

At Home Weekly is designed for you to use during the week with your son or daughter. You'll find out what they learned today at church and can help them prepare for next week by exploring the theme (or Ponder Point) and spending time together in God's Word.

GOOD FRIDAY CELEBRATION

PONDER POINT: JESUS LOVES YOU AND ME

John 18—19; Luke 22:39—23:56

DID YOU KNOW?

Share these facts to get the conversation started.

- During Jesus' time, crucifixion was the most humiliating and painful form of execution.
- The person was stripped, beaten, forced to carry their cross, and then nails were hammered through their hands and feet.
- Officials would write the accused's crimes on a tablet and post the sign above his head on the cross for all to see.
- When Jesus prayed in the garden before His trial and crucifixion, He knew the horrible events that awaited Him.
- Jesus asked His Father if there could be some other way God could save people from their sins, but the cross was part of God's plan. So Jesus obediently died for our sins, by one of the most horrific means imaginable, so we could be in relationship with Him.

CONNECT AS A FAMILY

Read together John 18—19. (Depending on the age of your kids, you may want to begin at John 19:16.) Explain to your kids that the cross represents the sacrifice Jesus made for us. He chose to lay down His life so we might have life. Jesus didn't have to endure this, but He did it because He loves us so much.

Put the crosses in a prominent place in your home until Easter morning, and then throw them away. Tell your children that when Jesus rose from the dead, He forgave and forgot our sins! Pray and thank God for sending Jesus to be the sacrifice for our sins.

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- Why do you think they call this day Good Friday?
- What can the cross remind us about Jesus?
- How can we thank Jesus today?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how Jesus loves us into your everyday life as a family.

BLESSING

Blessings are often used in the Bible. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

A blessing to pray over your child:

(Child's name), **may you know even greater understanding of God's love this week. May you love others as He loves you.**

For more information about blessing your child, talk to your ministry leader or see *Spiritual Parenting* by Michelle Anthony.