

Bible Story 57: JESUS IS CRUCIFIED AND BURIED

SCRIPTURE: Crucifixion: Matthew 27:32-51; Mark 15:21-39; Luke 23:26-49; John 19:17-37
Burial: Matthew 27:57-66; Mark 15:42-47; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42

MEMORY VERSE: 1 John 4:10, 1 Peter 2:24 or Acts 2:23

BIBLE STORY:

FRIDAY MORNING: JESUS IS CRUCIFIED

Soldiers had Jesus carry His own cross along the pathway to Golgotha to be crucified. Along the way, soldiers forced Simon from Cyrene to help Jesus carry His cross. At Golgotha, they offered Jesus wine mixed with myrrh, but He refused it.

Around nine in the morning, Jesus was placed on a wooden cross and nails were hammered into His hands and feet. A sign was put above His head that read, "**King of the Jews.**" The cross was lifted up and placed in the ground. At Jesus' feet, soldiers divided His belongings.

Jesus saw the people mocking Him. Jesus said, "**Father forgive them, because they do not know what they are doing.**"

Jesus hung between two criminals. One criminal mocked Jesus. The other criminal said that they deserved their punishment, but not Jesus. Then he asked Jesus to remember him when He went to His kingdom. Jesus said, "**Today you will be with Me in paradise.**"

Close to the cross were Mary, the mother of Jesus, and His disciple John. Looking at His mother, Jesus said, "**There is your son.**" Then looking at His beloved disciple John, Jesus said, "**There is your mother.**" From then on, John took care of Jesus' mother.

From around noon to three in the afternoon, it was all dark. During that time, Jesus said, "**My God! My God! Why have You forsaken Me?**"

Around three in the afternoon, Jesus knew that all was completed. Jesus said, "**I am thirsty.**" A sponge was soaked in a jar of wine vinegar. It was put on a long pole that was lifted up to Jesus' lips.

Jesus said, "**It is finished.**"

Then Jesus said, "**Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit.**"

After Jesus said this, He died.

Then the curtain in the Temple was torn from top to bottom.

To make sure the ones who were crucified were dead, the soldiers broke their legs. Yet, when the soldier came to Jesus, he pierced His side with his sword. Blood and water flowed, showing that Jesus was dead.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON: JESUS IS BURIED

Joseph, who was from Arimathea, and Nicodemus came and took the body of Jesus. They poured a mixture of myrrh and aloes on His body. They wrapped His body in strips of linen cloth. Then they placed Jesus' body in a new tomb carved in a rock. A stone was placed at its entrance. Some women watched from a distance.

Chief priests had soldiers guard the tomb, because they did not want Jesus' body taken away.

Then sabbath began and everyone rested. (*Sabbath began around six on Friday evening.*)

PART 1: PERSONAL QUESTIONS

1. What did you learn from the story?
2. How can you apply this story to your life?

PART 2: GENERIC QUESTIONS

1. What do you like about the story?
2. What is there in the story that you do not understand?
3. Who are the main people in the story?
4. What problems did the people face?
5. How did the people face their problems?
6. How have you faced similar problems?
7. Is there someone in the story who is similar to you or who is different from you?
8. What does the story tell about God?

PART 3: SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

1. Who helped Jesus carry the cross to Golgotha?
2. What are some ways that we can help Jesus today?
3. When Jesus was on the cross,
 - What did the soldiers do at the feet of Jesus?
 - What did Jesus ask God, His Father, to do to those who put Him on the cross?
 - What happened between Jesus and the two criminals that hung beside Him?
 - What did Jesus ask His beloved disciple John to do?
 - What happened at the Temple when Jesus died?
4. What did the soldier do to make sure that Jesus was dead? What happened?
5. Who buried Jesus?
 - How did they take care of the body of Jesus?
 - Where did they bury Jesus?
 - What was put in front of the entrance of the tomb where Jesus was buried?
 - Who guarded the entrance to the tomb? Why?
6. Why did Jesus die on the cross?
7. Did Jesus die on the cross for you and for me? Why? (Read John 3:16.)
8. What does Jesus dying on the cross mean to you?