

A DIFFERENT KIND OF KING

John 19:16b-22 [12:12-27]

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Key Verse:

And carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

John 19:17

The Point:

Both the crowds and Pilate say more than they know by calling Jesus a king.

Making Connections:

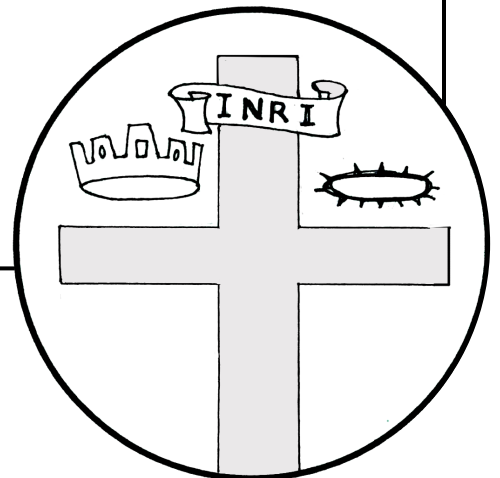
God's Kingdom Revealed

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Difficult Passages

Spiritual Practice:

Worship



BACKGROUND

Making Connections

God's kingdom is revealed in Jesus' sacrificial giving for those around him. This stands in sharp contrast to the squabbling political and religious powers of this world that often attempt to overwhelm or undermine each other with either brute force or wily manipulation. God's kingdom does not overpower evil by playing Rome's game, but rather by giving life through Jesus.

Story Summary:

A Different Kind of King

As this text opens, we find a crowd of people gathered along the road into Jerusalem to welcome Jesus. He is welcomed with shouts of "Hosanna!" which means "save us." They are excited because they have heard about him, his miracles, his sermons, and his compassion.

But not everyone is happy to see Jesus and his followers. The temple priests have long been upset with Jesus for both his miracles and his message. They regard his claim to be the Son of God as blasphemy. To get rid of Jesus, the priests and the local Roman government work together.

The story of Jesus dying on a cross is a love story. It is a story of God's love and Jesus' love for us. Jesus' love for us is so strong that he was willing to make this painful and humiliating sacrifice. Jesus understands us in such an intimate and personal way because he was willing to go to the cross. He understands when we go through pain, humiliation, rejection, betrayal and loss.

The Point

Both the crowds and Pilate say more than they know by calling Jesus a king. What kind of king is this? He rides into town in glory on a borrowed donkey and, in less than a week, is facing crucifixion. This is not the king that the masses had hoped for. Yet even those who oppose and seek to silence him unknowingly point to his kingship.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

Difficult Passages

The Bible includes a number of passages that many believers may find difficult. Some of these passages are simply confusing. Others are not confusing, but seem incongruent with our sense of right or wrong. Passages dealing with slavery, haircuts, marriage, foods, cotton-polyester blend clothing, and even God's love and wrath may be difficult. In the midst of these difficult passages, we remember the clear messages of Scripture: God calls us, loves us, provides blessings, and protects God's people.

Spiritual Practice: Worship

We show our love to God through worship. Our worship expression can utilize many of our senses. This week we experience worship visually through a prayer that focuses on the symbols of Holy Week by working together to create their own worship area.



THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



THE CRUCIFIXION
OF JESUS

FEAR LITANY

Write a responsive prayer for worship.

Leaders: All of us are afraid of something. Kids are afraid of _____
and _____ and _____.

Worshippers: Forgive us for our fear, Jesus.

Leaders: Sometimes when we are afraid, we _____ and
_____ and _____.

Worshippers: Forgive us for our fear, Jesus.

Leaders: Adults are afraid sometimes, too. They are afraid of _____
and _____ and _____.

Worshippers: Forgive us for our fear, Jesus.

Leaders: When adults are afraid, they might _____ and
_____ and _____.

Worshippers: Forgive us for our fear, Jesus.

Leaders: Some people were afraid of you, too, Jesus. They were afraid of all the
things you talked about and the miracles you performed.

Worshippers: Forgive us for our fear, Jesus.

Leaders: They were afraid of things that were different. They were afraid of
things that were new.

Worshippers: Forgive us for our fear, Jesus.

Leaders: The temple priests and Roman officials were afraid of the changes that
could happen because of you. And because of their fear, they crucified
you, Jesus.

Worshippers: Forgive them, Jesus. Forgive us. Amen.

