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# The Cross Of *Christ*

## *Cross in the Old Testament*



### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To show how Jesus and the Cross are reflected in the Garden of Eden.
- To motivate children to express gratitude for their Robes of Righteousness.



### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Psalms 8:5-8; Genesis 3 (The Cross in the Garden of Eden)



### MEMORY VERSE

**Isaiah 61:10 (ESV):** “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness ...”



## INTRODUCTION

Many people think that Jesus accidentally died on the Cross when things got out of control, and the religious leaders had Him killed. But this is wrong thinking!

God planned to sacrifice Jesus (so that He could save us); and He prepared this plan even before the world was created!

In fact God launched this salvation plan into action, in the Garden of Eden itself. So we will take a closer look at the Creation Story of Adam and Eve, and we will discover for ourselves how Jesus was already mentioned even in the Garden of Eden!

### **Quiz: Adam and Eve**

#### **Why did Adam call his wife 'Eve'?**

- She was the firstborn among women.
- She was a helpmate for him.
- She was the mother of all living.
- She was taken out of man.

#### **Which two trees grew in the midst of the garden?**

- The tree of knowledge of good and evil and the tree of joy and despair.
- The tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
- The tree of life and the tree of death.
- The tree of death and the tree of joy and despair.

#### **Adam and Eve were prohibited from eating the fruit of which tree?**

- Tree of Life Everlasting.
- Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.
- Tree of Evil Borne by Satan.

**What would happen to anyone who would touch the forbidden fruit?**

- They would become all-knowing.
- They would be able to bear children.
- They would know for themselves the difference between right and wrong.
- They would die.

**To whom did God give the command not to eat of the fruit?**

- Adam only
- Eve only
- Both Adam and Eve
- Neither of them

**Who was present when the serpent tempted Eve to eat the forbidden fruit?**

- Eve only
- Adam and Eve
- God, Adam, and Eve



**The serpent that tempted Eve was ...**

- A real serpent, acting on its own.
- A real serpent, acting as a tool of Satan.
- Satan disguised as a serpent.
- None of the above.

**After both Adam and Eve had eaten the fruit, what was the first thing they did?**

- Put on clothes.
- Worship the tree.
- Eat more fruit.
- Tremble under God's wrath.

### **What kind of leaves did Adam and Eve use in an attempt to cover their nakedness?**

- Fig
- Sycamore
- Palm
- Olive

### **Why did Adam hide himself from the Lord?**

- He wanted God to prove to Him that He can see all.
- He was scared because he realised he was naked.
- He was ashamed of his wife's transgression.
- He wanted to see if he could outwit God.



### **What did God NOT do as a result of the disobedience of Adam and Eve?**

- Cause them to work the ground for food.
- Give them the ability to feel emotion.
- Kill them instantly.
- Cast them out of Eden and His presence.

### **How did Adam/Eve become similar to God after sinning?**

- They could feel joy and sorrow.
- They could know good from evil.
- They could create life.
- They would live forever.

### **Why did God protect the Tree of life?**

- So that Adam and Eve would not lose the ability to bear children.
- So that man would live forever.

- To ensure that He could never be destroyed.
- So that man couldn't obtain the means to live forever.

### **What did God place at the east of the garden of Eden to guard the Tree of life?**

- Cherubims and a flaming sword.
- A pit of poisonous serpents.
- A seraph with six wings.
- A dragon with seven heads.

### **What did God do for Adam and Eve before He exiled them?**

- He clothed them.
- He allowed them to rest.
- He fed them.
- He armed them with weapons.

### **What animal skin was used to make Adam and Eve's coats?**

- Leopard
- Bear
- Elephant
- Not specified

### **Creation of Adam and Eve**

**Psalms 8:5-8:** "You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honour. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet: all flocks and herds, and the beasts of the field the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas."

### **Clothed in Glory**

Psalms 8:5 says, God originally crowned Adam and Eve with glory and honour, which they lost after they sinned.

The original Hebrew word for “crowned” here is “thotreu,” which means “to encircle,” “to surround.” In other words this text says that Adam and Eve were surrounded by glory. They had been clothed with the glory of God and did not need natural clothing. This is why Genesis 2:25 says that they felt no shame even though they were naked. They did not have anything to be ashamed of!

However, when they sinned, they lost this covering of glory, and immediately realised that they were naked. Feeling both scared and ashamed to suddenly find themselves in this condition, they tried to rectify the situation by covering themselves with fig leaves.



## Glory Replaced by Sin

Adam and Eve thought the only consequence of their sin was the nakedness, and they immediately tried to fix it. But the shameful nakedness was just one of the terrible results.

God had warned them they would die if they ate the forbidden fruit, and this is what happened.

- Their sin separated them from God; and the moment they were separated from God, their spirits died within them. They became spiritually dead.
- Also, their physical bodies started deteriorating from that moment onwards. One day their bodies would get too old and decayed to survive any longer, and then they would die physically as well.
- And after physical death, they would go to hell, because they were separated from God.



Not aware of these more serious implications, Adam and Eve thought a bunch of fig leaves could fix the damage they had done by sinning.

## God's Intervention and Help

**God put a curse upon Satan because he led Adam and Eve into sin.**

- **Genesis 3:15 (CEV):** “You and this woman will hate each other; your descendants and hers will always be enemies. One of hers will strike you on the head, and you will strike him on the heel.”

**God's words to Satan, in the Garden of Eden, were a 'shadow.' They were a shadow of what Jesus would do on the Cross 4000 years later.**

- The Old Testament is filled with many such 'shadows.' There are many people, objects and events mentioned in the Old Testament, which act as 'shadows,' pointing towards Jesus and the Cross.

## The First Sacrifice

**Genesis 3:21 (CEV):** “The Lord God made clothes out of animal skins for the man and his wife.”

Why do you think God made garments of animal skin for Adam and Eve? Is it because He preferred animal skins to fig leaves?

The punishment for sin is death and eternal separation from God.

Instead of placing this punishment on Adam and Eve, God placed this punishment on innocent animals, and killed them.

Then He used the skin of these animals to make clothes for them.



These innocent animals represented Jesus Christ who would one day hang on the Cross, and take the punishment of Adam and Eve upon Himself.

- Jesus took their sinfulness, and gave them His righteousness.
- So the animal skins represented the Robes of Righteousness which Jesus would give to all believers one day.



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Why do you think the Old Testament Israelites offered animal sacrifices? Why don't we do it today?**

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**Tarun copied in the Maths Exam, and passed. But he felt guilty about what he had done. So he tried to make God happy by putting all his pocket money into the Offering Bag at Church on Sunday.**

**Would you say that Tarun is clothed in Jesus' Robe of Righteousness or in Fig Leaves? Why?**

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**Based on what we have studied, can you guess why godly people of other religions don't make it to heaven, in spite of all their good deeds?**

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**APPLICATION**

Innocent animals had to die so that Adam and Eve could be clothed.

- The skin garments covered both their physical nakedness and their spiritual nakedness.

In the same way, Jesus had to die so that we too could be clothed.

- It cost Jesus His life, to clothe us in the Robe of Righteousness.
- This robe has covered our spiritual nakedness and made us acceptable to the Father.



**How I will show my gratitude to God this week, for all that He has done for me:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_



