



Grace Church Preschool

# Tree House

## Holy – Lesson 3 and 4

2s and 3s

Divine Attribute	God is Holy	Dios es Santo
Heart Response	Repent	Arrepentirse
Memory Verse	Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."	Romanos 6:23 "Porque la paga del pecado es muerte, pero la dádiva de Dios es vida eterna en Cristo Jesús Señor nuestro."



### POINTS OF EMPHASIS:

1. Jesus is God's Son.
2. Jesus is perfect and holy, but we are sinners.
3. Sin separates us from God.
4. Jesus came to save us from our sins.
5. We need to be sorry for our sin.

### OPTIONAL OPENING ACTIVITY

The following activity is provided to begin engaging your child for the upcoming lesson.



#### Bucket Toss

##### Supplies

- Basket or large bowl (1 per bin)
- Beanbags (2 per bin)
- Painters tape

Put a strip of tape on the floor. Then place the basket eight feet away from the tape line.

I want to see if you can throw the beanbags into this basket/bowl. Let's make a line behind this piece of tape, and each person will get to throw two beanbags and try to get them in the basket/bowl. (Give each child a chance to throw both beanbags.) That wasn't easy, was it? It is hard to get the beanbags into the basket/bowl from so far away. Today in our Bible lesson, it is time for Jesus to do something very difficult, so he goes to God in prayer.

## Bible Lesson

Note to parents – the lesson is written to be read aloud like a story. The bold words are the be read. The words in parenthesis give direction to pause, allow for response, read Scripture, etc.

### Supplies

Bible (Matt. 26:36–46, Mark 14:32–50, Luke 22:40–46, John 18)

Does anyone remember our memory verse? (Allow child time to answer.) Our verse comes from the book of Romans. It is Romans 6:23, “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.” Can you say that verse? (Repeat as needed. Encourage any attempts to say the verse.) Let’s say the verse together. “The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

Open your Bible to Mark 14: 32 – 50. Last week our lesson was about Jesus having a special meal with his disciples. During the meal, Jesus tells the disciples to continue to remember him by celebrating together what he was going to do for them. We still celebrate what Jesus did for us on the cross. We call this celebration The Lord’s Supper in our church.

Jesus knows it is his time to give his life for our sins. So, after Jesus and his disciples finish the Passover meal, they leave the room and go to a special place called the Garden of Gethsemane. They had been there many times before. Jesus wants to go there and pray.

When Jesus gets to the Garden of Gethsemane, he takes three of his disciples, Peter, James and John, into the garden. He asks them to watch and pray. Then Jesus goes a little further, kneels on the ground, and begins to pray.

Jesus knows he has something hard to do. The thing Jesus is about to do is going to be very hard, but it is the reason he had come to earth. Jesus needs to talk to God, his Father, to get strength and comfort.

After Jesus has prayed for a little while, he comes back to where his disciples are. Peter, James and John are asleep. Jesus wakes them up and again asks them to watch and pray with him.

He goes a little further away and prays again. Jesus prays for himself, for his disciples, and he even prays for us! Going to the cross to die for our sins is very hard, but this is the only way we would be able to receive forgiveness for our sins. It was the only way to restore our relationship with him.

The second time Jesus goes to talk to his disciples, they are asleep again, because they are very tired. Jesus decides to let them sleep, and he goes back to pray a third time.

After praying for a while, Jesus knows that it is time. Judas, the disciple who had betrayed him, and the soldiers are on the way. Jesus goes to wake his disciples. He tells them that the time has come and, as he is talking, Judas and the soldiers come into the garden with spears and clubs. Judas lets the soldiers know which one is Jesus and they arrest him.

One of Jesus’ disciples, Peter, tries to stop the soldiers. He takes a sword and cuts off the ear of one of the soldiers! But, Jesus immediately heals the soldier’s ear and goes willingly with them.

The soldiers first take Jesus to a man named Caiaphas (KAY-uh-fuhs), the high priest. Can you say Caiaphas? (Say Caiaphas with your children.) People are brought in to make claims against Jesus, but none of their stories are the same. Then Caiaphas asked Jesus, “Are you then the Son of God?” and Jesus answers, “You rightly say that I am.” This makes all the Jewish leaders very mad.

