



Date: _____

Series: Jesus Is the King
Winter Year 1, Lesson 47

Jesus Traded It All for Us - He Did It All!

Primary Scripture: 1 John 2:1-2

Key Verse: 1 John 2:2, "He is the payment for our sins, and not only for our sins, but also for the sins of the whole world."

How does this address a need in our kids' lives?

Most children want to be good and receive approval from the adults around them. Yet, every child encounters flaws and failures and is sometimes outright disobedient. These are examples of sin that cause us to be separated from God. Children need to understand the importance of what Jesus, God's own Son, has done to sacrifice his life for us. He traded his perfect life for the punishment of all our sin. His sacrifice was the greatest gift of all history. Because of that, we too can live lives of sacrificial love for others.

How does Jesus fill this need?

Jesus for us: Jesus died for you and for me, not based on anything we have done but out of his love for us.

Jesus in us: Because of Jesus trading places with us, we can boldly come into the presence of the Father.

Jesus through us: Because he made payment for me and for the whole world, my response is letting people see the wonderful love of their Savior.

Stamp of Excellence:

Remind the kids what excellent worship looks like. We are in God's presence to honor him. Put on your best manners. This might include wearing your name tag, participating eagerly at all times, listening when the leader is talking, raising your hand to speak, not distracting others, playing the learning game with cooperation, singing enthusiastically, and praying reverently. Offer rewards or positive reinforcement to those who worship with excellence.



Worship

Invocation:

Let kids bring forward the worship symbols such as the cross, candles, Bible, and offering plate. Invite God's presence and call by name the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Attention Grabber:

Capture the children's attention and help them focus on the worship theme for the day.

Option 1:

Supplies:

- *palms for the children*

This early part of worship will be a joint participation with the adults in the Palm Sunday celebration.

Option 2:

Supplies:

- *various worship elements for children to carry (candles, candle lighter, Bible, offering plate, cross)*
- *palm branches and/or coats*
- *crown*

Make a processional with kids carrying various worship elements. During the first songs, you might process a crown as a picture of Jesus the King coming to Jerusalem in his triumphant processional on Palm Sunday. This is especially more dramatic if the kids have palm branches or even make a path of their coats. (The coats don't have to be stepped on.)

Songs of Worship:

Choose two or three songs. Briefly introduce songs so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God!

The Power of the Cross:

Jesus has given his life for us that we might have forgiveness and power to live for him.

Supplies:

- *paper*
- *pencils*
- *bag hanging on the cross*
- *Jesus dollar for each child (Order through www.gospelmagic.com.)*
- *gift box*

How would you prepare for an important guest if he were coming to your house today? Would you clean up your house? Can't you just hear your mom say, "Go wash your face and hands." Would you say, "Who cares if there are three days' worth of dishes sitting on the counter and there are dust balls the size of Jupiter sitting by my bed? I kind of like the dirty dishes and the dust balls. And I don't care if there is chocolate ice cream all over my face. It was a great ice cream cone." Of course, you wouldn't say that.

Suppose King Jesus is coming to your house today. Do you have things that need to be cleaned up? What is your dirty pile of sins that you just kind of shove to the side and forget to get rid of? Do you have bad thoughts or jealousy? Have you been arguing with your mom or dad?

What is the very worst thing you have ever done? Write it on this sheet of paper.

Hand out a small piece of paper and a pencil to each child. Then say:

First John 2:1-2 says that Jesus made payment for our sins. Second Corinthians 5:21 says that he who was sinless took our sins. He traded with us.

Bring your sins to the cross and put them in this burlap bag. Jesus wants to trade with us.

Have a gift box in the bag that contains Jesus dollars to give to each child. As you exchange the paper of sin with the Jesus dollars, reassure kids of their forgiveness.

Jesus took your sins and gave you salvation instead. Listen very closely to 1 John 2:1-2.

“My dear children, I’m writing this to you so that you will not sin. Yet, if anyone does sin, we have Jesus Christ, who has God’s full approval. He speaks on our behalf when we come into the presence of the Father. He is the payment for our sins, and not only for our sins, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

God loved you so much that he traded a relationship with the Father for your sins. Do you know for sure in your heart that Jesus loves you this much? If so, I want to hear you say with confidence, “I know!”

Song of Response:

Choose a song to help the children turn to Jesus. Or, you may want to help them celebrate what God has done by singing a song of praise.

Offering:

Teach the importance of giving and talk about the mission activities they are supporting.

During the offering, have the children sing the song “Crown Him King of Kings” as an offering to their King as they bring forward their gifts to place in a crown.



The Word

Bible Presentation:

Help children pay attention by giving them a word or concept to listen for as you read. Consider letting a child read who could do so with excellence.

Option 1: Bible Presentation

Supplies:

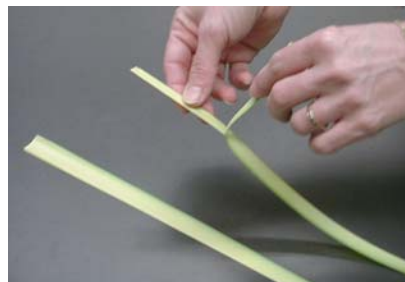
- *palm branches to weave into crosses*

Read Matthew 21:1-11 and Matthew 27:27-54 while folding a palm branch into a cross. The two accounts are Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and Jesus' suffering and crucifixion.