**FOLLOW UP**

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

**How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:**

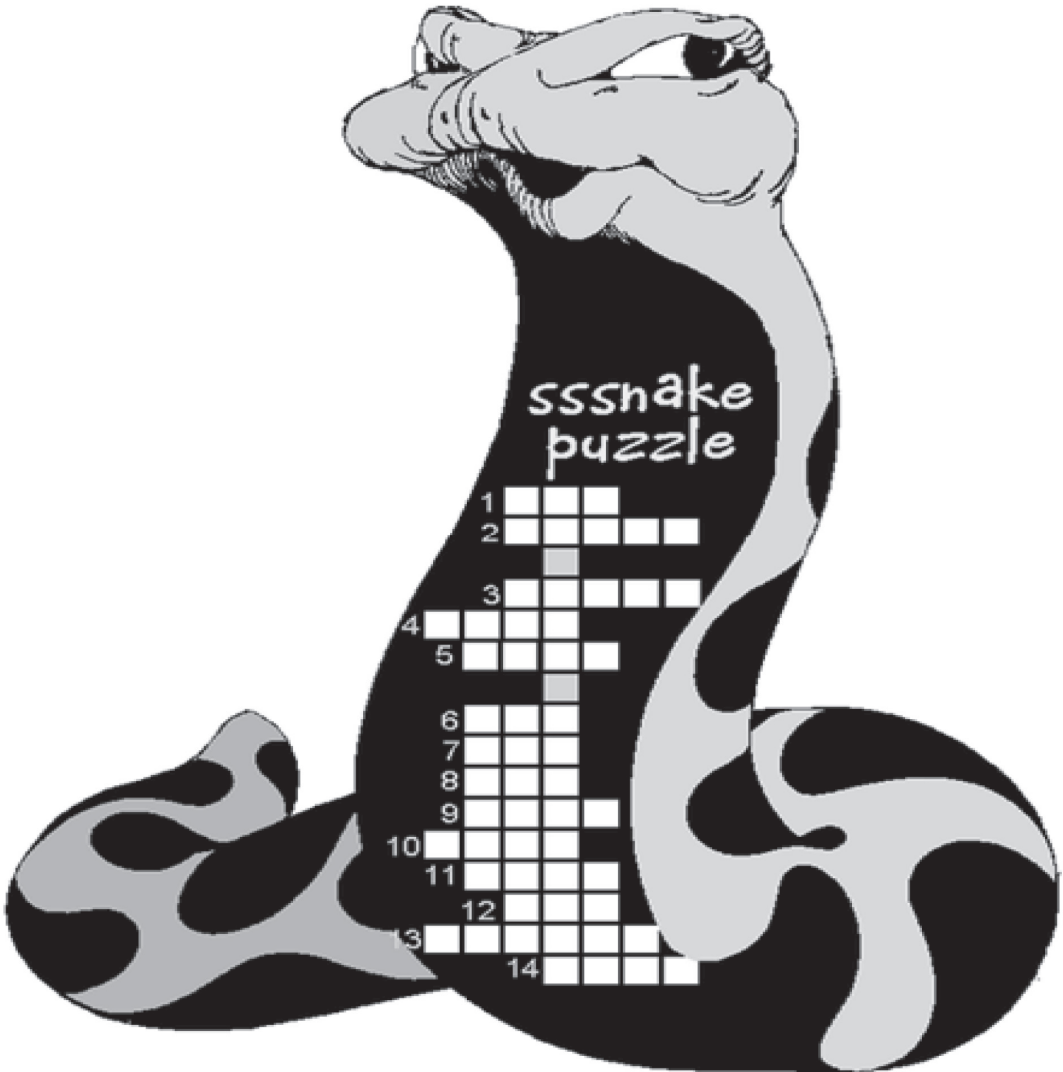
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## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

Creation Ssssnake Puzzle

*(Copyright © 2000, Charles Valentine)*



1. How many days did it take God to create the world and everything in it?
2. Satan appeared to Eve in the form of this creature.
3. These heavenly bodies were created on the 4<sup>th</sup> day.
4. These creatures were created on the 5<sup>th</sup> day.
5. The name of God's garden.
6. Eve was created from Adam's\_\_\_\_\_.
7. The first woman.
8. The first clothes were made from the leaves of this plant.
9. The first son of Adam and Eve.
10. This created object ruled the night.
11. God caused this to appear on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day.
12. Adam and Eve were ashamed and \_\_\_\_\_from God.
13. They were created on the 4<sup>th</sup> day.
14. God saw all that He had done and said it was very \_\_\_\_\_.



# The Cross Of *Christ*

## *Jesus Talked About the Cross*



### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To explain that Jesus compared His crucifixion to the tearing down of the Temple.
- To show why Jesus called His body the ‘Temple.’
- To motivate children to live clean lives, as a holy God lives in them.



### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

John 2:13-22; Exodus 29:42-43; John 14:6, 23 (Temple—the Meeting Place)



### MEMORY VERSE

**John 14:23:** “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.”

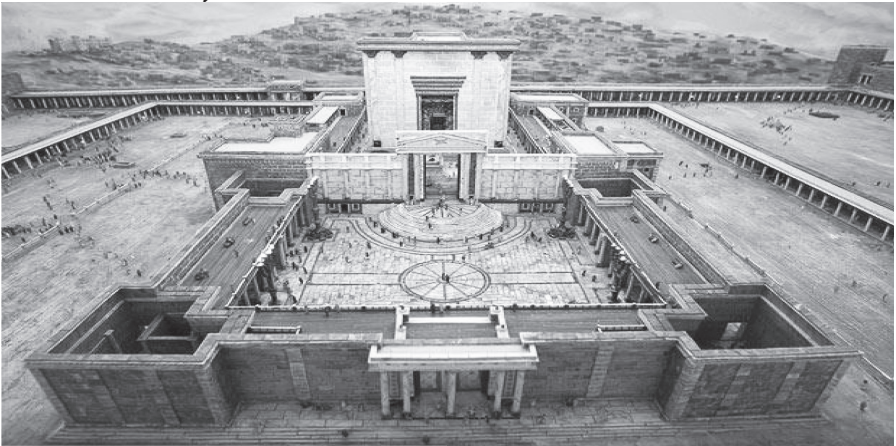
## **What Jesus Said About the Cross**

Jesus compared His death on the cross to the tearing down of the Temple!

- What did Jesus mean when He said this?
  - Which Temple was He referring to? Herod's Temple or some other Temple?
  - How can the tearing down of some temple somewhere benefit us?
- We will discover the answers to these questions in today's session.

## **The Jerusalem Temple**

**The largest man-made platform in the world (the size of 24 football fields) is located in**



## **Model of Herod's Temple in Jesus' Time**

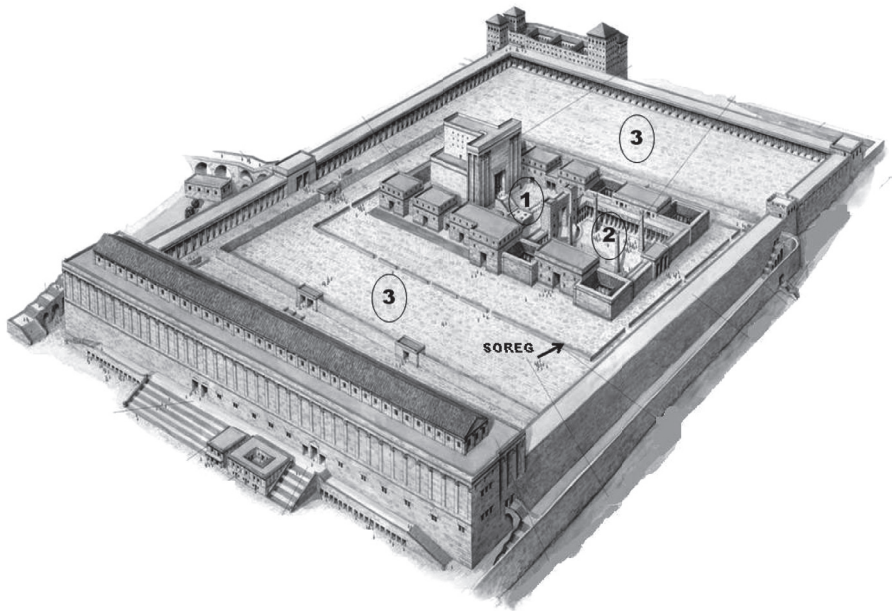
### **Trivia about Herod and the Temple**

- Herod persuaded the Roman Emperor into appointing him as King of Israel.
- As he was not an Israelite, most of the Jews hated him.
- He murdered many close relatives, including his own two sons, because he was scared they would grab the throne from him.



- He murdered 46 Jewish Leaders belonging to the Sanhedrin.
- Because the Israelite people hated him so much, he decided to please them by building a grand Temple for them.
- Herod took 46 years to build this Temple. Some construction work continued even after his death in 4 BC. (It continued for another 60 years, finally being finished in 63 AD).
- Just seven years after the completion of the construction work, it was razed to the ground by the Romans in 70 AD.

### Identify the Different Portions of the Temple



### Herod's Temple had four successive walled courts

#### 1. Court of The \_\_\_\_\_:

Surrounding the Temple was the Court of the Priests which contained the Altar of Burnt Offering, and the Laver. Only the Priests in performance of their daily duties were permitted inside the Priests'

Court. Around (and exterior to) the Priests' Court was the Court of Israel, accessible to all Jewish males.

**2. Court of \_\_\_\_\_:**

Both Jewish men and women were permitted into this area. This area is called the Court of Women because Israelite women were allowed to enter the temple area only up to this point. They could assemble here and listen to the reading of The Law.



