

Lazarus, Come Forth!

Jesus stood outside the big, dark cave. In front of it was a large stone. He looked at the people standing around Him. Many were crying. Their good friend Lazarus had died and was now buried in that cave. Jesus looked at Lazarus' two sisters, Mary and Martha. He had visited them and Lazarus many times in their home in Bethany. They were always so glad to have Jesus come and eat dinner with them when He traveled to their city. Most of all, they loved to listen to Him talk about His heavenly Father and about the things God had planned for them.

Jesus saw how sad Mary and Martha were now. He knew how unhappy they felt because their brother had died. They were His friends. Jesus loved them, and He loved Lazarus too. How sad He felt. Tears ran down Jesus' face.

Did you know that's the way Jesus is? He always knows exactly how we feel. When we are sad, He feels sad right along with us. Jesus wants to take away our sadness. He wants to take care of us and help us feel happy.

As Jesus stood by the cave, He decided it was time to show the people just what God could do. He gave a

command to the people standing with Him, "Take away the stone!" At first the people did not think that should be done. "He has been dead four days," they told Him. But Jesus said that if they would believe, they would see the glory of God.

Slowly the stone was taken away from the cave. Then Jesus prayed and said, "Father, thank You for hearing My prayer." Jesus knew that God always heard His prayers, but He wanted the people to know that He really was the Son of God.

After Jesus prayed, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" And that's exactly what happened!

Lazarus was still wrapped in grave

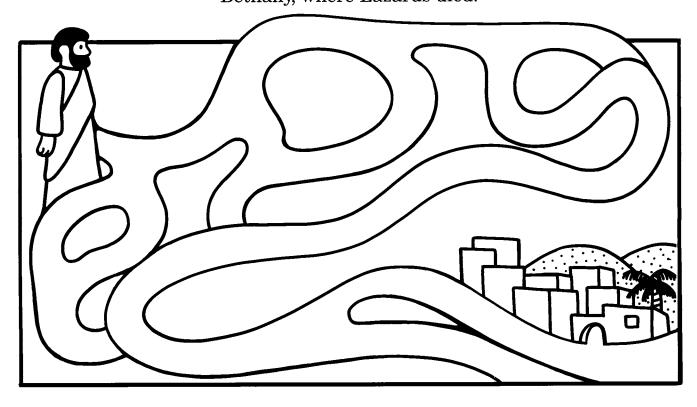
clothes as he came into sight. Jesus told the people to unwrap him and let him go. How glad they were to see him. Lazarus, who had been dead, was now alive! Mary and Martha and all Lazarus' friends were so excited!

The people who saw this miracle told others about it. Soon, many people began to believe that Jesus really was the Son of God. He had made the dead to live again!

That was a wonderful miracle! But even more wonderful is the miracle that Jesus does when He saves us. Life here on earth is important, but it's more important to be ready for Heaven. There we will have eternal life with Jesus.

Going to Bethany

Follow through the maze to help Jesus find His way to Bethany, where Lazarus died.



Parent's Corner

This lesson tells about one of Jesus' final miracles—the raising of His friend Lazarus from the dead.

For the primary child, the focus of our teaching will be on life. Try to help your child visualize the scene portrayed in the lesson by talking about how thrilled Lazarus' sisters must have been to have their beloved brother restored to them.

This week challenge your child to make an alphabet book illustrating the life that Jesus gives. Have him cut out or trace a picture of a living thing beginning with each letter of the alphabet. If he cannot find a picture, let him write on the page a word beginning with that letter and illustrate it by drawing a picture. Let your child mount the pictures and assemble them into a book. Title the book "Alphabet Alive."

