



Your Faith Your Family

Follow Jesus, Lead Your Family

Remember Good Friday At Home!

Background:

Review the accounts of the death of Jesus (chapters listed below) ahead of time. It is important to convey the pain and suffering of Jesus, but in an age appropriate way. You can choose to read an account or simply talk about what happened and what crucifixion was. It was an execution for those convicted of doing a horrible crime. Though Jesus did no crime, those who opposed Him asked the judge (Pilate) to execute Him. Jesus made no defense, because He knew by man's law he had done nothing wrong, but for God's law, He had to be punished in OUR place. This is the core of our faith - that God's perfect justice had to be satisfied in a way sinful people can't, so God's Son Himself had to be perfect but take our penalty, so that through faith in Him we could be saved. Lead your family to see this through discussion and the verses below.

Things to discuss:

- Using the crucifixion story and the verses from Isaiah and Romans, explain the Gospel reasons for Jesus' sacrifice.
- To begin to understand the pain and suffering Jesus felt being punished for all sins of all people, ask your family to think of the worst injury or illness they have experienced (or are experiencing). Then ask them to think about it being much, much worse (i.e. a broken arm becomes 2 broken arms and 2 broken legs; a year of being sick becomes 5 years of being sick, etc.) The idea is not to belittle their suffering, but to realize how bad it was for Jesus, but he did it for us (Isaiah 53).
- Do an activity that allows for confession of sin, or admitting sin and the need to be saved by Jesus: Simply talk to each other; write sin down on a slip of paper that is then burned, thrown away, or flushed; write sin on chalk or white board and erase it.
- This is a dark and unhappy day, but we call it GOOD Friday - talk about why that is the name of the day, and point ahead to the Victory we will celebrate on Sunday

End with prayer, such as:

Dear Jesus, we are sorry for our sin. Thank you for being punished in our place. Remind us of your Love and Grace. Amen

Resources:

'For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.'
Romans 6:23 NIV

'Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.'
Isaiah 53:4-6 NIV

Key Chapters for Good Friday:

Luke 23; Matthew 27; Mark 15; John 19