**3. Court of the \_\_\_\_\_:**

The outermost court was the Court of the Gentiles. Many Gentiles who believed that Jehovah was the one, true God, gathered in this outer court, to worship the Lord. But they could hardly concentrate because the insensitive Jewish leaders had turned this area into a market place.

**Soreg:** The Soreg was a low latticed screen or railing that prohibited Gentiles from crossing into the inner courts. No Gentile was ever supposed to cross this railing.

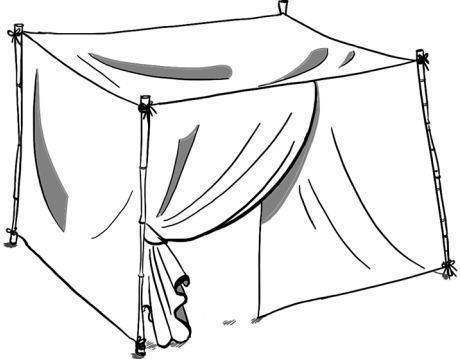
**The uncaring Jewish leaders turned the Court of the Gentiles into a market place filled with noise and corruption.**



**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- **Why do you think Jesus called His body the ‘Temple?’**
- **Why do you think people visited the Temple in those days? To do what?**
- **Why do we go to Church every week? To do what?**

**Exodus 29:42-43 says, “For the generations to come this burnt offering is to be made regularly at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, before the Lord. There I will meet you and speak to you; there also I will meet with the Israelites, and the place will be consecrated by my glory.”**



**According to these verses, why did God want the Tabernacle/ Temple to be set up?**

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**Why do you think Jesus called Himself the ‘Temple?’**

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**John 14:6: “I am the way, the truth, and the life!” Jesus answered.**

**“Without me, no one can go to the Father.”**

**Why do you think Jesus wanted to be the Temple, when already there was a grand Temple-building available?**

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**John 14:23: “Jesus replied, ‘If anyone loves me, they will obey me. Then my Father will love them, and we will come to them and live in them.’”**

**Matthew 13:16-17: “... God has blessed you, because your eyes can see and your ears can hear! Many prophets and good people were eager to see what you see and to hear what you hear. But I tell you that they did not see or hear.”**

**How did Jesus’ death on the cross, make “direct contact” with God possible?**

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**It cost Jesus His life to make us clean. It cost Jesus His life to make it possible for God to live inside us. After such a great sacrifice, how do you think Jesus feels when we deliberately dirty ourselves once again by doing sinful things?**

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### APPLICATION

Jesus chose to become the Temple. He chose to become the Meeting Place, through whom we could directly meet with God.

- Are we using this privilege to meet with God every day? Do we have a Quiet Time with the Lord?
- Also, are we keeping ourselves clean from sin? Or are we insulting God by making Him live inside a sin-filled life?

### My Commitment

- This week I will spend \_\_\_\_\_ minutes on Bible Study, every day.
- This week I will spend \_\_\_\_\_ minutes on Prayer, every day.
- This week I will remember to worship God and thank Him for all that He has done for me.



**Sins I must clean up—so that the Lord can have a Clean Home in my Life:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



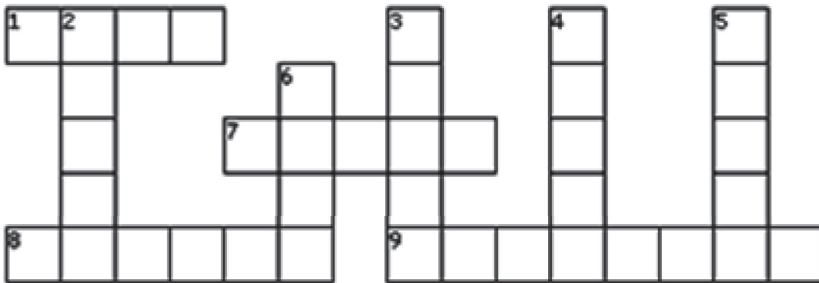
## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

### Crossword: Jesus Cleared the Temple (John 2:13-16 NIV)

(Taken from Sermons 4 Kids)



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Across	Down
1. A strip of leather or cord fastened to a handle (v.15)	2. A building where a family lives (v.16)
7. Coins or notes used to pay for something (v.14)	3. An animal raised for its wool (v.14)
8. A building for worship (v.14)	4. The Son of God (v.13)
9. A Jewish holiday celebrating being freed from slavery in Egypt (v.13)	5. A piece of furniture with a flat, smooth surface and four legs (v.15)
	6. A small wild pigeon (v.16)

#### Words Used:

Table

Sheep

House

Jesus

Money

Passover

Temple

Whip

Dove



**FOLLOW UP**

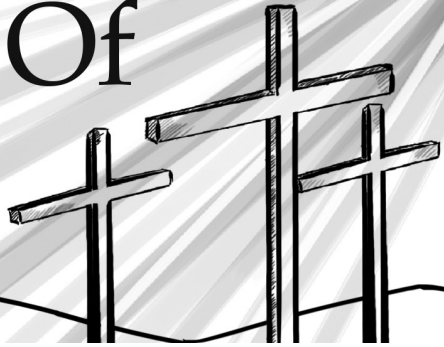
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**How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:**

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# The Cross Of *Christ*



## ***Wisdom of the Cross—Redemption***



### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- To teach the meaning of ‘redemption.’
- To explain what God expects from those whom He has redeemed.



### **SCRIPTURE PORTIONS**

Ephesians 1:7; Romans 6:16-18; 1 Corinthians 6:20; Titus 2:14 (Jesus’ Redemption Plan)



### **MEMORY VERSE**

**Ephesians 1:7:** “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace ...”

### **How God’s Wisdom Was Displayed**

We are all very familiar with the Story of the Cross. But sometimes we fail to understand the deeper implications involved. We fail to see the great wisdom God displayed



when He used the Cross to save us. We will study this topic in greater detail today.

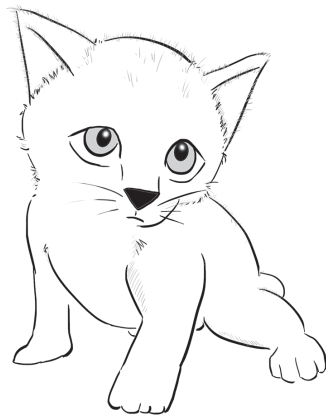
### **Story: The Cat and the Brother**

Today, we will look at two imaginary scenarios that will, hopefully, help us understand better what Jesus did for us on the Cross.

#### **Scenario 1**

Imagine that you have a cat at home. The cat runs away and you are worried. You make enquiries for a week, and discover that your cat has been impounded at the Municipal Animal Control Centre.

Your cat is to be electrocuted one week from now. On the appointed day, it will be dragged into a “pound-chamber” where a wire will be placed around its neck, and the switch thrown. The electric current will go through its body, badly scorching its neck in the process and causing blood to leak out of the eyes, ears and nose. In other words, your cat will die a painful death.



You are horrified, and beg the Municipality to set your cat free. But they inform you that the cat must be electrocuted because it attacked a little child and killed him!

The Municipality offers to release the cat if you're willing to take its place, and have the electrocution wire placed around YOUR neck.

- **What would your decision be?**

#### **Scenario 2**

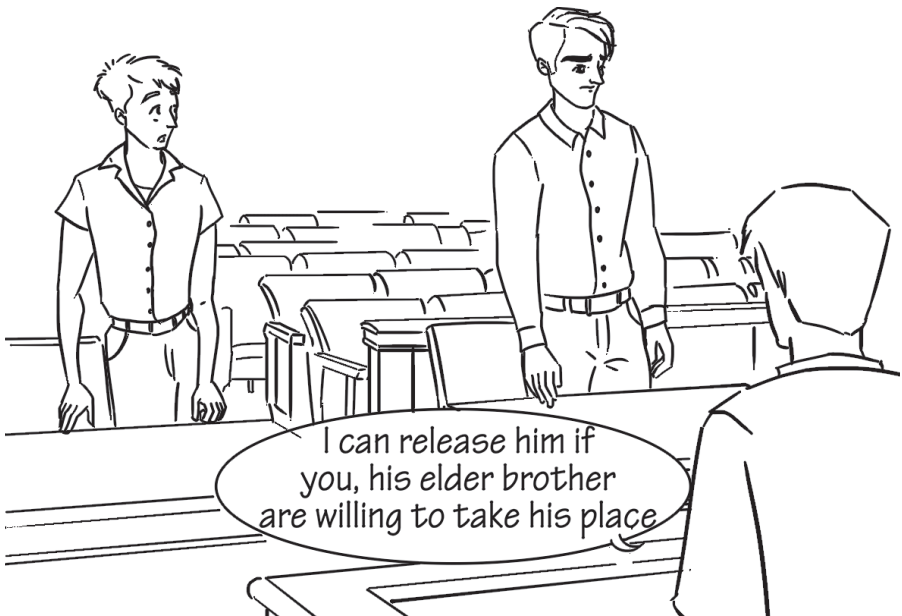
In the second scenario, the circumstances are slightly different. This time, it is your younger brother who has run away from home. And

after making enquiries everywhere, your family learns that he has been placed in a Juvenile Home, under arrest.

