Two other men were crucified with Jesus that day. They were thieves. One of them asked Jesus to save him. Jesus promised that they would be in heaven together that same day. Three hours later Jesus died.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT REALLY HAPPENED?

Do you know what really happened on the cross that day? God the Father was punishing his own Son Jesus! But Jesus hadn’t done anything wrong, had he? No! Jesus most certainly had not done anything wrong! You and I are the ones who have done wrong and bad things. And we are the ones who ought to be punished.

But God punished Jesus instead of us. God loves us so much that he let his only Son Jesus be punished so that we don’t ever have to be punished for our sins. That is what was really happening when Jesus died on that cross. He died to pay for your sins and mine.

Jesus wants you to give your life to him. He has given his life for us! He wants you to be thankful. He wants you to believe that he has paid for all your sins and that he will forgive you. He wants you to believe that when you die you will go to heaven to be with him. He wants you to love him and to live a good life for him.

WILL YOU GIVE YOUR LIFE TO JESUS?

PRAYER
Dear Jesus, thank you for dying for me. Thank you for taking the punishment for sin that I should have taken. Help me to live a life that shows that I love you and I am thankful for what you have done for me. Amen

MEMORY VERSE
What is love? It is not that we loved God. It is that he loved us and sent his Son to give his life to pay for our sins. 1 John 4:10

NOW READ THE BELOW VERSES AND TAKE THE TEST ON PAGE

LUKE 23:38–49 (NirV)
38 A written sign had been placed above him. It read, THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.
39 One of the criminals hanging there made fun of Jesus. He said, “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself! Save us!”
40 But the other criminal scolded him. “Don’t you have any respect for God?” he said. “Remember, you are under the same sentence of death.
41 We are being punished fairly. We are getting just what our actions call for. But this man hasn’t done anything wrong.”
42 Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”
43 Jesus answered him, “What I’m about to tell you is true. Today you will be with me in paradise.”
44 It was now about noon. The whole land was covered with darkness until three o’clock.
45 The sun had stopped shining. The temple curtain was torn in two.
46 Jesus called out in a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my very life.” After he said this, he took his last breath.
47 The Roman commander saw what had happened. He praised God and said, “Jesus was surely a man who did what was right.”
48 The people had gathered to watch that sight. When they saw what happened, they beat their chests and went away.
49 But all those who knew Jesus stood not very far away, watching those things. They included the women who had followed him from Galilee.

Lesson 12

JESUS RISES FROM THE DEAD!

When Jesus died on the cross, the soldiers put a sword in his side to make sure he was really dead. When they did this, blood and water gushed out. Then they took Jesus’ body off the cross.

JESUS IS BURIED

One of Jesus’ friends took his body to a nearby cemetery. This cemetery was different than the

But they wouldn’t listen to him. They began to shout, “Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Finally Pilate gave in and granted permission for the Jewish leaders to kill Jesus. Before the soldiers led Jesus out to be crucified, they took off his clothes. They put an old robe on him. They put a crown of thorns on his head and they blindfolded him. Then they spit in his face and laughed at him. They hit him and asked him to tell who had hit him.

JESUS IS CRUCIFIED

Then the soldiers put on Jesus’ clothes again, placed a huge cross on his back and made him carry it out to Golgotha, the place where they crucified criminals.

When they got soldiers lay the ground. Jesus’ hands and pounded them. They put the cross and through his they set the let Jesus hang there, the cross on they put on the cross nails through his feet on pounded nails feet. Then cross up and there to die.
Judas was one of Jesus' disciples. But he was angry with Jesus so he went to the religious leaders and told them that he would help them arrest Jesus. The religious leaders were happy about this and agreed to pay Judas 30 pieces of silver for his help.

That night Jesus was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. Judas led the soldiers to the garden and they arrested Jesus. Then they took Jesus to Jerusalem to question him. They asked Jesus if he was really God. Jesus said yes. This made the Jewish leaders very angry. They decided that Jesus should be put to death.

Pilate Sentences Jesus to Death

But the Jewish leaders didn't have the authority to kill Jesus, so they took him to Pilate who was the Roman governor. Pilate asked Jesus some questions. He found out that Jesus was a very good man. Pilate told the Jewish leaders that he didn't see any reason why Jesus should be put to death.

