



## Jesus is Crucified – Jesus Saves

Matthew 26

### God Statement: Jesus Saves

**KEY VERSE:** "He has saved us from the kingdom of darkness. He has brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. Because of what the Son has done, we have been set free. Because of him, all our sins have been forgiven." (Colossians 1:13-14, NIRV)

## CHECK-IN

*Classroom Teacher*

**(Until 15 minutes after the start of each service)**

*As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.*

## EXPLORE ACTIVITY

*Classroom Teacher*

**(15 minutes)**

*The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.*

### DISCUSS: Jesus Saves!

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how Jesus Saves!

**SAY:** Do you remember what "saves" means? **Let kids respond.** That's right! We learned last week, that saved means to rescue or protect. To keep safe!

Do you remember who saved each one of us? **Let kids respond – Jesus/God!** That's right! God sent His son to rescue us/to save us! Do you remember why God sent His son to rescue us? What was He sent to rescue us from? **Let kids respond** That's right. God sent Jesus to die for our sins. To rescue us from our sin. Jesus came to die on the cross for you and for me, for all of us!

### MAKE: Crown of Thorns

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they can do this activity!

**Supplies:** Brown circle plate rim, brown pipe cleaners

**Directions:** Pass out one brown paper plate circle rim per child. Help the children take pipe cleaners and twist them around the holes in the crowns to make thorns.

**They will take these crowns to large group with them to place in front of the cross.**



**SAY:** God sent Jesus to die for our sins. To rescue us from our sin. Jesus came to die on the cross for you and for me, for all of us! This was a very powerful and sad time. God gave a great gift for each of us by sending Jesus to die for our sins, but it was sad because Jesus went through a lot of pain and had to die. Today we will make a special crown of thorns. This will be a reminder to us of God sending His son Jesus. Jesus had to wear a crown of thorns.

# LARGE GROUP

(25 minutes)

*Each week, Large Group will consist of an introduction, worship, the Bible lesson, worship response, and the blessing.*

## WELCOME & EXPECTATIONS

### Host

Depending on your age group, either find a designated space in your classroom or join the other classes for Large Group in the specified location.

As children enter into Large Group time, welcome and greet the children, telling them you're excited to have them joining this evening/morning.

### Expectations Slide

Once everyone has found their seat, the host will use the Large Group expectations slide to go over the rules. Encourage various children to take turns reading the rules.

*\*\*\* After Expectations, transition the power point to the "Worship" slide.\*\*\**

## KEY VERSE

### Host

Before you start worship, introduce/review the key Bible verse for the quarter. This is a great opportunity for you to talk about the importance of God's Word and encourage the kids to work on memorizing the verse each week.

*\*\*\*Use the Key Verse Motions Video on Plex (or sent in weekly email) to learn the motions prior to Large Group.\*\*\**

***"He has saved us from the kingdom of darkness. He has brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. Because of what the Son has done, we have been set free. Because of him, all our sins have been forgiven." (Colossians 1:13-14, NIRV)***

*\*\*\* After the Introduction, transition the power point to the Worship songs and invite the Worship Leader up front to lead the kids in worship.\*\*\**

## OPENING WORSHIP

### Worship Leader

While the video is playing the opening worship songs, encourage the kids to sing and dance along. Don't forget to set the example by participating alongside them!

Kids may participate in the worship however they feel led. Encourage kids to find a way that helps them worship best but remind them that it's not time to goof off or talk to friends. If you have someone leading the worship up front, you can even invite a few kids to help.

**TODAY'S WORSHIP SONGS:**

- ☐ Your Love is Deep
- ☐ Christ is Enough
- ☐ Closing: Who You Say I Am

*\*\*\* After Worship, transition the power point into the Bible Story video where the kids will hear about the lesson for the day.\*\*\**

## BIBLE STORY

### *Lesson Video*

Remind the group before starting the video to follow the expectations for Large Group.

### **THIS WEEK'S LESSON: *Jesus is Crucified – Jesus Saves***

Encourage kids to listen and engage with the lesson as they watch the teaching video.

*\*\*\*After the video finishes, turn on soft worship music (with or without lyrics) to transition into Worship Response. This should be background music to help set the tone for a quiet reflection time with God.\*\*\**

## WORSHIP RESPONSE

### *Host*

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

### **DO: Jesus Saves Cross Card**

**Supplies:** Incorporate Crown of Thorns from the craft into Worship Response, cross card

**SAY:** Jesus remained obedient and dedicated to serving God even though he faced unfair treatment. He came to save us and that is exactly what he did on the cross. Jesus' whole life was about loving us and coming to save us. Today we are going to think about how God fulfilled His promise. Jesus went to the cross to die for you and me. Let's think about His great sacrifice for us as we move toward the cross.