He too is scheduled for a death sentence the following week, as he attacked and killed a little child.

The Supreme Court generously offers to release your brother if you, the older sibling, are willing to take his place.

- **In this case what would your decision be?**



**Summarise the Story**

	<b>The Cat</b>	<b>The Brother</b>
<b>What was the Crime?</b>		
<b>What was the Punishment?</b>		
<b>Who gained Control?</b>		
<b>What Method of Escape was available?</b>		
<b>What Payment was required for freedom?</b>		

**Reflect**

**If you had to choose between your cat and your brother, whom would you die for?**

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**Why did you choose the cat (or the brother)? What motivated your choice?**

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**Let us assume that you decide to make the Supreme Sacrifice, and go to the Animal Control Center. You want to see your cat one last time before you sacrifice your life.**

- **The cat is brought to you ... but the ungrateful cat scratches your face.**
- **How will you feel at this Supreme Rejection?**

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**On the other hand, let us assume that you decide to sacrifice your life for your brother. You go to the Central Jail where you are to be hanged, and you wish to see your brother one last time before you die.**

- **Your brother sends word that he is too busy to meet with you, as his friends are throwing him a big party after his miraculous rescue from prison.**
- **How will you feel at this Supreme Rejection?**



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### **The Cross**

**What are some of the more common sins we commit in our everyday lives?**

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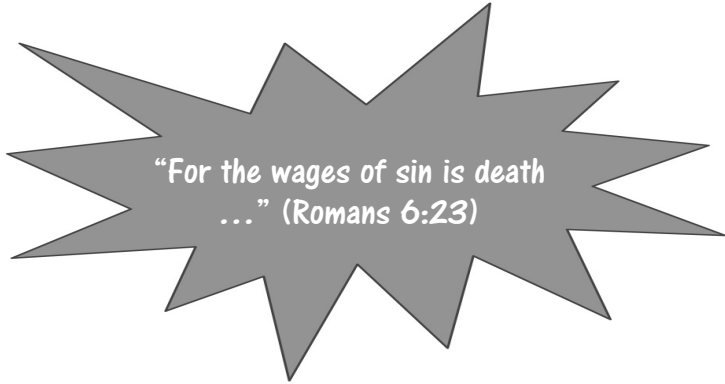
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**These are NOT serious sins like murder. So what is the punishment for these smaller sins, according to the Bible?**

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**‘Death’ affects our lives in three ways**

- Those who sin are spiritually dead. This means we are separated from God, and are not part of His \_\_\_\_\_
- We experience death in the form of \_\_\_\_\_, in our everyday lives. Bad things happen to our families, our finances, our studies, our friendships, etc.
- Finally when we die physically, we will be separated from God forever, in \_\_\_\_\_.

**The Cat-Brother Story and Our Story—A Comparison**

	<b>Cat</b>	<b>Brother</b>	<b>Our Story</b>
<b>What is the Crime?</b>	Killed a child	Killed a child	
<b>What is the Punishment?</b>	Death Sentence	Death Sentence	

<b>Who gains Control?</b>	Animal Control Centre	Juvenile Home	
<b>What Method of Escape is available?</b>	Freedom guaranteed if someone is willing to EXCHANGE PLACES with the prisoner		
<b>What Payment is required for freedom?</b>	You will have to SACRIFICE YOUR LIFE for the prisoner		

### Redemption

There is a big word in English which describes what Jesus has done for us. It’s called ‘Redemption,’ and means that Jesus “delivered us by making a payment.”

Redemption involves two things:

- It involves payment. Jesus paid for us with His life-blood.
- When payment is made, the Jailer has to let us go. Satan can’t control us anymore.

So Jesus ‘redeemed’ us by paying for us with His life, and delivering us from Satan’s control.

**Ephesians 1:7:** “Christ sacrificed his life’s blood to set us free, which means that our sins are now forgiven ...”



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**When we say “Jesus has redeemed us,” what do we mean by these words? What did Jesus do?**

- When we sinned against God, we became prisoners of \_\_\_\_\_. He gained control over our lives.
- He used this ‘ \_\_\_\_\_ ’ over us, to bring sickness, poverty, suffering, etc., into our lives.
- Jesus set us free from Satan’s control by dying for us and paying with His \_\_\_\_\_
- Now Jesus offers us a new life of \_\_\_\_\_, in His presence.

**Romans 6:16 says, “Don’t you know that you are slaves of anyone you obey? You can be slaves of sin and die, or you can be obedient slaves of God and be acceptable to him.”**

**According to this verse, people who sin are whose slaves?**

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**When you and I sin, whose slaves are we? God’s slaves or Satan’s slaves?**

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**If Jesus has ‘redeemed’ us, how can we be Satan’s slaves? Didn’t Jesus pay for us and set us free from Satan?**



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**What must we do to become God’s slaves instead of Satan’s slaves?**

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**Romans 6:17-18:** *“You used to be slaves of sin. But I thank God that with all your heart you obeyed the teaching you received from me. Now you are set free from sin and are slaves who please God.”*

**Are we Slaves of God or are we Children of God? Explain why.**

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**Romans 6:22:** “Now you have been set free from sin, and you are God’s slaves ...”

**Romans 8:15-16:** “... the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.”



## APPLICATION

**Read each of the following verses and write down what God expects from us:**

**1 Corinthians 6:20:** “... you were bought at a price. Therefore **honor God with your body.**”

Because Jesus has redeemed me, I must \_\_\_\_\_

**How I will honour God with my body this week:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Titus 2:14:** “(Jesus Christ,) who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, **eager to do what is good.**”

Because Jesus has redeemed me, I must \_\_\_\_\_

**The good things I will ‘eagerly’ do this week:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 12:1:** “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to **offer your bodies as a living sacrifice**, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.”

Because Jesus has redeemed me, I must \_\_\_\_\_

**Sacrifices I am willing to make this week:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



**FOLLOW UP**

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

**How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
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## TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

### Jesus Redeemed Us

*(Taken from Calvary Kids Pages)*

Jesus redeemed us through the \_\_\_\_\_ (Discover the answer by connecting the dots).

1 ●—————● 12

● 3

2 ●

● 11

10 ●

● 4

5 ●

● 8

9 ●

6 ●

● 7



# The Cross Of *Christ*

## *Power of the Cross*



### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach that Christ broke sin's power over our lives.
- To show that we were 'in' Christ when He did this for us.



### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Romans 5:12, 6: 6-23; Hebrews 2:14-15; 1 Peter 2:24  
(Christ's Victory for Us)



### MEMORY VERSE

**Hebrews 2:14:** "Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil ..."



### INTRODUCTION

Through the fall, mankind became a slave to sin and Satan. They gained mastery over the human race. But the power of

the Cross broke the dominion of sin and Satan over our lives. We will find out today how Jesus did this for us on the Cross.

## Pouch Services 24 / 7

### Kangaroo Facts

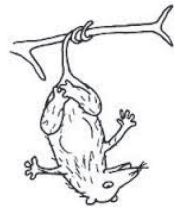
- When a European explorer first went to Australia, he asked a tribal, “What is that strange animal?” Unable to understand his language, the tribal replied “Kan ga aroo” which means “I don’t understand.” The explorer thought this was the name of the animal. That’s how the kangaroo got its name!!!
- Kangaroos can’t walk backwards.
- A group of kangaroos is called a ‘mob’, ‘troop’ or ‘court.’
- Although an adult kangaroo will grow to stand about five feet tall, when they are born, baby kangaroos (called joeys) are only about one inch long!