Then Pilate placed guards by the grave because he had heard that Jesus said he would rise from the dead. Pilate didn't believe that. But he thought that some of Jesus' disciples might try to steal his body and then say that Jesus rose from the dead.

All this happened on Friday. Saturday was the day of worship for the Jews so Jesus' friends were forbidden to go to the cemetery on Saturday.

The Women Go to the Grave

Ones we have today. The graves were cut into the side of a hill. Jesus' body was placed into one of those caves. A great big stone was rolled in front of the cave. The stone was so large that it took several men to put it in place.
Very early Sunday morning some women who loved Jesus went to the cemetery. They wanted to put perfume on Jesus’ body. This was the usual Jewish custom, but they had no chance to do this on Friday before Jesus was put in the grave.

As they came close to the cemetery they wondered how they would roll the stone away from the entrance to the grave. But when they arrived they were surprised to see that the stone was already rolled away.

Earlier, before they got to the cemetery, there had been a great earthquake. Angels came down from heaven and pushed the stone away. The soldiers were so frightened that they all fainted.

THE GRAVE IS EMPTY

An angel greeted the women. “Don’t be frightened!” he said. “I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn’t here. He has come back to life again, just as he said he would. Come into the grave and see where his body was lying.”

The women looked in the grave. Jesus’ body was not there. They were frightened, but also filled

NOW READ THESE VERSES AND TAKE THE TEST ON PAGE

MATTHEW 13:18-23 (NirV)
18 Listen! Here is the meaning of the story of the farmer.
19 “People hear the message about the kingdom but do not understand it. Then the evil one comes. He steals what was planted in their hearts. Those people are like the seed planted on a path.
20 Others received the seed that fell on rocky places. They are those who hear the message and at once receive it with joy.
21 But they have no roots. So they last only a short time. They quickly fall away from the faith when trouble or suffering comes because of the message.
22 Others received the seed that fell among the thorns. They are those who hear the message. But then the worries of this life and the false promises of wealth crowd it out. They keep it from producing fruit.
23 But still others received the seed that fell on good soil. They are those who hear the message and understand it. They produce a crop 100, 60, or 30 times more than the farmer planted.”

Lesson 11

JESUS IS CRUCIFIED

Jesus’ miracles and teachings made him very popular with many people, but the religious and government leaders did not like Jesus. They were always looking for a way to get rid of him.

JUDAS BETRAYS JESUS

One night Judas came to visit the religious leaders.
soil. Plants came up, but because the soil wasn’t very deep and the plants couldn’t grow strong roots, the plants didn’t last too long in the hot sun. Still other seed fell on soil that had lots of thorny weeds. When the plants tried to grow the thorny plants were bigger and stronger and they kept the plants from growing. Some seed fell on good soil—soil that was deep and free of rocks and thorns. This seed produced a huge crop.

Sometimes the disciples were confused by Jesus’ stories. They could not figure out what Jesus was trying to tell them. When you read the Bible verses below you will learn what Jesus meant when he told the disciples this story.

PRAYER
Dear Jesus, Thank you for loving me so much that you keep me from getting lost. Help me to be good soil for your word to grow in me and to be a good neighbor to my friends, family, and all those I meet. Amen

MEMORY VERSE
There will be great joy in heaven when one sinner turns away from sin. Luke 15:7

with joy. They ran back to tell the other disciples. When the disciples heard, they didn’t believe it at first. But then Jesus himself appeared to them. Jesus also appeared to many other people.

JESUS RETURNS TO HEAVEN

After Jesus arose from the dead he remained on earth for forty days. Then Jesus gathered his disciples together on the side of a mountain. He told them to go into the world and tell everyone about him. He also told them that he would send the Holy Spirit to be with them.

Jesus put his hands out to bless the disciples and he began to rise. Into the sky he went, until a cloud hid him from the disciples’ view. The disciples kept looking into the sky for Jesus until an angel came to them. “Why are you looking for Jesus?” the angel asked. “He is going to come again, just like you saw him go into heaven!”
Prayer
Dear Jesus, thank you for your promise that you are coming again. Thanks you for sending your Holy Spirit to be with us until that day. Help me to tell others about you. Amen.

Memory Verse
He has risen! Luke 24:6

Now read these verses and take the test on page and then you have completed the course!

