



## Small Group Leader Study Notes

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

Jesus paid the price for my sin.

### **MEMORY VERSE:**

"For God has presented Jesus as the sacrifice of sin." - Romans 3:25 NIV

### **BIBLE STORY**

#### ***Jesus' Death & Resurrection***

Jesus paid the ultimate price for us when He sacrificed His life on the cross. The Son of God who lived a perfect life on earth taking the place to restore relationship with His creation. This is a tremendous opportunity to share with your small group what Jesus went through so we could have a relationship with Him.

### **READ THE BIBLE**

Mark 15:16-37, 16:1-6

### **Your Notes**

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## Kids Need The Gospel Lesson 3: The Blood

Paul summarizes the Gospel in Romans 3:23-25, "For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, with undeserved kindness, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty of our sins. For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood."

We have all sinned. Some of us sin by breaking the rules. Some of us sin by keeping the rules and thinking we are superior to others, but all of us have sinned.

The reason that sin is a problem is because sin separates us from our loving Heavenly Father.

Father God wants to be close to us, and He wants us to be good, so He sent Jesus to pay the penalty for our sin. The scripture says, "God shows His anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people." It makes God angry when we sin, but He took all the anger out on Jesus. What does God think about sin?

Look at what He did to Jesus on the cross.

- He was beaten with a cruel whip full of sharp pieces of rock.

- A crown of thorns was placed on His head.
- He was nailed to a cross and His blood poured out.

The Bible says, "without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sin." In other words the penalty for sin is death. Jesus shed His blood and died on the cross so that we could live.

All of that is tragic, but it pales in comparison to the most tragic thing of all. Jesus, the righteous one, literally became sin on the cross. This was so painful that the Father had to turn His back on Jesus.

Jesus cried from the cross, "My God! My God! Why have You forsaken Me?" We will never fully understand the price that Jesus paid for us or the pain that He went through, but we do know why it happened. It was your sin and my sin that sent Jesus to the cross. He didn't deserve to die, but He went to the cross willingly.

Why did Jesus die? He wants you back. When you make a decision to receive freely what God did for you and give your life to Christ, then Father God looks at you through Christ. He doesn't see your sin. He sees you as righteous. He sees you as good and welcomes you into His family.

**BIBLE STORY**

**Jesus' Death & Resurrection**

**READ THE BIBLE**

Mark 15:16-37, 16:1-6

**THE POINT**

Why did Jesus die? He wants you back.

**THE STORY**

- The soldiers mocked Jesus.
- They hit Him, spat on Him, and put a crown of thorns on His head.
- They nailed Him to the cross next to criminals.
- They gambled for His clothes.
- Jesus died on the cross.
- When Jesus died on the cross His physical body died, but at the same time His spirit was separated from God.
- He took all of the sin of the world on Himself.
- He bore the sins of the world, so we would not have to.
- Because He was separated from God, we do not have to be.
- Out of His love for us, He chose to take our place.

**QUESTIONS TO ASK**

1. Why did Jesus die on the cross?

(He died for our sins, He took the sins of the world on Himself, He took our place)

2. Because Jesus took our place, what do we do now?

(we accept His gift of love and receive what He did for us)

**SMALL GROUP LESSON**

**The Cross**

**Bottom Line:**

Why did Jesus die? He wants you back.

**Needed:**

- 4 Nails
- Block of wood
- Hammer
- Red string

**What to do:**

While you are talking about how Jesus died on the cross, nail the four nails into the block of wood in the shape of a heart.

Then, while you are talking about how much Jesus loves you, tie the red string around one of the nails and wrap the string around each of the nails as to make a heart.

**What to say:**

Judas gave Jesus to the Pharisees. He was jailed. They whipped Him. The whips they used had seven tails, and on the end of each tail they tied glass or sharp stones. So each time they whipped Jesus, He was cut and bled. They made Him carry this huge cross across the city up a hill. They put a crown of thorns on His head. They nailed His hands into the cross. They nailed His feet into the cross. They cut His side open. They spit at Him. Jesus died a death reserved for the criminals of that time. It was a horrible death.

Why did Jesus do that? He was the Son of God! He could have just walked away. But He didn't.

Jesus took our place. We should have died on that cross with our sin. There is no way we could make things right with God. No one could. But He saw this and took our place. He took the sin of the world on Himself so we wouldn't have to.

He died so that we could live forever with God. He died, so we wouldn't have to. He died, because He loved us so much!

(Show the end result, the red heart.)