

## HOW DID JESUS DIE?

**Mark 14:43-64; 15:15-20, 46 & Luke 23:32-56**

(M)14:43The religious leaders sent many men with swords and clubs. 46The men arrested Jesus. 53They took Jesus to the High Priest. All the religious leaders were there. 15:64They all said: Jesus must die.

(M)15:15Roman soldiers whipped Jesus. 17They put a crown of thorns on Jesus' head. 19Again and again they hit him on the head with a stick. And they spit on him. 20And they laughed at him. Then they took Jesus outside to nail him on a cross.

(L)23:34Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive these people. They do not know what they are doing."

32The soldiers crucified two other men with Jesus. They were criminals. 39The first criminal got angry. He insulted Jesus. He said, "You are the Messiah. Save yourself! Save us!"

40But the second criminal said, "You are bad, and you will die soon! So you should be afraid of God. 41We did bad things – so we should die. But Jesus did nothing bad."

42Then the second criminal said to Jesus, "Jesus, please remember me – remember me when you come into your kingdom." 43Jesus answered him, "Today, you will be with me in heaven!"

44-45It was about noon. The sun stopped shining, so it was dark until 3 o'clock. 46Jesus said loudly, "Father, I give my spirit to you." Then he died.

47The head soldier saw what happened, and he praised God. He said, "Truly, Jesus was a good man." 49But the women who knew Jesus stood far from the cross – and watched Jesus die.

50Joseph was a religious leader. But he was a good man – 51so Joseph did not agree to kill Jesus. He was waiting for God's kingdom to come. 53Then Joseph took Jesus' body down from the cross. He wrapped cloths around Jesus' body. He put Jesus' body in a new tomb. The tomb was like a small room – it was cut out of rock. (M)15:46Then he rolled a big stone over the entrance of the tomb.

(L)54It was late on Friday. 55The women went to the tomb with Joseph – and they saw Jesus' body lying in the tomb. 56Then they went home. They prepared spices and perfume to put on Jesus' body. But the next day was Saturday – it was the Rest Day. So they obeyed God and rested on the Rest Day.

## CONTENT QUESTIONS

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What did the religious leaders decide? (Mark 15:64)
- What did the soldiers do to Jesus? (Mark 15:15-20)
- What did Jesus pray to God? (Luke 23:34)

What do you think about what Jesus prayed?

- Who were crucified (put on crosses) with Jesus? (verse 32)
- Did the 1st criminal like Jesus? (verse 39)  
What did he say to Jesus?
- What did the 2nd criminal say to the 1st criminal? (verses 40-41)
  - Did Jesus do anything bad? (verse 41)
- What did the 2nd criminal ask Jesus? (verse 42)

Why do you think he asked it?

How would you answer the 2nd criminal?

- What did Jesus answer the 2nd criminal? (verse 43)

How do you feel about Jesus' answer?  
Is this a fair answer?

Why do you think Jesus said this to a criminal?  
What do we learn about God (from Jesus' answer)?

Did the 2nd criminal go to heaven because he was good?  
Why do you think he went to heaven?

- What happened for 3 hours before Jesus died? (verse 44-45)
- What did the head soldier say about Jesus? (verse 47)
- What did Joseph do? [Note: This is not Jesus' "father."] (verses 50 to Mark 15:46)
  - Why did Joseph take Jesus body down and put it in the tomb? (Luke 23:50-51)
- What did the women do? (verse 55-56)

When do you think the women will go to the tomb again?