The one-inch joey is born blind and helpless. So it stays inside the pouch, drinking its mother’s milk and growing stronger.

## POUCH SERVICES 24 / 7



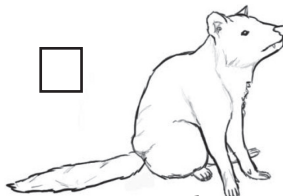
**Kangaroo**



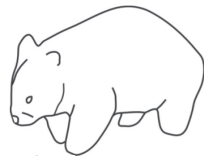
**Opossum**



**Koala Bear**



**Tasmanian Devil**



**Wombat**

## First Adam vs. Last Adam

When God planned to create people, He said, “Let Us make **man** in Our image ... let **them** have dominion ...” (Genesis 1:26)

God spoke of creating one man, and He referred to this one man as ‘them.’

- Our English Bible is a translation of the original Hebrew Bible ... the original Bible that Jesus used to read. In the Hebrew Bible, we clearly see that God referred to the creation of one single man (‘adm’), and He deliberately called this one person “them” (‘ath.m’).
- The word for a single man is ‘adm.’ The word for ‘men’ (plural) is ‘e.adm.’
- God specifically referred to the single man as ‘them.’

God did not speak this way because His knowledge of grammar is defective. Rather, in God’s mind, He was truly creating just one single person. All other persons would “come out of” this one person (including Eve).

In other words, in God’s mind, He saw the entire human race, including you and me, as being ‘in’ Adam. (You can try to picture this in kangaroo-terms. Imagine Adam with an imaginary pouch, carrying the entire human race).

## The First Adam and Us

If the kangaroo jumps into a pool of water and gets soaked to the skin, the joey inside its pouch also gets soaked automatically.

- In the same way, when Adam chose to jump into sin and get soaked by it, all of us got soaked as well.
- According to the Bible, sinful people can only end up in hell. They can never, ever gain access to heaven.

**Romans 5:12:** “... sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned ...”

### The Last Adam

On the Cross, God placed all the humans ‘in’ Jesus. (You can try to picture this in kangaroo-terms. Imagine Jesus with an imaginary pouch, carrying the entire human race).

When Jesus carried the entire human race on the cross, He automatically carried all their sins as well, paying the punishment for them.

**1 Peter 2:24:** “Christ carried the burden of our sins. He was nailed to the cross, so that we would stop sinning and start living right. By his cuts and bruises you are healed.”

Death could not hold Jesus captive, because Jesus was utterly innocent. So He was able to resurrect to life once again.

- When Jesus defeated the power of sin and death, and rose to life, He was still carrying all of us (in his imaginary pouch).
- So, when He became victorious over sin and death, we too became victorious over sin and death.



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



**Romans 6:6-7: “We know that the persons we used to be were nailed to the cross with Jesus. This was done, so that our sinful bodies would no longer be the slaves of sin. We know that sin doesn’t have power over dead people.”**

**According to these verses, what part of us died on the cross with Jesus? Our spirit, soul or body?**

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**When Christ was resurrected, do you think everybody received a new spirit? If so, shouldn’t everybody go to heaven?**

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*1 John 3:9: “God’s children cannot keep on being sinful. His life-giving power lives in them and makes them his children, so that they cannot keep on sinning.”*

**Romans 6:11 “... you must think of yourselves as dead to the power of sin. But Christ Jesus has given life to you, and you live for God.”**

**According to these verses, we must “think of ourselves as dead to the power of sin.” What does this mean in practical terms?**

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**Romans 6:13: “... Give yourselves to God, as people who have been raised from death to life. Make every part of your body a slave that pleases God.”**

**According to this verse, what should we do every day?**

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**APPLICATION**

- We must BELIEVE that our sin-controlled spirits died on the cross, along with Jesus

- We must BELIEVE that when Jesus rose from the dead, we rose up with Him; and He has now given us brand-new spirits that love Him and wish to honour Him.

When we BELIEVE these truths, and ACCEPT JESUS as Lord and Saviour,

He makes these things a reality in our lives.

If we continue to live under the control of sin and satan, after saying a salvation prayer,

it shows that we Never Truly Believed.

God I believe that I have a new spirit that loves God and wants to obey Him



**Our Actions Expose  
what we Truly Believe**

**Do I truly believe that my sinful spirit died on the Cross with Jesus? If so, this is what I will do when temptation comes this week:**

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**I will offer My Mind (and thoughts) to God this week, by doing the following practical things:**

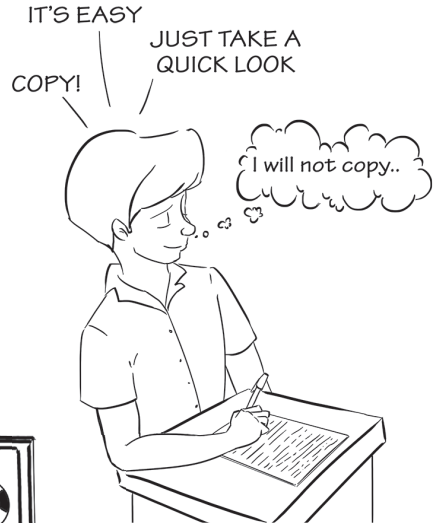
1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**I will let God control My Speech (my talk), in these practical ways:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**I will offer My Body (eyes, ears, hands, etc) to God this week, by doing the following practical things:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

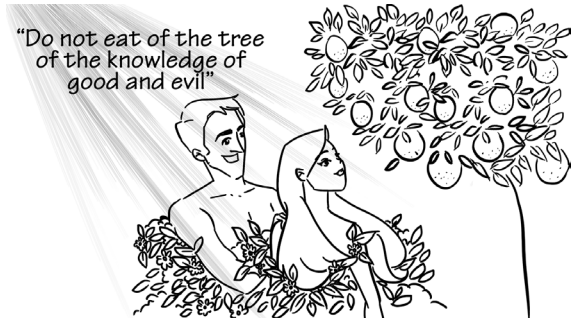




### TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

#### The Two Trees

- Draw the tree, through which, the First Adam led us into sin's control
- Draw the tree, through which, the Second Adam led us out of sin's control



Tree of the First Adam	Tree of the Second Adam

**Hint:** Galatians 3:13 describes the tree used by the Second Adam.



## FOLLOW UP

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

### **How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. \_\_\_\_\_

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# The Cross Of *Christ*

## *From the Cross to the Throne*



### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach that Jesus is now our High Priest.
- To explain the role of human priests, and Jesus' Special Role today.



### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Exodus 25:8; Leviticus 16:1-2; Romans 2:4, 8:34; 1 Peter 2:24; Hebrews 4:15 (Jesus Our High Priest)



### MEMORY VERSE

**Hebrews 4:15:** "For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin."



## INTRODUCTION

After sacrificing Himself on the cross for us and returning to heaven, Jesus did not forget us. He continues to work on our behalf even today.

We will now study in what way Jesus is ministering to us at present.

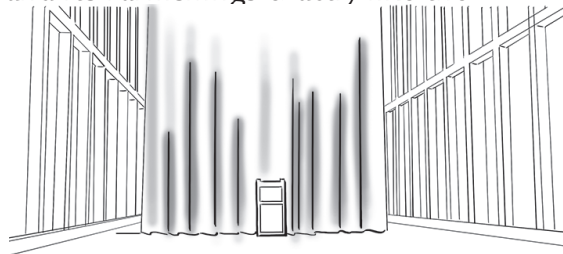
### Activity: No Entry



### The Holy Of Holies

**Exodus 25:8:** “I also want them to build a special place where I can live among my people. Make it and its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you.”

**Exodus 26:31:** “Make a curtain to separate the holy place from the most holy place.”





**Leviticus 16:1-2:** “Two of Aaron’s sons had already lost their lives for disobeying the LORD, so the Lord told Moses to say to Aaron: I, the Lord, appear in a cloud over the place of mercy on the sacred chest, which is behind the inside



curtain of the sacred tent. And I warn you not to go there except at the proper time. Otherwise, you will die!”



## The High Priest

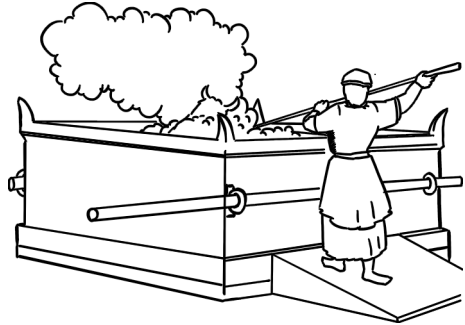
Only one person was permitted to enter the Most Holy Place ...