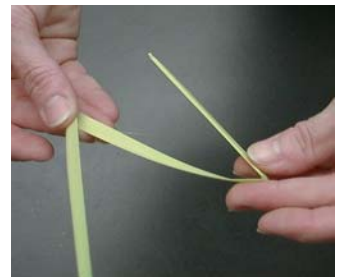
As these passages are read or told, use a palm branch to help tell the story. First, show the palm branch as a symbol of praise the people gave to Jesus the King. Then fold the palm branch into a cross to show how the king had come to be rejected and carry our sins on himself on the cross.

Folding the Palm Branch

1. Tear the palm branch in half.

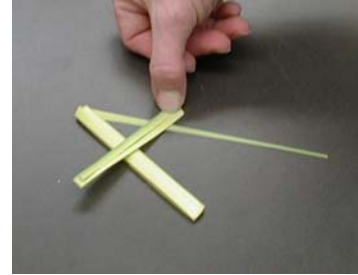


2. Fold one of the halves into thirds. This will make the horizontal beam of the cross. Leave approximately three inches of the branch unfolded. This will be used to connect the beams together.



3. Fold the other half of the palm branch into fourths. This will make the vertical beam of the cross.

4. Lay down the vertical beam on top of the horizontal beam.



5. Wrap the excess palm branch around the center of the cross to connect the two beams together.



Option 2: Read a Story

Supplies:

- *The Legend of the Three Trees*, by Catherine McCaferty. (Nashville: Tommy Nelson Publishers, 2001.)
- *The Tale of Three Trees, a traditional folktale retold by Angela Elwell Hunt.* (Colorado Springs, CO: Lion Children's Books, 1989.)
- *The Little Rose of Sharon by Nan Gurley* (Colorado Springs, CO: Chariott Victor Publishing, 1998.)

Read a book to illustrate today's message of sacrifice and what Jesus has given for us.

Option 3: Video

Supplies:

- *video: Greatest Adventure Stories from the Bible: The Easter Story* (Warner Home Video, 1996)

Today only show the first 19 minutes of this video, up until the soldier says, "Surely this was the Son of God." (This time reference begins when the actual animation begins and not at the very beginning of the tape.) This section will do an effective job of helping children connect together the different events of Jesus' last week (Matthew 21-27).

Show all 22 minutes of the film Easter Sunday, saving the victory of the resurrection for then.

Please note that this film is planned for Easter Sunday's lesson, if you are having Kids Church.



Witness

Witness and Tell:

Give children opportunities to share how God is working in their lives. It is best to use a microphone to ask children interview questions around the theme for the day.

If Jesus has sacrificed so much for you, what is something you could sacrifice for him?

What would you tell someone who asked you, “How do I get forgiveness from God?”

Can you tell of a time when you talked to someone else about Jesus’ sacrifice and how trusting in Jesus is all that is needed to have sins forgiven so you can go to heaven?

Prayer:

Let the kids pray out loud. If you are using a microphone, invite children to form a prayer line and speak their thanksgivings or requests. If you have portable microphones, you can roam the audience. Kids can also go to prayer stations set up for specific types of prayer.

Blessing:

Speak a blessing prayer over the children. Personalize this to your setting. Use a special scripture verse or blessing around the theme of the day.

Song of Sending:

Choose one song. Briefly introduce the song so kids can better understand what they are singing and be drawn into a more focused worship. Keep the attention on God.

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.

Supplies:

Attention Grabber:

Option 1:

- palms for the children

Option 2:

- various worship elements for children to carry (candles, candle lighter, Bible, offering plate, cross)
- palm branches and/or coats
- crown

The Power of the Cross:

- paper
- pencils
- bag hanging on the cross
- Jesus dollar for each child (Order through [\)](http://www.gospelmagic.com/cgi-bin/gospel_magic/cp-app.cgi?usr=51F9683827&rnd=4633138&rrc=N&affl=&cip=66.37.239.194&act=&aff=&pg=prod&ref=4004&cat=&catstr=.)
- gift box

Bible Presentation:

Option 1:

- palm branches to weave into crosses

Option 2:

- *The Legend of the Three Trees*, by Catherine McCaferty. (Nashville: Tommy Nelson Publishers, 2001.)—order from http://www.christianbook.com/Christian/Books/product?item_no=59431&netp_id=265096&event=ESRCN&item_code=WW

Or...

- *The Tale of Three Trees*, a traditional folktale retold by Angela Elwell Hunt. (Colorado Springs, CO: Lion Children's Books, 1989.)—order from http://www.christianbook.com/Christian/Books/product?item_no=19014&netp_id=155456&event=ESRCN&item_code=WW

Or...

- *The Little Rose of Sharon* by Nan Gurley (Colorado Springs, CO: Chariott Victor Publishing, 1998.)—order from http://www.christianbook.com/Christian/Books/product?item_no=30313&netp_id=108981&event=ESRCN&item_code=WW

Option 3:

- video: *Greatest Adventure Stories from the Bible: The Easter Story* (Warner Home Video, 1996)—order from http://www.christianbook.com/Christian/Books/product?item_no=03463X&netp_id=437383&event=ESRCN&item_code=WW#details

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