Time Together for Family Devotions

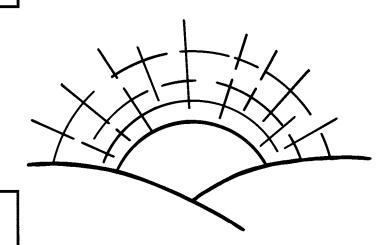
Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: John 11:25 MONDAY: John 5:28,29 TUESDAY: Acts 24:15 WEDNESDAY: John 6:40

THURSDAY: II Corinthians 4:14 FRIDAY: I Thessalonians 4:14 SATURDAY: Daniel 12:2

Bible Text

John 11:1-8,14,17,38-48,53

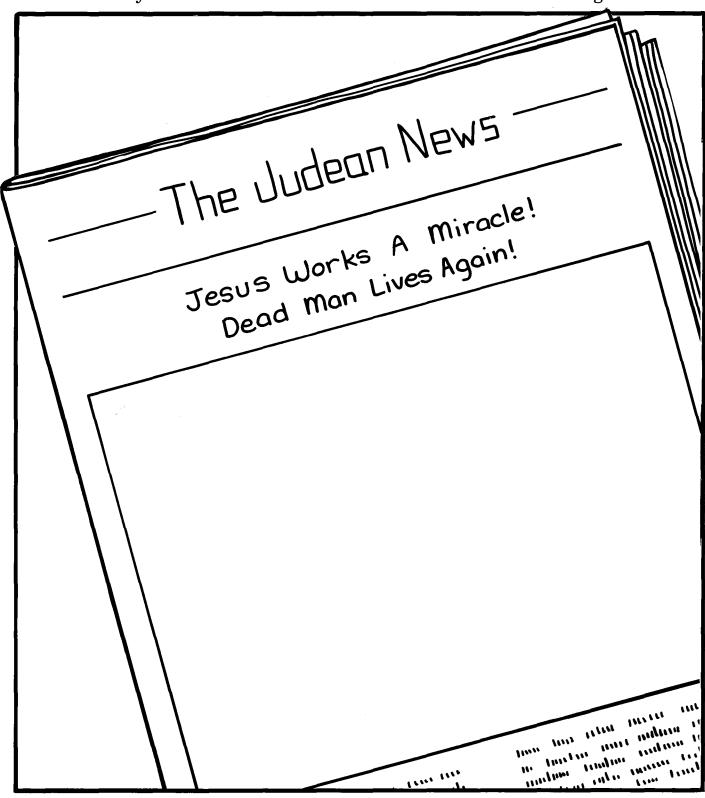


Memory Verse

Jesus said . . . I am the resurrection, and the life. — John 11:25

Extra! Extra!

The front-page picture is missing from the newspaper below. Draw a picture of what you think Lazarus looked like when he came to life again.



Name:



Hosanna to Our King!

Jesus did many wonderful things when He was here on this earth. His disciples were almost always with Him. Just imagine how they must have felt as they watched Him heal the sick and raise the dead. Jesus didn't always tell His disciples what He was going to do. Sometimes He had surprises for them.

One bright, sunny morning, Jesus called two of His disciples. He wanted them to go to a nearby city and bring back a donkey. He added that if anyone asked why they were taking the donkey, they should tell him, "The Lord needs it."

How curious those two disciples must have been as they walked to the city. How did Jesus know exactly where the donkey would be? They probably wondered what He was going to do with that donkey. Would the owner really let them take it when they told him Jesus wanted it?

When the disciples came to the city they went to the place where Jesus had told them to go. They found the donkey exactly where Jesus had said it would be. Quickly they untied it. As they did so, some people standing nearby asked them what they were doing. The disciples told them that Jesus needed it. So the people let the disciples take the donkey.

The disciples brought the donkey to Jesus. They laid some of their own clothes on the donkey's back to make a soft cushion for Jesus to sit on.

As Jesus rode the donkey into the city of Jerusalem, the people came from all around. They knew Jesus was the One who had done many wonderful miracles. They shouted and sang, "Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Many of them spread out their clothes on the dusty ground for Jesus to ride over. The people cut down palm branches from nearby trees and laid