God So Loved the World

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on John 3:16-17

M L I Z D Q X P T H R O U G H
V D J P Q W T W V L R C I D A
C Y U L I F E O K D D E D B V
I T S H B N R W L Z K O H M V
S H Z N D G G J L G B S E N D
J G O D B M A M R Y F N I L O
S Z E N K D L V M R A W O N
R A J M C P K V E F Q H X V O
Y I V L G C S P L H E O J E U
B W E E B O M E Y I V E O D U
P O J S U N R R K M P V R W Z
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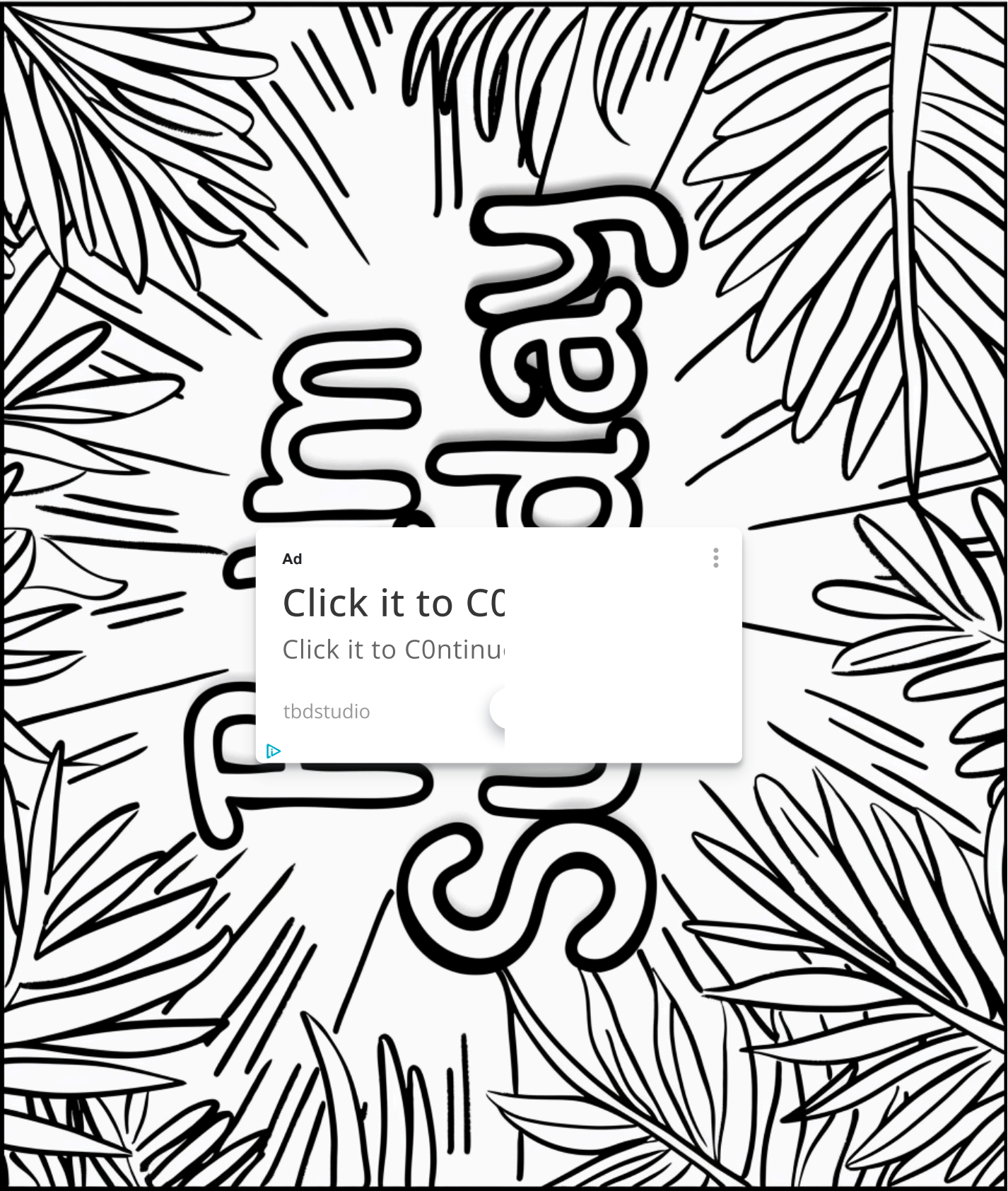
LOVED
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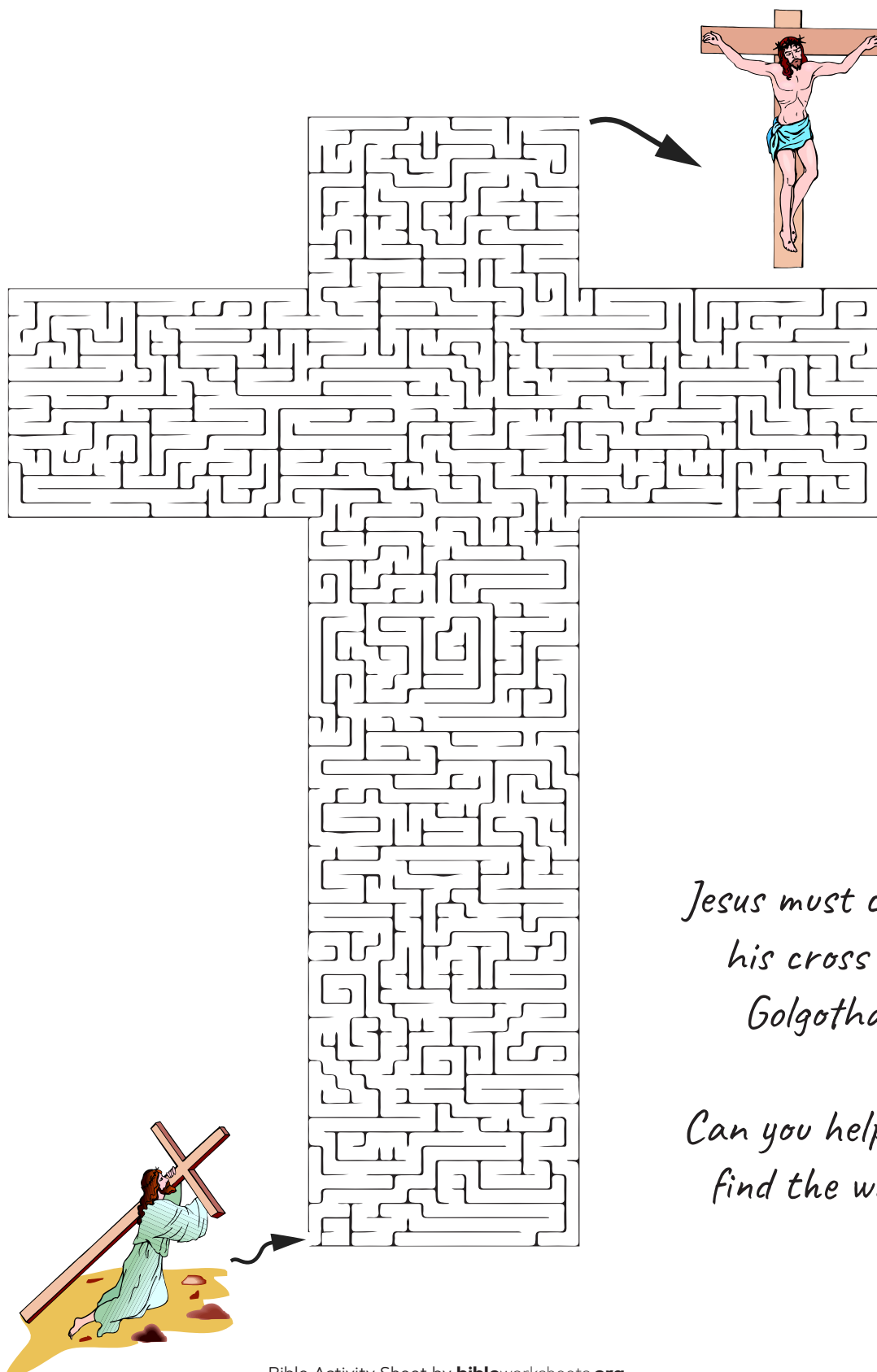
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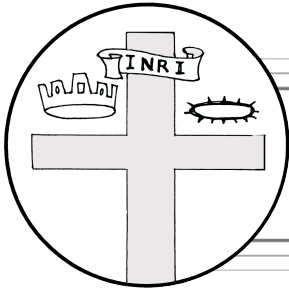
The Crucifixion of Jesus