In the morning, they take Jesus to a man named Pilate, the Roman governor, who has the power to put criminals to death. Can you say, “Pilate?” (Say “Pilate” with the children.) Pilate asks Jesus if he is a king. Jesus replies that he is, but “not of this world.” Although Pilate knows Jesus has done nothing wrong, Pilate sends Jesus to a man named Herod, another Roman ruler, who made fun of Jesus and said mean things to him. Then Herod returns Jesus to Pilate’s court.

To make the Jews happy, Pilate places a purple robe on Jesus’ shoulders and puts a crown of thorns on Jesus’ head. (If you have a set of Resurrection Eggs, show them the crown of thorns and let them hold it.) The crown of thorns is what Pilate put on Jesus’ head when they were hurting Jesus and making fun of him.

The Jews still said they wanted Jesus to die. The Bible tells us Jesus was hung on a cross along with two criminals—one on his left and one on his right. As Jesus looks down from the cross at the soldiers and the Jewish leaders who had put him there, he asks God to forgive them.

We might think, “Oh, no! This is wrong! This should not have happened to Jesus!” But all of this is God’s plan. God sent Jesus to live a perfect, holy life, and then die in our place to pay for our sins. God sent Jesus to be our Savior! If this had not been God’s plan, it would not have happened because God is all-powerful, and he could have stopped it.

In the end Jesus cries out, “It is finished!” and dies on the cross, taking the punishment for all our sin forever. Jesus has broken down the wall between God and us so we can have a relationship with him. God wants us to be sorry for our sin—not just sorry we got punished or sorry we got caught. God wants us to be sorry because we hurt his heart when we sin, and sin hurts us.

Joseph of Arimathea (ehr-uh-muh-THEE-uh), a follower of Jesus, gets permission to take Jesus’ body to bury it. He puts it in a tomb that has never been used. Pilate seals the tomb and places a guard outside. Next week, we are going to hear the end of the story. It is very exciting, and you will not want to miss it!

Jesus does not stay dead. Remember how he showed his power over death? Well, next week we will learn about how he overcomes his own death and comes back to life!



## **ACTIVITY - “It Is Finished”**

### **Supplies**

Cross worksheet (1 per child)

White piece of paper

Crayons

Glue sticks

### **Part One:**

Give each child a sheet of plain white paper. Talk about how God is perfectly holy. Jesus is God's Son who came to earth and lived his life without sin. The white paper is like God—perfectly clean, holy, and without sin. Give them crayons and explain that we all sin. Have them color the paper to represent the sin that we all have. Talk about some of the sinful choices we make (trying to have your own way, disobeying parents, being unkind to others with our words or actions, putting yourself first, not sharing, and leaving people out).

Our sin separates us from God and causes us so much trouble and pain. Have them tear their paper in half to show how our sin separates us from God. Then explain the great news that Jesus sacrificed himself for us by dying on a cross. He chose to do this because he loves us so much. He wants to turn us away from our sin that separates us from him and bring us back to himself. He is our creator and wants to share himself with us. (They will complete this project during craft time. Write their names on their paper halves.)

### **Part Two:**

Using the torn sheet of paper from part one, have them turn one half of the paper over so the blank side is facing up and ask, "Who is perfectly holy like the white side of the paper?" (God.) Then have them face the other half with the coloring side up and ask, "Who sins and is not perfectly holy like this paper?" (You and me; all of us.)

Give each child a purple cross. Remind them that Jesus came to rescue us from our sin and turn us back to God. We need a savior. Jesus died on the cross to show us how much he loves us and to take our punishment for our sins away. Our sins can be forgiven and covered by the work Jesus did on the cross. Have them glue their cross on top of the two halves of paper to bring them back together. This shows how Jesus dying on the cross puts our relationship with God back together and covers all our sin. Read the phrase on the cross to them and have them "act it out" as they say the verse a few times. (Point up for "God," hug themselves for "loves," point to themselves for "me," open arms wide for "this much!") As time allows, they can use crayons to color the cross to look like stained glass.

## **Review Questions**

Consider using these questions around the table, on a walk, or on a car ride.

1. **Where did the soldiers take Jesus when they arrested him?** (They took him to Caiaphas, the high priest.)
2. **Caiaphas had the soldiers take Jesus to Pilate, the Roman governor. Did Pilate think Jesus was guilty of any crime?** (No.)
3. **What did Pilate put on Jesus to make fun of him for saying he was a king, but not a king of this world?** (He put a purple robe and a crown of thorns on Jesus.)
4. **Who demanded that Jesus be hung on the cross?** (The Jewish leaders and people.)