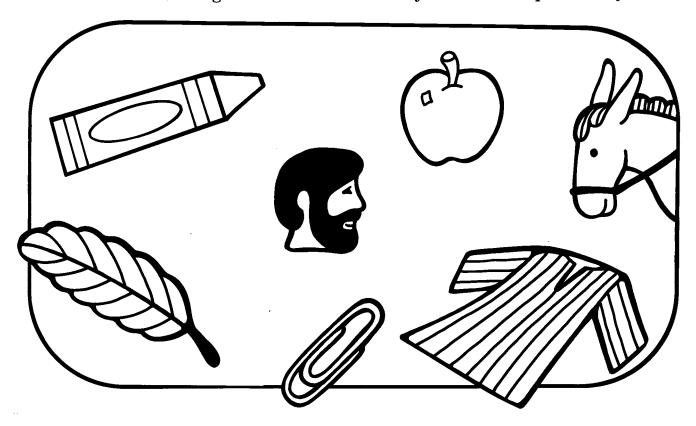
them on the road also. They waved some of the palm branches in the air as they continued to sing praises to Jesus.

Jesus rode the donkey through the streets of the city of Jerusalem. It was a good day. Everyone was happy and full of joy. There was much singing and praising the Lord. The people loved Jesus more than ever. They wanted Jesus to be their King!

We will never see Jesus riding into our city on a donkey. But still we can praise and honor Him. Being a Christian is exciting! Jesus does so many wonderful things for us. He makes us feel so good inside that we want to shout and sing praises to Him!

Circle the Pictures

Circle the things that were in the story of the triumphal entry.



Parent's Corner

The reason we will not be studying Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the traditional Palm Sunday, is that we want to give an in-depth coverage to the events immediately preceding Easter. The lessons would be out of sequence if we waited to study this text on the Sunday before Easter.

When we think of praising the Lord, as the people did when He rode into Jerusalem, we often think of music. Make some musical instruments with your child this week. A drum can be made by covering a cardboard oatmeal box with colored paper. Dip a coffee filter in water and stretch the damp cover over the open end of the box. Fasten with a rubber band, and allow to dry before playing.

Maracas can be made by removing the caps and plugs from two plastic lemons, dropping in some rice or small beans, and pushing in pencils for handles. A paper towel tube makes a good fife. Punch five small holes in a row along the cylinder, and cover one end with waxed paper. Have your child hum into the open end.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Mark 11:9 MONDAY: Zechariah 9:9 TUESDAY: Hebrews 13:15 WEDNESDAY: Psalm 100:4 THURSDAY: Psalm 50:23 FRIDAY: Psalm 35:28 SATURDAY: Psalm 33:2