Mark 16:1-7 (NIV)
1 The Sabbath day ended. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices. They were going to apply them to Jesus' body.
2 Very early on the first day of the week, they were on their way to the tomb. It was just after sunrise.
3 They asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb?"
4 Then they looked up and saw that the stone had been rolled away. The stone was very large.
5 They entered the tomb. As they did, they saw a young man [an angel] dressed in a white robe. He was sitting on the right side. They were alarmed.
6 "Don’t be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene who was crucified. But he has risen! He is not here! See the place where they had put him.
7 Go! Tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him. It will be just as he told you.’"

The Farmer and the Four Soils - Matthew 13:3-8, 18-23
On another occasion Jesus told a story about a farmer sowing his seed. This seed landed on four different kinds of soil. Some fell on the hard soil of a path and the birds came and ate it all up. Other seed fell on rocky ground where there was only a little bit of
**THE GOOD NEIGHBOR - LUKE 10:30-37**

When someone asked Jesus, “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus told this story:

Once there was a man who was traveling on the road from Jerusalem to Jericho. Thieves stopped him, beat him, robbed him, and left him lying beside the road. Shortly after that a priest walked by. He did not stop to help.

...and a Samaritan man walked by. He stopped, cleaned and bandaged the man’s wounds, and brought him to a nearby inn where he could rest. The next day the Samaritan gave the innkeeper enough money to take care of the man until he was well and able to leave on his own.

**THE LOST SHEEP - LUKE 15:1-7**

Once when the religious leaders were criticizing Jesus for talking to people they considered sinners, Jesus told this story:

“Suppose one of you has 100 sheep and loses one...”

**TEST LESSON NINE**

Based on the lesson and Bible verses you just read, answer these questions. You may look back at the lesson and the Bible verses for the answers. The numbers at the end of each question show where to find the answer in the Bible verses.

1. Who did the four men bring to Jesus? _________________________________ (3)
2. Why couldn’t they get their friend to Jesus? ___________________________ (4)
3. What did the four men do to get their sick friend to Jesus? ____________ (4)
4. What was the first thing Jesus said to the sick man? ____________________ (5)
5. Who is the only one who can forgive sins? ____________________________ (7)
6. What did Jesus do for the sick man to show he is God? _________________ (10, 11)
7. What did the people say when they saw the man walk? _________________ (12)
8. Do you believe that Jesus is God? ___________________________________
NOW READ THE VERSES BELOW AND TAKE THE TEST ON PAGE

MARK 2: 1-12 (NIrV)
1 A few days later, Jesus entered Capernaum again. The people heard that he had come home.
2 So many people gathered that there was no room left. There was not even room outside the door. And Jesus preached the word to them.
3 Four of those who came were carrying a man who could not walk.
4 But they could not get him close to Jesus because of the crowd. So they made a hole in the roof above Jesus. Then they lowered the man through it on a mat.
5 Jesus saw their faith. So he said to the man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”
6 Some teachers of the law were sitting there. They were thinking,
7 “Why is this fellow talking like that? He’s saying a very evil thing! Only God can forgive sins!”
8 Right away Jesus knew what they were thinking. So he said to them, “Why are you thinking these things?
9 Is it easier to say to this man, ‘Your sins are forgiven’? Or to say, ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?
10 I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” Then Jesus spoke to the man who could not walk.
11 "I tell you," he said, “get up. Take your mat and go home.”
12 The man got up and took his mat. Then he walked away while everyone watched. All the people were amazed. They praised God and said, “We have never seen anything like this!”

Lesson 10

JESUS TELLS STORIES

Jesus told many stories while he was living on earth. He told these stories to help people learn about the Kingdom of God.
and walk. This also made the Jewish leaders very angry. They said that only God could forgive sins. They refused to believe that Jesus is God.

Jesus knew what they were thinking, and so he asked them, “Which is harder, to tell a man that his sins are forgiven or to tell him to get up and walk?”

Then to prove that he is really God, Jesus looked at the man and told him to get up and walk. The man jumped up from his cot, picked it up, and carried it out of the house.

Jesus showed people in many different ways that he is God. Do you believe that Jesus is God and that he is living today? Have you asked him to come live in your heart?

