

Jesus is Redeemer: The Crucifixion

Bible Verse

Christ died once for our sins. An innocent person died for those who are guilty. (1 Peter 3:18)

Teacher Enrichment

This is the fifth lesson in the *Who Do You Say I Am: Jesus' Life* series. This series follows the moments from Jesus' life which will be depicted on the stained glass windows in the new chapel. Each week will explore how those moments define different aspects of Jesus and our relationship with Him.

Jesus is our Redeemer. The dictionary defines redeem as “to free from what distresses or harms” and “to atone for” or “to offset the bad effect of.” Jesus became our redeemer by paying the ultimate price and dying on the cross. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, we are free from sin, our punishment is cleared and forgiveness is received. Jesus fulfills every definition of redeemer. As humans, we are all sinners, but through Jesus, we are redeemed.

In this lesson children will learn that when Jesus died on the cross, He took the punishment for our sins. They will understand that while choices do have consequences here on earth, Jesus's sacrifice means our sins are always forgiven by God.

Before Class Begins

- ◆ Place the Sign In sheet and a pen where parents can see it upon arrival.
- ◆ Place the Joy & Concern cards, Time & Talent cards and pens where students can see them upon arrival.
- ◆ Check that you have supplies for this lesson:
 - Arrival Activity, Jesus' Crucifixion activity sheet – 1 per child
 - White printer paper – 1 sheet per child
 - Black construction paper – 1 sheet per child
 - Scripture cutout – 1 per child
 - Decoration items
- ◆ Place an arrival activity at each place on the table.

Welcome

SUPPLIES: Sign In sheet, Joy & Concern cards, Time & Talent cards, Attendance chart, stickers, pens, Jesus' Crucifixion activity sheet, pencils, markers, paper plates, green paint

- ◆ Greet each child individually as they arrive. Introduce yourself by name.
- ◆ Help children find or add their name on the attendance chart. Provide each child with a sticker to place in today's column on the attendance chart.
- ◆ Encourage children to complete a Joy or Concern card if they have a particular joy or concern they would like to express. Collect completed Joy & Concern cards.
- ◆ Encourage children to complete a Time or Talent offering card if they gave their time to God or used their talents to serve God or others during the previous week. Children should keep their own completed Time and Talent cards.
- ◆ If children bring monetary offering, they should keep it with them.
- ◆ Direct children to complete a **Jesus' Crucifixion activity sheet**.
- ◆ Encourage conversation among the children and with you! Get to know the children in your classroom by asking about their week including school, activities and families. Introduce new children to each other and encourage friendships.

Children's Worship

SUPPLIES: Sign In sheet, Joy & Concern cards, Time & Talent cards

- ◆ The Children's Worship Leader will direct your class to come to Ruth Hall at 9:20 or 11:05.
- ◆ Bring the Sign In sheet and completed Joy & Concern cards to Ruth Hall. Hand the Joy & Concern cards to the Children's Worship leader as you arrive.
- ◆ Have children bring their completed Time & Talent cards and any monetary offering.
- ◆ If additional children arrive while in Ruth Hall, have parents complete the Sign In sheet and remind parents that pickup is in Room 110.
- ◆ Encourage children to participate in Children's Worship and provide re-direction if necessary.
- ◆ Assist the Children's Worship leader as needed.
- ◆ At the conclusion of Children's Worship, have children line up and return to Room 110.

The Lesson

SUPPLIES: White paper, Black construction paper, Decoration items, glue stick

SAY: Today we learned about Jesus being our Redeemer. A redeemer is someone who makes up for an error; someone who frees us from sin.

ASK: Why do we need a redeemer? (*Because we are human and all humans sin*)

SAY: I'm sure none of us want to sin. (**Show blank, white paper**) We would like for our lives to stay like this paper. It's perfect. It has perfect edges. It's not wrinkled. It's perfectly white and clean. There are no marks on it, no folds in it.

SAY: But we are all human. And our lives don't stay like this perfect piece of paper. We make poor choices and do not do what God would want. (**Make the first fold**) We treat a friend or family member badly. (**Make the second fold**) We lie about something or about someone. (**Make the third fold**) We hurt someone. (**Make the fourth fold**)

SAY: And before we know it, our perfect piece of paper is no longer perfect. It's folded and wrinkled. We've sinned.

SAY: And then maybe we keep sinning to try to hide our other sins. We lie about our lie or we tease someone for being upset that we hurt them. And things get worse. (**Tear the paper in half**)

SAY: Wow – our paper isn't even close to perfect anymore. It's not even in one piece anymore. And even this tear is all jagged. That is when we need Jesus, our Redeemer. But where is He in the middle of all this wrinkled, folded, torn paper?

Open paper up and show them the cross.

SAY: There He is. Jesus is always right there. Jesus took the punishment for our sins. When our paper is crumpled and torn, Jesus is there to redeem us; to forgive our sins.

SAY: Today each of you is going to make your own Redeemer cross. You'll get to start with a perfect piece of paper and through the folds and tears, you will get to the cross.

- ◆ Show children the sample craft.
- ◆ As a whole class, direct children through folding and creating the cross. Provide each child with a white piece of paper.
- ◆ Provide each child with a black piece of construction paper.
- ◆ Direct children to glue their white cross to the black construction paper and write "Redeemer" on their cross.
- ◆ Make decorations available to the class.
- ◆ Direct children to decorate their cross as desired.

Closing

- ◆ Lead the children in a closing prayer. You may say your own prayer, ask one of the children to say a prayer or use the one below.
God,
Thank you for sending your son, Jesus, to earth. We are grateful that Jesus took the punishment for our sins. We ask for your forgiveness when we sin.
Amen
- ◆ If time remains before parents arrive, encourage children to return to their Jesus' Crucifixion activity sheet if they did not complete it. Also encourage conversation

between children and with you. This is another opportunity to build relationships with the children in your classroom.

Cross Craft