Bible Text

Mark 11:1-11



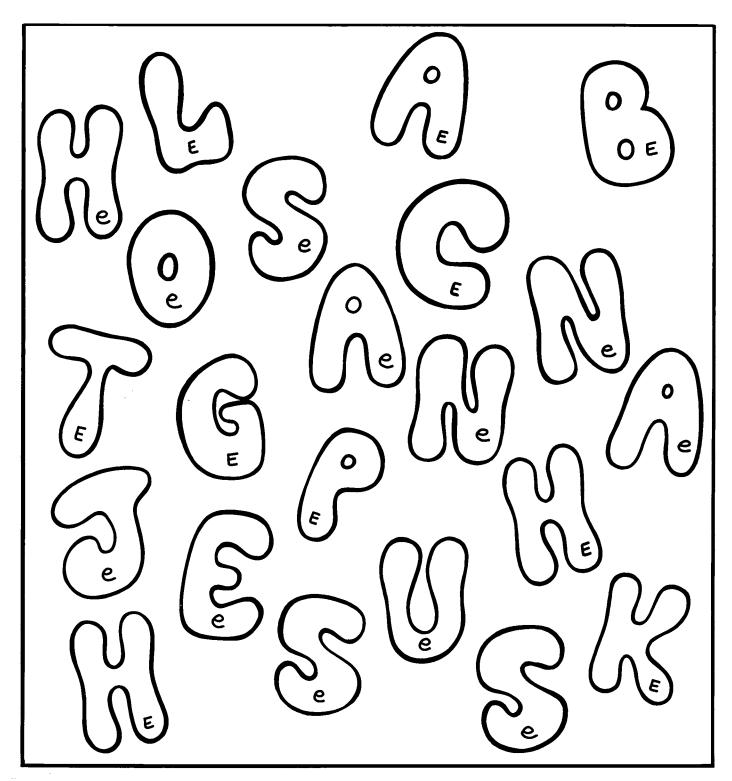
Memory Verse

Hosanna; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

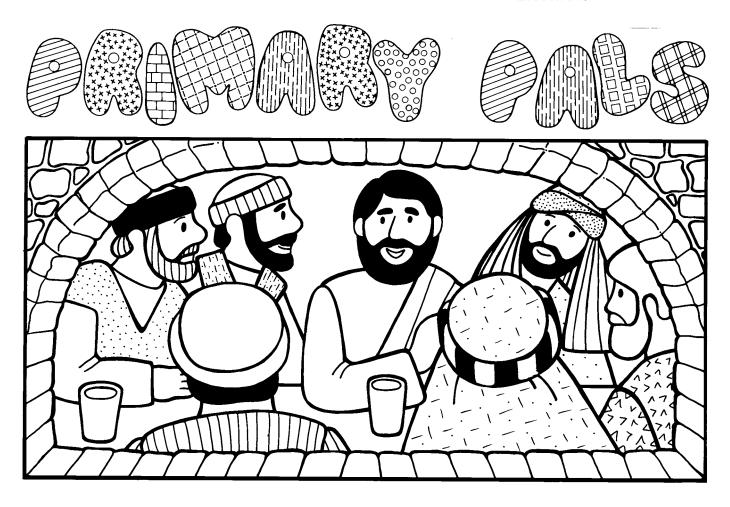
— Mark 11:9

Special Praise

Color blue in the spaces that have lower case (small) e's inside. You will see a special name and special word. They were both used in this lesson.



Name:



An Example to Follow

Jesus knew that His work on earth was almost done, and that soon He was going to die. He had spent many days teaching His disciples to love God and obey His Word. He wanted them always to remember why He had come to this world. So during the Passover feast He planned to do something special to help them never to forget.

On the evening when everyone was celebrating the Passover, Jesus and His disciples were alone in an upstairs room. The Passover foods had been prepared. While they were eating, Jesus took bread and prayed over it, blessing it. Then He did something

very special. He handed a piece of bread to each of the disciples, telling them not to forget how His body would be given to die for their sins. Next He gave them the cup to drink from, and He told them always to remember that His Blood was shed for them. He told them to repeat this action often.

No doubt, as the disciples ate and drank with Jesus, they felt how much He loved them. They may not have understood completely that very soon He was going to die on the cross. But Jesus had to die so that all people could be forgiven of their sins. After a while the disciples would understand.

When they were all done with the meal, Jesus got up from the table. He took a towel and wrapped it around His waist. Then He took water, poured it into a small basin, and began to wash His disciples' feet.

At first Jesus' disciples were puzzled. Why was He doing this? Peter even told Jesus that he did not want Jesus to wash his feet. Jesus helped him to understand how important it was, then Peter wanted Jesus to wash his feet.

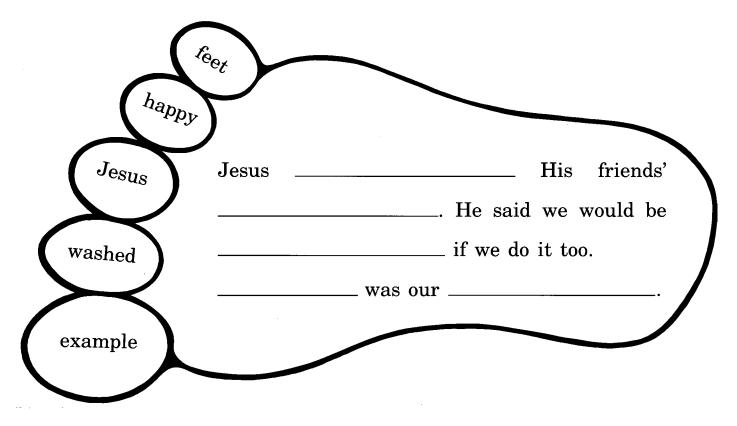
Jesus knew it was important for the disciples to remember this night always, so He gave them some instructions. He told them to follow His example and wash each other's

feet also. Jesus blessed His disciples for obeying Him.

