

MAIN LESSON

BOTTOM LINE: Jesus forgives me!

OBJECTIVE: In this lesson kids will learn that Jesus died on the cross so that we could be forgiven of our sins.

KEY PASSAGE: Luke 23:32-43, The Crucifixion

WORSHIP TIME: Prior to the lesson, sing one or two songs with the kids. Use CDs or live lyrics of songs that the kids are familiar with.

LESSON:

Today's story comes to us from the Bible. (Hold up a Bible.) The Bible is God's word to us, so we know that everything it says is true. (Open the Bible and set it down in front of you as you give the lesson.)

God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son – Jesus. Jesus forgives me!

Jesus came to die for us, so that we could have eternal life.

They arrested Jesus. Jesus had done nothing wrong. They hung Jesus on a cross to die. Jesus let it happen so that we could be forgiven.

Two criminals were hung on crosses too. One criminal on Jesus' left. One criminal on Jesus' right. One of the criminals said nasty things to Jesus. He made fun of Jesus for being on the cross. The other criminal said, "Stop it! Jesus isn't a criminal like you and me. Jesus has done nothing wrong."

The criminal said to Jesus, "Please forgive me, Jesus. Remember me." Jesus said, "Today you will be with me in paradise."

Jesus died for our sins. Everyone has sinned – done something bad. But Jesus forgives.

Jesus forgave the criminal. Jesus will forgive everyone who believes in Jesus and asks for his forgiveness.

Jesus forgives. Jesus forgives me.



THIS WEEK'S LESSON: BROKEN EGG

DRIVING:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home: Play some worship music in the car. Sing together songs that emphasize Jesus' sacrifice, forgiveness, and power over sin.

PI AYING:

Make this week's lesson real:

During playtime with siblings or friends, there always seems to be moments when one person "wrongs" another. Take that opportunity to talk about forgiveness. Invite the "wronged" party to forgive the other. Talk about Jesus' forgiveness from sins bought for us on the cross.

EATING:

During mealtime, share the story of communion (Mark 14:22-25). Talk about your church's practice of taking the Lord's Supper, and how when we eat the bread and take the cup together, we remember what Jesus did for us on the cross. (Do not worry if these concepts are too abstract for your little ones at this point; just be willing to introduce the ideas into their thinking.)

SNUGGLING:

Snuggle up together and read the memory verse together: "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." John 3:16 (NIrV) Talk about how Jesus forgives our sins so that we can be with Him forever.