Mark 15 v 1 - 41



*Jesus must carry
his cross to
Golgotha.*

*Can you help him
find the way?*



THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
3RD-6TH**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 4 (2025-2026)

Lesson #4-29
John 19:16b-22 [12:12-27]

LAST WEEK

God's kingdom was revealed and Jesus was sentenced to death (John 19:1-16a).

THIS WEEK

Jesus enters Jerusalem with praise and shouts of "Hosanna!" Later, Jesus demonstrates that he is a different kind of king as he is crucified (John 19:16b-22 [12:12-27]).

STORY SUMMARY

A Different Kind of King

Jesus is welcomed to Jerusalem by crowds shouting "Hosanna!" But not everyone was happy to see Jesus. The temple priests have been upset with Jesus for both his miracles and his message. They regard his claim to be the Son of God as blasphemy. To get rid of Jesus, the priests and the local Roman government work together. The story of Jesus dying on a cross is a love story. It is a story of God's love and Jesus' love for us. Jesus' love for us is so strong that he was willing to make this painful and humiliating sacrifice.

PRACTICE WORSHIP

We show our love to God through worship. We can use many of our senses when we worship. This Holy Week, create your own family altar by adding one element from the daily Bible readings to a table or central space each day.

NEXT WEEK

The sorrow of the crucifixion turns to a celebration of new life when Jesus is resurrected and gives this good news to Mary Magdalene (John 20:2-18).

THE POINT

Both the crowds and Pilate say more than they know by calling Jesus a king.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

Difficult Passages

The Bible includes a number of passages that many believers may find difficult. Some of these passages are simply confusing. Others are not confusing, but seem incongruent with our sense of right or wrong. Passages dealing with slavery, haircuts, marriage, foods, cotton-polyester blend clothing, and even God's love and wrath may be difficult. In the midst of these difficult passages, we remember the clear messages of Scripture: God calls us, loves us, provides blessings, and protects God's people.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below—or any you have—to discuss this lesson’s Scripture reading with your family.

- † Did you find anything in this reading that was surprising?
- † What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- † What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God’s message to us? How should we respond?

Week 1 (Intended for 3/29/2026 (Palm Sunday) through 4/4/2026 (Holy Saturday)):

Sunday—Read John 19:16b-22 [12:12-27]

Jesus is a different kind of king. Create a family altar in an area you all share by setting aside an area on a flat surface. Each day this week, you will add an object to your family altar. Add a palm branch or green leaf to your family altar.

Monday—Read John 17:10-13

Jesus prayed for protection for the disciples. Add another palm branch or green leaf to your family altar.

Tuesday—Read John 17:14-19

Jesus asked for the disciples to be prepared for going out into the world. Add a crown to your family altar.

Wednesday—Read Psalm 22:1-5

The psalmist cries out to God. Add a cross to your family altar.

Thursday—Read John 19:23-30

The soldiers mocked Jesus while family and friends stood nearby. Add dice to your family altar.

Friday—Read John 19:31-42

Jesus died and was buried. Add a towel or cloth to your family altar.

Saturday—Read Psalm 22:6-11

The psalmist continues their lament and finds hope in God. Add a rock to your family altar.

Note: This lesson’s take-home sheets includes two weeks of daily readings. The lesson for 4/5/2026 (Easter) has been combined with that for 4/12/2026 (Easter 2) as an extended lesson.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below—or any you have—to discuss this lesson’s Scripture reading with your family.

- ✚ Did you find anything in this reading that was surprising?
- ✚ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God’s message to us? How should we respond?

Week 2 (Intended for 4/5/2026 (Easter) through 4/11/2026):

Sunday—Read John 20:1-18

Jesus is risen from the dead. Spread out around your home. Take turns running up to each person and exclaiming “Jesus is alive!”

Monday—Read Psalm 22:19-22

The psalmist appeals to God for protection and promises to spread the news of God’s rule. Figure out a way to tell a family member or friend who does not live with you that Jesus is alive.

Tuesday—Read Psalm 22:23-26

The psalmist tells their readers to praise the Lord because the Lord is loyal to those who suffer. Hide your face as this passage is read. God does not hide God’s face from us. End with “Thank you, God!”

Wednesday—Read Psalm 22:27-31

The entire earth will praise the one, true God, telling about God’s goodness for generations to come. Find a globe or world map. Pray for as many countries of the world that you can.

Thursday—Read Isaiah 44:6-8

God told Isaiah of God’s place as the only God, the savior of Israel. Find a rock to place in the middle of your family worship area to remind you that God is our rock.

Friday—Read Isaiah 53:1-6

The Messiah will take the punishment meant for others. Find a young plant or something beginning to bloom outside. What would happen to it if it were cut down?

Saturday—Read Isaiah 53:7-12

Through the Messiah’s suffering, the world will be made righteous. Who do you think Isaiah is talking about? How do you think the prophet Isaiah knew to write about Jesus so many years before Jesus was born?

Note: This lesson’s take-home sheets includes two weeks of daily readings. The lesson for 4/5/2026 (Easter) has been combined with that for 4/12/2026 (Easter 2) as an extended lesson.