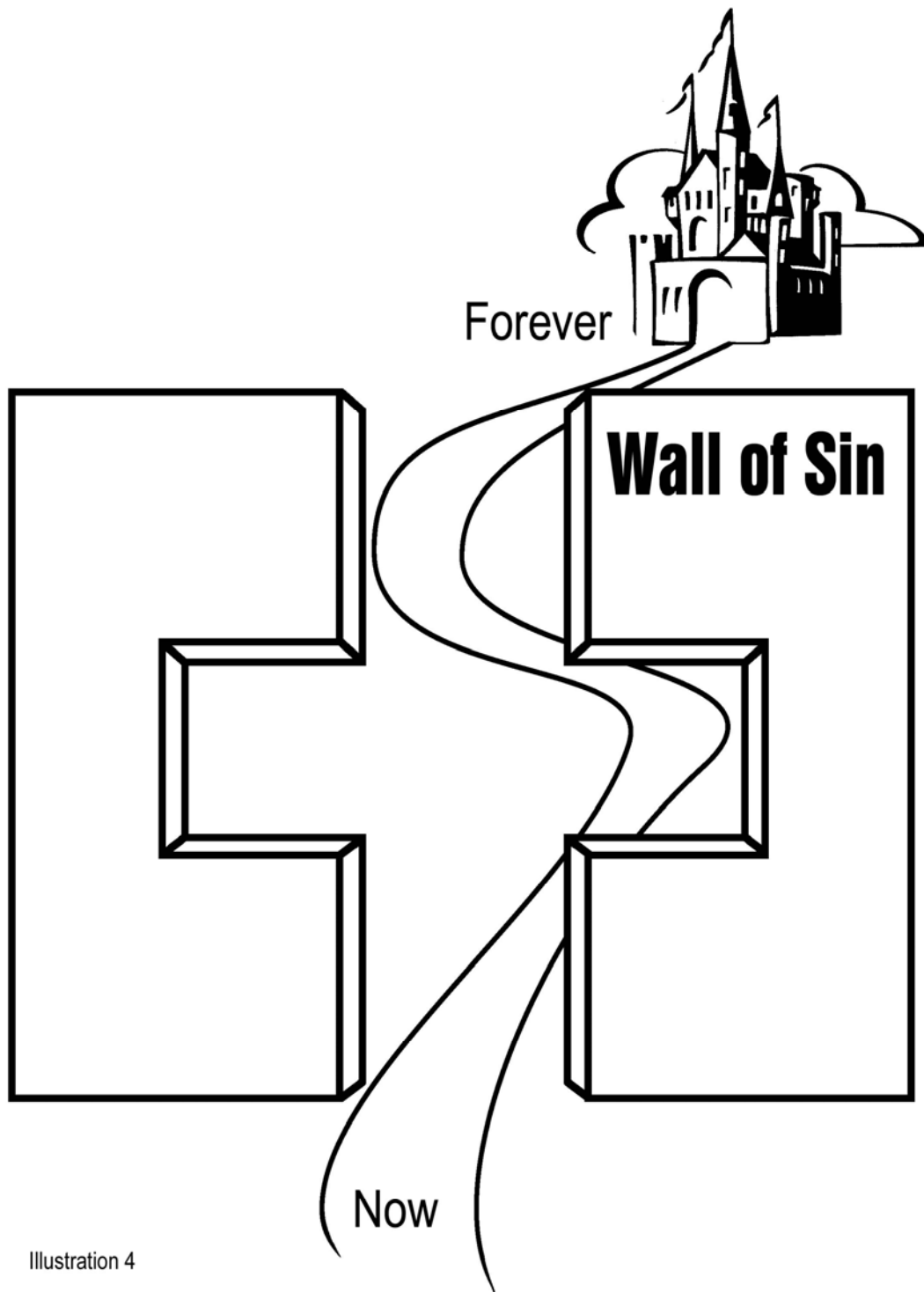


Illustration 4