PRAYER
Thank you Jesus for showing me how great and powerful you are. I believe that you are God. I ask you to forgive my sins and to live in my heart always. In your name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE
Your sins are forgiven! Mark 2:5

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE SEED STANDS FOR? __________________________________________ (19)

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SEED THAT FELL ON THE PATH? __________________________________ (19)

WHY DID THE PLANTS OF THE SEED THAT FELL ON ROCKY GROUND DIE? ________________________________ (21)

WHAT KEPT THE SEED THAT FELL ON THE THORNY GROUND FROM PRODUCING FRUIT? ____________________________ (22)

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE LIKE THE GOOD SOIL? ____________________________________________ (23)

WHAT KIND OF “SOIL” DO YOU WANT TO BE? ____________________________________________________________
TEST LESSON ELEVEN

Based on the Lesson and Bible verses you just read, answer these questions. You may look back at the Lesson and the Bible verses for the answers. The numbers at the end of each question show where to find the answer in the Bible verses.

Who betrayed Jesus? _______________________

Who was Pilate? ____________________________

What did the soldiers do to Jesus before they took him away to be crucified? ________________________

What did the signboard on Jesus’ cross say? ________________________________________________ (38)

Who was killed alongside of Jesus? ________________________________________________________

How did one of the criminals want Jesus to prove that he was the Christ? ______________________ (39)

What did the second criminal want Jesus to do for him? ________________________________ (42)

What did Jesus promise the second criminal? ________

Did Jesus deserve to die? ____________________________

What really happened when Jesus died on the cross? _______________________________________

People. Everyone ate all they could and the disciples even picked up twelve basketfuls of leftovers.

JESUS HELPS A PARALYZED MAN WALK - MARK 2:1-12

Jesus visited the little town of Capernaum many times as he traveled. This was a town on the shore of a beautiful lake. Once when he came to this town, many people came and filled the house where he was staying.

While Jesus was talking to the crowd about God, the ceiling of the room where he was standing began to come apart. Some men were on the roof of the house and were pulling the bricks out of the ceiling and making a hole in it. Everyone watched them. When they had made the hole large enough they lowered a man on a cot right down in front of Jesus. This man could not walk.

Jesus looked at the man and said, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” That surprised everyone. They thought that Jesus would tell the man to get up
Once a large crowd of people came to listen to Jesus teach. There were about five thousand men there plus women and children. That means there could have been as many as ten thousand people there! Jesus talked to them all day.

When it got close to the end of the day, the disciples told Jesus to stop talking and to send the crowds home to get their dinner. But Jesus told the disciples that they should feed the crowd.

The disciples didn't think that they could do this. They didn't have enough money to buy food for all these people. One little boy offered the disciples his supper of five loaves of bread and two fish.

After telling the people to sit down, Jesus asked that the five loaves of bread and the two fish be brought to him. Jesus prayed and thanked God for the five loaves and two fish, and then gave them to the disciples to pass out to the crowd.

Much to their amazement, the disciples found out that they had more than enough food for all the people.

**MEMORY VERSE**
Write your memory verse here

**TEST LESSON TWELVE**

Based on the lesson and Bible verses you just read, answer these questions. You may look back at the lesson and the Bible verses for the answers. The numbers at the end of each question show where to find the answer in the Bible verses.

**WHO WENT OUT TO JESUS' GRAVE AT SUNRISE?**
_________________________________________ (1)

**WHAT DID THEY TALK ABOUT ON THE WAY?**
_________________________________________ (3)

**WHAT DID THEY FIND WHEN THEY CAME TO THE TOMB?**
_________________________________________ (4)

**WHAT DID THEY FIND WHEN THEY WALKED INTO THE GRAVE?**
_________________________________________ (5)
JESUS' MINISTRY

JESUS DOES MIRACLES
When Jesus was about thirty years old he left his home in Nazareth and began to travel through the country. Wherever he went he did miraculous things.

JESUS CALMS A STORM - LUKE 8:22-25
One day Jesus told his disciples to get into a boat and row across the lake. He didn't go with them. He stayed alone to pray.

Soon a very bad storm came up. The wind blew. The waves grew very big and the disciples thought that they would drown. Then Jesus walked out on the water to them. When they saw him coming they thought that he was a ghost. Jesus told them not to be afraid. He got into the boat and suddenly the storm stopped. The disciples were stunned at his power. “Even the wind and the waves obey him!” they exclaimed.

MEMORY VERSE
Write your memory verse here

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