

## UNIT: JESUS REIGNS

### EPISODE 03: Jesus Saves Us

#### SUM IT UP

Jesus' horrific death on the cross was an act of love—an act through which Jesus saves us.

**BIBLE BASIS:** Matthew 26:25-68; 27:15-56; Mark 15:21-39; Luke 22:66–23:5, 23:18-49; John 18:28–19:37

God's people had waited hundreds of years for a Savior who would rescue them—and the rest of the world. Jesus is that Savior. He died on a cross to rescue us from our sins. When we learn about the painful death of Jesus, we learn a profound truth: Jesus saves us!

#### TALK ABOUT THIS

In this account from the Bible, what did you discover about Jesus' love for you? About your response to Jesus?

**Note:** Jesus' crucifixion can be hard to talk about, especially when we realize that *our* sins put Jesus on the cross. But we can know that Jesus chose to die for us, and we get to choose how we want to respond to Him. If you have questions that you can't answer, don't panic! Instead, explore God's Word with others to see what He wants to show you.

#### REMEMBER IT

"And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world."

—1 John 4:14

## GOD IN ACTION DEVOTIONS

This week discover more about how Jesus saves us. For each devotion, read the Bible passage and then consider what God wants you to learn from these verses.

#### DAY 1

Read 1 John 4:14. John, who wrote this letter, was one of Jesus' disciples and had a front-row seat throughout Jesus' ministry. John had seen Jesus on the cross and later saw the resurrected Jesus, so John could testify to—or boldly tell—others that Jesus is the Savior. Think about what you've seen and heard when it comes to Jesus. What can *you* say about Jesus?



#### DAY 2

Read Mark 15:1-26. Pilate didn't want to have Jesus killed. But even more, Pilate didn't want the Jewish leaders mad at him. If they complained to Rome, Pilate might lose his job and authority. So Pilate gave in to the crowd and turned Jesus over to be crucified. Pilate had a board nailed to the cross above Jesus' head that accused Him of being the King of the Jews. Anyone passing by could see what Jesus had been accused of—except Jesus really *was* the King of the Jews. And He is the King of *all* creation. Even as He was mocked, Jesus died for the sins of those who mocked Him. Thank Jesus for taking on your sins.

#### DAY 3



Read John 19:28-30. If you were asked to pay the price for someone else's wrongdoing, you could rightly complain, "Hey—not fair!" But that wasn't Jesus' response. He took the punishment that we deserved as sinners—separation from God. He paid the price himself for our wrongs. He hung on the cross and took on the sins of the world. Thank Jesus today—some of the sins He carried were yours.

#### DAY 4



Read John 19:31-37. The Passover celebration was no time to have Jesus and 2 thieves hanging on crosses, so the Jewish leaders asked Pilate to break the men's legs and hasten their deaths. Although Jesus was already dead, a spear was shoved into His side—just in case. But His leg bones were not broken. All this happened, as John mentions, to fulfill prophecy. This was important because fulfilling prophecy was a way God identified Jesus as the Savior. What evidence have you seen that Jesus is the Savior?

#### DAY 5

Read Isaiah 53:1-9. Hundreds of years before Jesus came to earth, the prophet Isaiah described a suffering servant who would be "pierced" for our sins, and by whose wounds we'd be healed. When Jesus died on the cross, soldiers made sure Jesus was dead by piercing His side with a spear. Isaiah's prophecy came true! Jesus suffered, He was a servant, His side was pierced, and through Jesus we can be saved. Praise God for that truth today!