- Just once a year, the High Priest was allowed to enter God’s awesome presence, so that he could offer the blood of the Atonement sacrifice before God.
- He had to make very careful preparations for this solemn occasion. He had to wash himself, put on special clothing, bring burning incense to let the smoke cover his eyes from a direct view of God, and bring blood with him to make atonement for sins.

How do you think it felt to be the only living person on earth allowed to cross the heavy No Entry curtain and walk inside

## Understanding the High Priest's Role

The only reason God spared the sinful Israelites every day is because the High Priest faithfully offered sacrifices on behalf of the people every morning and every evening. This was his main duty!



**In this way, God maintained His peace with the people, and did not destroy them for all their sinfulness.**

## Jesus—the New High Priest

After Jesus sacrificed His life on the cross, the need for a human High Priest ceased.

- Caiaphas used to offer animals as sacrifices. But when Jesus offered Himself as a sacrifice, He became a more perfect sacrifice than any animal could ever be.
- In fact, Jesus' sacrifice was so perfect that the sins of the whole world were completely forgiven!
  - Because they were completely forgiven, people were no longer separated from God.
  - Because they were no longer separated from Him, there was no need to separate Himself from them using a four-inch curtain.

*God tore the curtain open  
to declare that anybody and  
everybody could now directly come  
to him.*

*They no longer needed Caiaphas  
or any other human High Priest to  
represent them.*

From the Cross to the Throne

In this way, Jesus took Caiaphas' place, and became our High Priest in heaven.

Romans 8:34 says, "... Christ died and was raised to life, and now he is at God's right side, speaking to him for us."

**If a merely human High Priest was able to keep the Jews forgiven and alive, imagine what a High Priest like Jesus can accomplish for us today!**



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**God tore open the curtain to show that everybody is forgiven, and everybody can now directly go to God. Does this mean all the people of the world are now spiritually saved?**

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**Romans 2:4:** "You surely don't think much of God's wonderful goodness or of his patience and willingness to put up with you. Don't you know that the reason God is good to you is because he wants you to turn to him?"

**Romans 8:34 says that Jesus is ‘interceding’ for us at God’s throne. What exactly does this mean? Does it mean He is sitting at the right hand of God, saying prayers for us?**

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**Hebrews 4:15 says, “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are*, yet without sin ...” What does ‘sympathizing’ mean? Does it mean that Jesus feels sorry for us?**

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## APPLICATION

Jesus presents before the Father, both **our Prayer Requests and our Worship.**

- Have you always provided Jesus with only long “shopping lists” of prayer requests, to deliver to the Father?
- Or have you sent Him praise and worship too?

God forgave us and made us His children. He tore the curtain that



separated us from His holy presence, so that we could directly go to Him.

Now even as He eagerly waits for us to come to Him, let us go into His presence with not just shopping lists, but also abundant amounts of deep gratitude, love, praise and worship.

### **Worship Time**

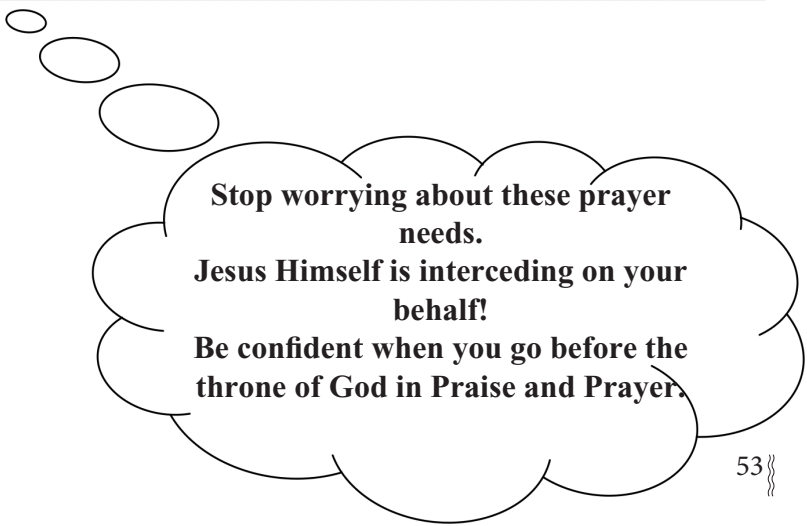
I promise to reserve at least \_\_\_\_\_ minutes every day, to spend time in worshipping the Lord.

**Helpful Tip:** *If you are not sure how to worship the Lord, use worship songs. Sing along and worship the Lord from your heart.*

### **Prayer Time**

#### **Prayer Requests that I need Jesus to intercede for:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_



Hebrews 4:15-16: "Jesus understands every weakness of ours, because he was tempted in every way that we are. But he did not sin! So whenever we are in need, we should come bravely before the throne of our merciful God. There we will be treated with undeserved kindness, and we will find help."



## FOLLOW UP

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

### **How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:**

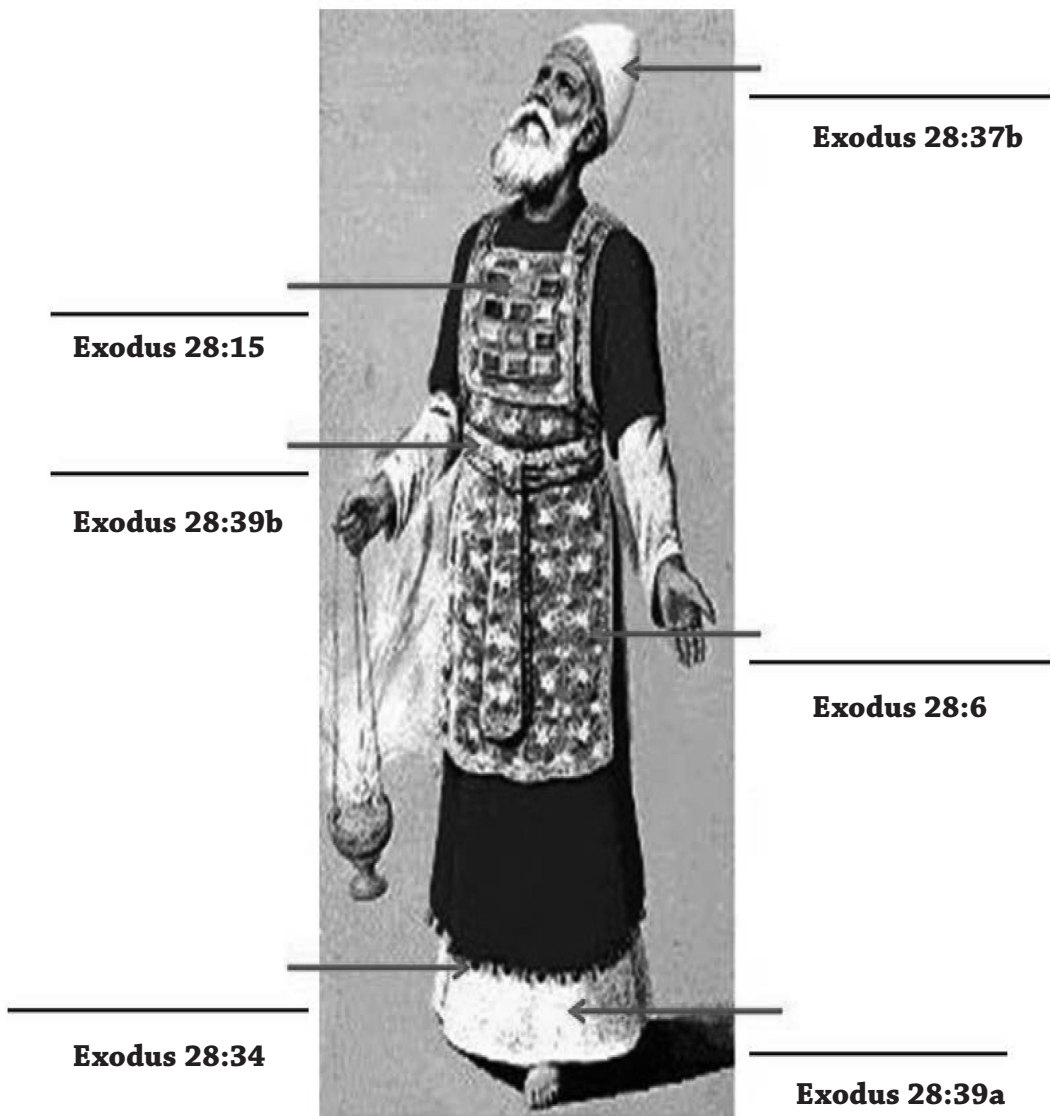
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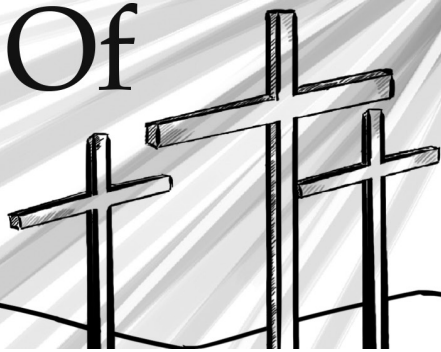
### TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

## Aaron the High Priest—Exodus 28

Identify the special garments worn by the High Priest:



# The Cross Of *Christ*



## *Blessings of the Cross*



### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To teach that we have forgiveness and healing only because of Jesus' sacrifice.
- To explain the connection between forgiveness and healing.



### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Matthew 8:5-16; Isaiah 53:4-6; Mark 16:16-18 (Forgiveness and Healing)



### MEMORY VERSE

**Isaiah 53:5:** "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."





## INTRODUCTION

The four Gospels of the New Testament describe various benefits that are ours because of Christ's sacrificial death. Each Gospel highlights some blessing that the atonement brings, and together they give us a complete picture of what Christ accomplished for us. Today we will look at one of these blessings in greater detail.



## ATTENTION GETTER

### Activity: Who's the Boss?

You might have noticed that usually it's the people at the top who give orders. Those at the lower levels have to obey these orders.

For example in a **School**, the levels of authority will be as follows:

Principal [ 1 ]

|

Teachers [ 2 ]

|










Students [ 3 ]

- The teachers take orders from the Principal and give orders to the students.
- The students, on the other hand, cannot give orders to either the Principal or the teachers!

### Can you guess who gives orders to whom:

- In the Army
- In a Private Company
- In the Police Force

### WHO'S THE BOSS?

Army	Private Company	Police Force
		
<b>Army Captain [   ]</b>	<b>Manager [   ]</b>	<b>Police Commissioner [   ]</b>
		
<b>Army Jawan [   ]</b>	<b>Executive President [   ]</b>	<b>Constable [   ]</b>
		
<b>Army General [   ]</b>	<b>General Director [   ]</b>	<b>Police Inspector [   ]</b>

## Jesus' Authority to Heal (Matthew 8:5-16)

One day, in the city of Capernaum, Jesus healed the servant of a Roman Centurion.

- Then He went to Peter's home, and healed the mother-in-law of Peter, making her completely well.
- Then, in the evening, many people with demons in them were brought to Jesus. And with only a word he forced out the evil spirits and healed everyone who was sick.

Matthew records all these healings in his Gospel. Then he concludes by saying:

"So God's promise came true, just as the prophet Isaiah had said, 'He healed our diseases and made us well'" (Matthew 8:17).



## Fulfillment of Isaiah's Prophecy

More than 700 years before Jesus was born, Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would come to forgive our sins and heal our diseases:

**Isaiah 53:4-6:** "He suffered and endured great pain for us, but we thought his suffering was punishment from God. He was wounded and crushed because of our sins; **by taking our punishment, he made us completely well.** All of us were like sheep that had wandered off. We had each gone our own way, **but the LORD gave him the punishment we deserved.**"

This prophecy was fulfilled when Jesus came to the earth 700 years later. Wherever He went, people began to be healed!

## Do WE Have the Authority to Heal?

Sickness and disease entered the world when Adam sinned.

When Adam sinned, he gave authority to Satan to harm him and his descendants.

In this way, Satan gained control over the whole human race, and made them suffer in countless ways.

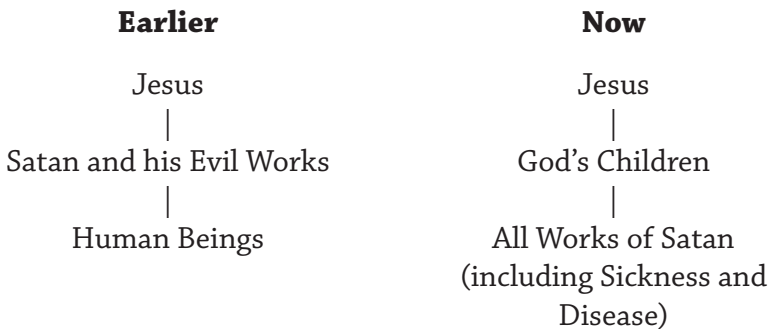
The sinless and perfect Jesus sacrificed Himself on the cross, and took the punishment for your sins and my sins upon Himself. Because He was sinless and perfect, the Father accepted His sacrifice and forgave all of us sinful human beings.

So now that we have been forgiven, Satan cannot control us anymore. He cannot inflict us with sickness and disease any longer.

**Now we have the authority to rebuke sickness and disease, every time Satan tries to bring it upon us.**



### Line of Authority established by Jesus





## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**If God has forgiven us, and Satan no longer has authority over us, then why are so many Christians suffering from diseases?**

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**According to the Roman Centurion, sickness left whenever Jesus ordered it to leave, because Jesus is the Boss. Sickness has to obey Jesus' orders. Why would sickness take orders from us? Do we have any authority over it?**

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**Mark 16:17-18:** “Everyone who believes me will be able to do  
wonderful things.

By using my name they will force out demons ...  
They will also heal sick people by placing their hands on them.”

**What are some things that could block healing in our lives?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**What if I pray for healing for an entire month and nothing happens? Does this mean God doesn't want to heal me?**

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**APPLICATION**

**Three truths that I learnt today about healing:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Three persons (who are unwell) that I will share these truths with:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



### TAKE HOME ACTIVITY

#### The Roman Centurion

Connect the Dots to complete the object that the Roman Centurion is holding.



### FOLLOW UP

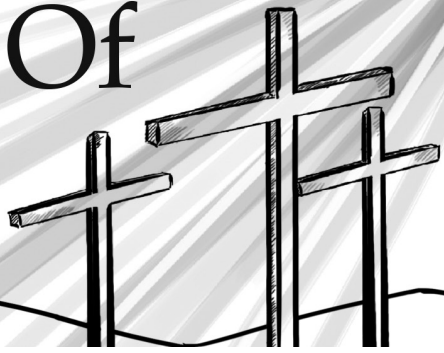
*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

#### How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during this week:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# The Cross Of *Christ*



## *The Way of the Cross*



### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To explain the difference between a Friend of the Cross and Enemy of the Cross.
- To show that when we love the world, the love of God cannot be in us.
- To warn that Enemies of the Cross are headed for hell.



### SCRIPTURE PORTIONS

Philippians 3:18-19; 1 John 2:15-16 (Who are Enemies of the Cross?)



### MEMORY VERSE

**1 John 2:15**



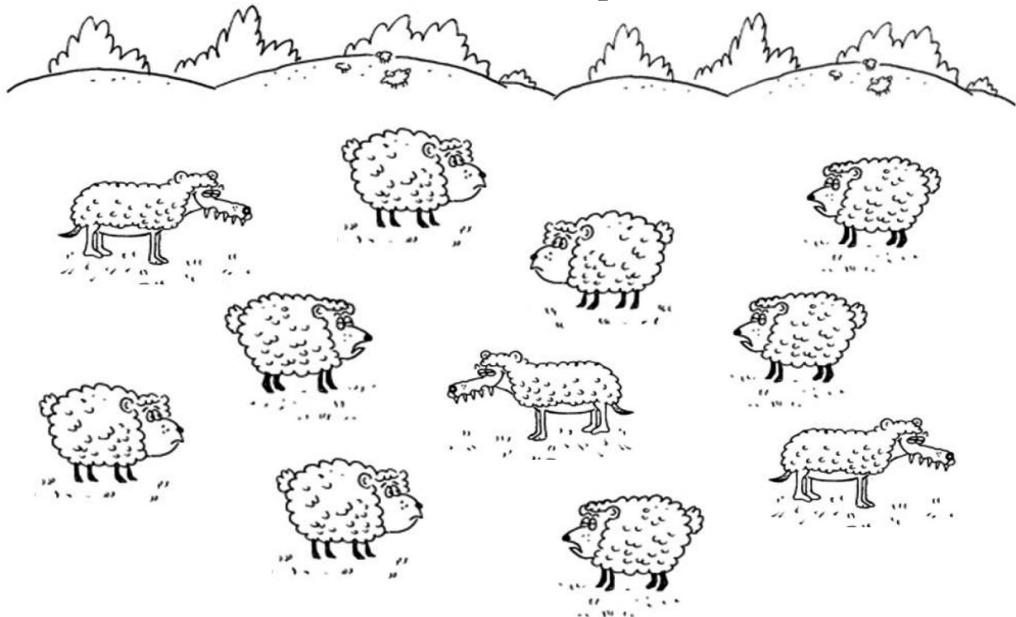


## INTRODUCTION

Over the last few weeks we have been studying the Cross of Christ in great detail. Jesus died on the Cross so that He could wash away our filthy sins and clothe us in His Robe of Righteousness. He made “direct contact” with God possible. He has redeemed us and delivered us from Satan’s control. These are some of the benefits we enjoy because of the Cross.

