

Life toward God

KIDS

daily devotions

—
EASTER WEEK

The Crucifixion

Tim Threadgill

Scripture

“So they took Jesus, and he went out, bearing his own cross, to the place called The Place of a Skull, which in Aramaic is called Golgotha. There they crucified him ...” John 19:16b-18

“...and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.” Colossians 1:20

Devotion

We know that God commands us to be holy. [1 Peter 1:15-16: “As he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy.’” and Matthew 5:48 “You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”]. But when we try to be perfect and holy, it does not take us long to realize that we cannot do it. No matter how hard we try, we quickly realize that we are sinners and that, although our sin may decrease, we still sin. And because God demands holiness and perfection, a penalty must be paid for our sins.

Jesus paid that penalty at his crucifixion. Jesus was perfect and holy. He never sinned. Even though Jesus never sinned, he hung on a cross until he suffocated and died, and he did this to pay the penalty for the sins of those who believe in God must pay.

Dying on a cross is a horrible way to die. It was (and is) extremely painful and it brought great public shame. For Jesus to have to die by crucifixion shows us how much God hates our sins, and why we should take our sin seriously. And we should thank God that Jesus “made peace by the blood of his cross,” as Paul wrote to the Colossians.

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Questions

3-5-yr-olds

Why did Jesus have to die on a cross?

1st-3rd graders

What did Jesus accomplish when he died on the cross?

4th-6th graders

What does the manner of Jesus' death (i.e., crucifixion) tell us about our sin?

Prayer

Dear Jesus, we thank you for living a holy and perfect life. We thank you that, even more than just living a holy and perfect life, you allowed yourself to die on a cross to pay the price for penalties that I/we deserve and that you did not deserve. Help us to always remember that this was a steep and painful penalty. And we pray that, with the Holy Spirit's help, our sins will decrease as we grow in grace. In your name we pray.

Amen



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