**DIRECTIONS:** The kids will think about what Jesus did for them on the cross and why He did it. Then they will pick up their crown and go sit at the cross and thank God for Jesus sacrifice to give them life.

**SAY:** Let's take a moment and thank God for sending Jesus to earth to save us. **(Pass out Jesus Saves crosses)** Let these Jesus Save crosses remind you of Jesus and His great love for you.

*Close time in prayer.*

*\*\*\*After Worship Response, transition the power point to the closing Worship videos and invite the Worship Leader to come back up.\*\*\**

## **CLOSING WORSHIP**

### ***Worship Leader***

Play the closing worship song included in the power point and encourage the kids to sing and praise along.

This closing song is intended to be a transition for the kids to finish processing and reflecting on the lesson before transitioning to the small group time.

*\*\*\*After Worship Response, transition the power point to the Offering slides.\*\*\**

## **OFFERING**

### ***Host***

Before closing large group, take a moment to explain that every week, we provide an opportunity for our Woodmen Kids to participate in tithing. We believe God is our provider, and it is our privilege to give back to God what He has so graciously given us. Then, remind kids that if anyone brought an offering, now is the time to come forward to donate.

***Ask a child to come up and pray for the offering.***

*\*\*\*After Announcements, transition the power point to the “Blessing” slide. The host will lead the class in receiving the blessing for the day.\*\*\**

## **BLESSING**

### ***Host***

*Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.*

***May you know that Jesus died to save you from your sins. May you know that Jesus saves, and He is the Savior.***

## SMALL GROUP

*Classroom Teachers*

**(10 minutes)**

**Younger Kids:**

If you feel like the kids are still listening and participating well, jump into the questions below. If kids need a break first, that's ok! Have them do some jumps or dances to get out some energy before doing the questions.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?** (Jesus Saves.)
2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Matthew 26:62-68**
  - ☐ **Why did they want to crucify Jesus?** (Because He is the Messiah, the son of God.)
  - ☐ **What did they hang Jesus on?** (A cross.)
  - ☐ **What did they put on Jesus' head?** (A crown of thorns.)
3. **Good Friday is a very important day. It's a day we remember Jesus making the ultimate sacrifice and dying on the cross for our sins. This day is super heavy but also super important. Take a couple of minutes to sit in silence and reflect what this means to you. After, share with the group how Jesus has changed your life. As you go throughout the week pray that God opens the door to share with one person how Jesus has changed your life. Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group. Be vulnerable with your students and share how God is at work in your life.**

**Close small group in prayer.** *Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!*

**Older Kids:**

Encourage the kids to utilize their personal Bibles or the classroom Bibles to read the Scripture as a group.

1. **What did you learn about God from our story today?** (Jesus Saves.)
2. **Read/ Recap today's story: Matthew 26:62-68**
  - ☐ **Why did they want to crucify Jesus?** (Because He is the Messiah, the son of God.)
  - ☐ **What did they hang Jesus on?** (A cross.)
  - ☐ **What did they put on Jesus' head?** (A crown of thorns.)
3. **Read verse 37. What do you think this verse means? How do you think Peter felt that Jesus knew he was going to deny him?** Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group.
4. **Good Friday is a very important day. It's a day we remember Jesus making the ultimate sacrifice and dying on the cross for our sins. This day is super heavy but also super important. Take a couple of minutes to sit in silence and reflect what this means to you. After share with the group how Jesus has changed your life. As you go throughout the week pray that God opens the door to share with one person how Jesus has changed your life.** Spend a couple of minutes discussing as a group. Be vulnerable with your students and share how God is at work in your life.

**Close small group in prayer.** *Take a few minutes to share prayer requests as a group. This is a great time to write requests down on the prayer tags for leaders to take home!*

## RESPOND ACTIVITY

*Classroom Teacher*

**(10 minutes)**

### **DISCUSS:**

If you have extra time at the end of your lesson and small group time, the kids can participate in this activity.

### **PLAY: Easter Trivia**

**Supplies:** Easter Trivia page

**Directions:** Have children get into 2 groups. Make sure each group has an adult or Leader In Training helper. Have the leader of each group ask the questions on the trivia page one by one. As kids guess, discuss the answer. Then move on to the next question. Questions 1-9 will be easier as they go over the Good Friday story. If time allows ask questions 10-12 and talk about the joy we remember that comes on Easter Sunday!

**SAY:** Today we learned about how Jesus died for our sins. He died on the cross and was placed in a tomb. We are going to play a trivia game to see what you know and what you remember about what we learned about this special lesson.

## CHECK-OUT

*Classroom Teacher*

**(end of service)**

*As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue participating in the Respond Activities or the classroom games and toys.*