Today, we will look at what our response and responsibility should be towards this Cross. When the Lord has done so much for us, what can we do for Him in return?

### Flock of Sheep



However hard a wolf may try to behave like a sheep,  
**it is not possible for it to *always* behave like a sheep.**

Some day when the shepherd isn’t around, and a plump, juicy lamb is standing next to it, what are the chances that the wolf will be able to resist the temptation???

Deep down in the heart of a wolf, its deepest love is for lamb chops!  
Wolves love lambs the way some people love chicken and mutton.  
And usually the heart rules!



### Enemy or Friend?

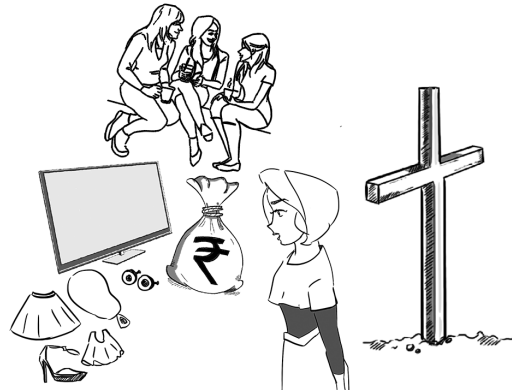
In **Philippians 3:18** Paul says, "I often warned you that many people are living as enemies of the cross of Christ ..."

Paul warns that not everybody in the church is really a sheep belonging to Jesus the Shepherd. He describes them as follows:

**Philippians 3:18-19:** "I warn you again that they are headed for hell! They worship their stomachs and brag about the disgusting things they do. All they can think about are the things of this world."

According to this verse:

- The Enemy-Christians are mainly interested in satisfying their own desires—not God's desires.
- The Enemy-Christians' main focus is on worldly things—not the things of God.



- The Enemy-Christians are proud of some of the sinful things they are doing, and do not like to be corrected.

**Paul describes these Christians as “Enemies of the Cross.”**

### **Are You A Secret Enemy?**

The question we need to ask ourselves is: Am I truly a friend of the cross or am I a secret enemy?

- Most of the time, do I do what pleases the Lord, or what pleases me?
- Do I find worldly things more attractive and interesting than the things of God?
- Have I been corrected many times for doing something sinful, but am still happy to continue doing it?

If any of these points are true about my life, I may be a secret enemy of the cross—not its friend.

### **Wolf-Christians**

Some people talk like Christians and behave like Christians whenever they happen to be in a Christian gathering. But deep down in their hearts, their deepest love is for the things of this world. And where the heart is, the rest of the person follows.

This is why 1 John 2:15-16 says, “Don’t love the world or anything that belongs to the world. If you love the world, you cannot love the Father. Our foolish pride comes from this world, and so do our selfish desires and our desire to have everything we see. None of this comes from the Father.”

If I love the world more than I love the things of God, then I am really a wolf.

- I may sing Christian songs and pray beautiful prayers in public, but deep down in my heart I’m a wolf with wolf-desires.

- I'm an enemy of the cross, and this enmity against God will show up in the worldly choices I make.

### **Why their Destiny is Hell**

Paul bluntly says that the enemies of the cross will go to hell! (Philippians 3:19)

Why is he speaking so harshly?

You see, a true Christian no longer has a wolf heart. The Lord takes out his wolf-heart and gives him a new heart that loves God. Such a Christian may feel strongly attracted to sinful things on many occasions; he may in fact yield to temptation and fall sometimes.

But every time, the Holy Spirit within will convict him of his sin, and urge him to repentance. Gradually he will find himself changing. He will notice that worldly things don't seem as attractive as they used to earlier. This change happens because God has placed a new heart within him.

However, on the other hand, some people simply say a salvation prayer and do not make any real commitment to Jesus. They put on sheep's clothing in the sense that they start talking and acting like Christians. But deep down inside, their desires and attitudes don't change. They focus on doing what pleases them—not on what pleases God. There is no real change in their choices and decisions; they continue to live in sin.

- We don't become Christians by talking or acting like other Christians.
- We become Christians only when God takes out the wolf-heart that loves sin, and replaces it with a new heart.

That's why true Christians are called 'born-again.' They are created into a new person and think differently from the people of the world.



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**According to Philippians 3:19, what are the three qualities of an Enemy Christian?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**What do you think is the main difference between a True Christian and an Enemy Christian?**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**If a Christian commits a sin, does this mean he is an Enemy? Does it mean he never got truly saved?**

\_\_\_\_\_

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**If a person is unable to give up a sinful habit, does this mean he is a secret enemy or wolf-Christian?**

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**APPLICATION**

We have seen clearly that the ‘heart’ of a person determines whether he is a friend or enemy of the cross. Wherever the heart is, there the rest of the person follows.

So, ask yourself whether you truly became a Christian or not.

- Did I cry out to Jesus to forgive my sins and give me a new heart? Yes/No  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Did I make a sincere commitment to serve Him only, and not serve sin anymore? Yes/No  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please forgive me my sins and give me a new heart, Lord!

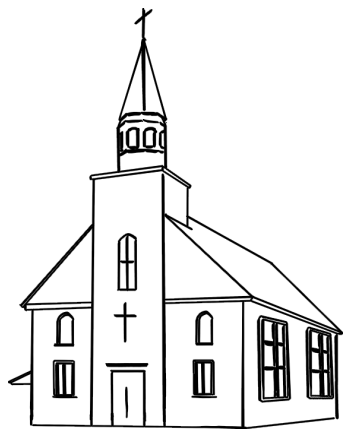


If you are indeed a ‘born-again’ Christian with a new heart, then begin to grow in the Lord. Are you practicing the 7 essential steps that are needed to grow as a Christian?

**Tick the steps that you are sincerely practicing:**

- Step 1: Establish a Quiet Time
- Step 2: Pray
- Step 3: Make Christian Friends

- Step 4: Find a Church
- Step 5: Learn to Give/Serve



- Step 6: Memorise God's Word
- Step 7: Find an Accountability Friend

Even as you sincerely follow these steps, you will observe your love for God beginning to increase. Then you will be able to have much greater victory over sin and temptation.

*Choose to be a Friend of the Cross—not its enemy!*

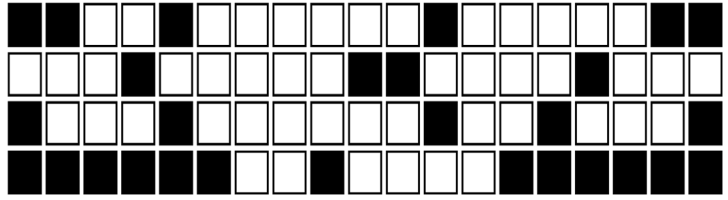


**TAKE HOME ACTIVITY**

**Memory Verse**  
(Created online at [GospelHall.org](http://GospelHall.org))

The following puzzle is a “Dropped Verse.” All of the letters in the white squares have fallen to the ground. Raise them back up into their places to see what the Memory Verse says.

Directions-Put the letters in the empty squares directly above them.



N Y N L O  
 I A R L O E O V S  
 H E F O A T D E R L I S V E F O  
 T T H E W F I N H T H E M E N O T R

**Write down the Memory Verse:**

1 John 2:15: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

(Don't forget to memorise the memory verse!)



**FOLLOW UP**

*(To be filled up before the next class.)*

**How I practiced the Scripture Lesson during the week:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

