FOLLOWING JESUS VBS · DAY 4 · GRADES 1-3

My Bible Lesson

Jesus Saves Me: He Is Risen! | The Cross and the Empty Tomb (Matthew 27:27-28:10; Luke 23:33-46; John 19:30)

Read it in your Bible: Matthew 27:27-28:10; Luke 23:33-46; John 19:30

The Cross and the Empty Tomb

Jesus never did anything wrong. But some leaders were jealous of Jesus, and they had Him arrested. The soldiers made fun of Him and put a crown of thorns on His head (Matthew 27:29).

They nailed Jesus to a cross between two other men. Even on the cross, Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do" (Luke 23:34). Jesus was taking the punishment for our sins. Then Jesus said, "It is finished!" and He died (John 19:30).

A Roman soldier watching said, "Truly this was the Son of God!" (Matthew 27:54). A rich man named Joseph put Jesus' body in his own new tomb and rolled a big stone across the door (Matthew 27:57-60). Soldiers sealed the stone and guarded the tomb (Matthew 27:66).

Early on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to the tomb. Suddenly there was a great earthquake! An angel rolled the stone away and sat on it. The guards shook with fear (Matthew 28:1-4).

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay" (Matthew 28:5-6).

The women ran with fear and great joy to tell the disciples. On the way, Jesus Himself met them and said, "Rejoice!" (Matthew 28:9). Jesus is alive! He died for our sins and rose again, so we can be forgiven and live with Him forever.

> "He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay."
>
> **Matthew 28:6 (NKJV)**

Big Idea

Jesus died for my sins, was buried, and rose again, so I can be saved and live with Him.

Think about it

1. What did Jesus pray for the people who hurt Him?
2. Who rolled away the stone?
3. What did the angel tell the women?
4. Why did Jesus die on the cross?

This week I will thank Jesus for the cross by: