

JESUS DIED FOR SINNERS

MATTHEW 21:1-5, 21:8-9, 26:26-28
LUKE 23:32-34, 23:44-48

LEARN THE WORD

John 11:25

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live."

- Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, and the people welcomed Him as the promised Messiah and King. Jewish religious leaders were jealous of Jesus and plotted to put Him to death.
- The Roman governor sentenced Jesus to be crucified even though He was innocent. Jesus' death on the cross paid the punishment we deserve for our sins.

WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

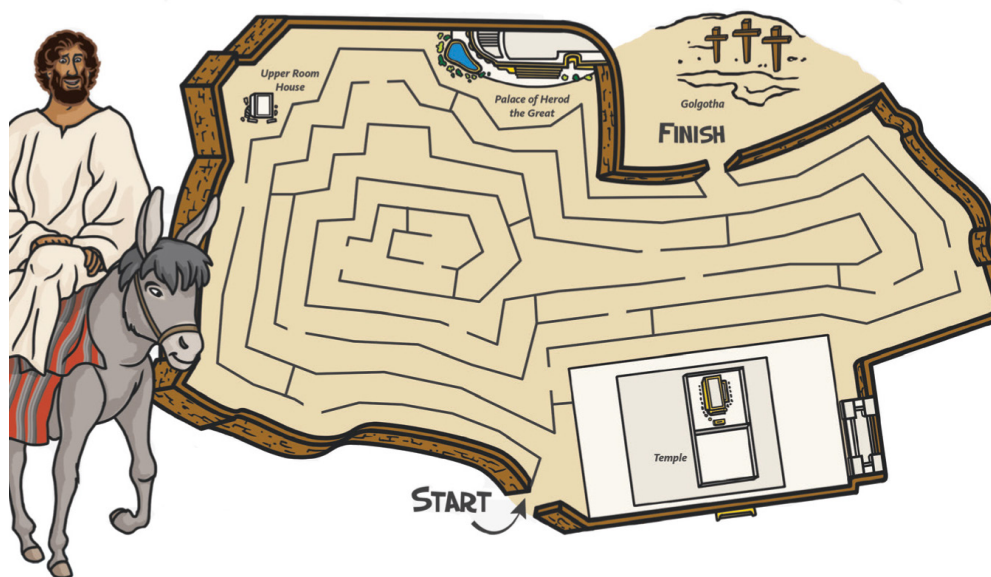
OUTWORD FOR FAMILY DISCUSSION

What if your friend wondered why God would allow His Son to be killed?

What could you say?

It doesn't seem to make sense, does it? God letting people kill his only Son? But Jesus is God, and He could have stopped the people who hurt Him and nailed Him to the cross to die. God controls everything. But He had a plan. Only a perfect sacrifice could bring forgiveness of sins. A sinful human couldn't die for our sins. Only Jesus could because He is perfect. Jesus took our punishment for sin when He died on the cross. The Bible says that those who repent of their sins, turn to Jesus, and trust Him for forgiveness will have eternal life! God allowed Jesus to die so sinners who believe in Him could be saved from the punishment for sin. That shows how much He loves us!

Activity: When Jesus came to Jerusalem, He went willingly to give His life as a sacrifice on the cross. Follow Jesus' path through Jerusalem to the cross.



HOMESWORD FOR PARENTS

Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday each mark important events in the life of Jesus. Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey as prophesied by the Old Testament prophet Zechariah (Zechariah 9:9). Good Friday is the day we remember Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross, bearing the punishment for sin and the wrath of God for all mankind (John 1:29). Then Easter Sunday marks the celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Significantly, all four Gospels record these events, but with different perspectives and details to give us the full picture of what happened.

Jesus entered Jerusalem and was welcomed as a king with shouts of "Hosanna!" (save now) from the crowds (Matthew 21:1-11). But many people did not understand what their Messiah planned to do. He was not coming to Jerusalem to gather an army and overthrow the Romans. He had a much bigger purpose—to save mankind from the punishment of sin and death. Jesus shared a final Passover meal with His disciples in an upper room (Matthew 26:26-29). In the garden of Gethsemane, He was betrayed by His own disciple Judas, arrested, tried, and condemned to death by the Jews and finally the Roman governor Pilate.

He endured scourging, mocking, and the most painful death on a cross, all for us (Matthew 26-27; Isaiah 53:5-6). Jesus' death opened the way for mankind to approach the throne of grace and obtain mercy and forgiveness (Hebrews 4:14-16). And His death was not the end as we read of His glorious resurrection after He was placed in a tomb (Matthew 28:1-10).