Jesus blesses us when we read and follow what the Bible tells us to do. We still follow Jesus' example. Every so often, people who love Jesus get together and take the Lord's Supper. This means thev eat remembering that it represents Jesus' body which He gave for our sins. Then they drink grape juice and remember how Jesus also shed His Blood for them. After that, God's people wash each other's feet. We do these things because Jesus told us to. And because He has promised we will be happy if we do them. We don't ever want to forget how much Jesus loves us.

Foot Washing

Use the words on the toes to fill in the blank lines.



Parent's Corner

This lesson relates what happened during and following the Lord's Supper—Jesus' last meal with His disciples. At that time, Christ set an example for His followers, encouraging them to repeat the actions He had demonstrated, in remembrance of Him. On the primary level, our focus will be that Jesus promised we would be happy if we did these things.

Help your child make his own "Be Happy" stickers to reinforce the point of this lesson. On white paper, let him draw and color simple shapes that can be cut out. (Smiley faces are easy and fun to draw. Other ideas might be hearts or speech balloons with short messages.) Have them paint the back of each drawing with a solution made from equal amounts of Elmer's or Lepage's mucilage and water mixed together in a small container. Let the glue dry and then cut out each shape.

When your child is ready to use the stickers, he will only have to dampen the backs slightly to make them stick.

Time Together for Family Devotions

Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: John 13:17 MONDAY: Luke 22:15 TUESDAY: Mark 14:18 WEDNESDAY: Luke 22:19 THURSDAY: Luke 22:20 FRIDAY: I Corinthians 11:26 SATURDAY: I Corinthians 10:16



Bible Text

Mark 14:22-26 John 13:2-5,12-17

Memory Verse

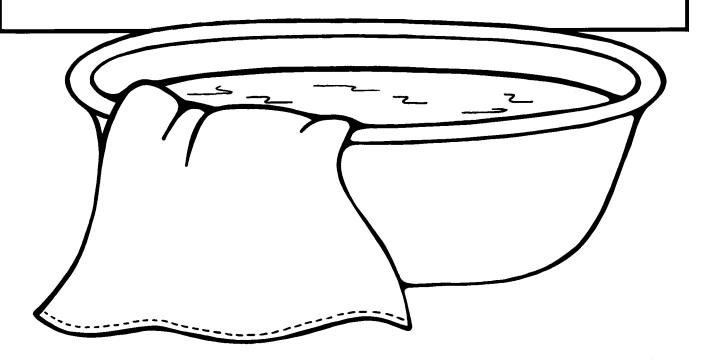
If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them. — John 13:17

Be Happy

Read the story below and draw a circle around the correct word to complete each sentence.

Peter and John were sent to find a room they could use for their last snack supper with Jesus. Jesus ate His last supper with His friends uncles. After the supper, Jesus washed His disciples' hands feet. Jesus told His helpers, "I have washed your feet so you should wash each other's your own feet. I have given you an problem example. If you do what I say, you will be sad happy."

People who love forget Jesus still obey Him when they celebrate the Lord's Supper and Foot Washing.



Name: ______



The Day Jesus Died

What a terrible time it was! After we ate the Passover supper together, we walked with Jesus to the Mount of Olives. When we arrived at the place called Gethsemane, Jesus said, "Sit here while I go and pray." He took three of us with Him. When He finished praying, He told us that the person who was going to betray Him was coming.

Right after He said that, a big group of people came to where we were. Some were carrying swords and other weapons. They were looking for Jesus. And who was leading them but Judas, one of Jesus' own disciples! We started to get scared, but Jesus wasn't afraid. Judas had told the people with him that the person he would kiss was the man they wanted. He walked right up to Jesus, called him Master, and then kissed Him. How sad it was for Jesus to have a friend betray Him. But He already knew Judas would do that.

The people led Jesus away to see the chief priest and the elders of Jerusalem. These men wanted to kill Jesus. But they had a hard time finding a reason to do so because He had done only good. Finally they decided Jesus should die because He said He was the Son of God. They sent Him to the Roman governor, Pilate.

Pilate wanted to let Jesus go. He knew the chief priests and the elders were jealous of Jesus' power. Suddenly he had an idea. Every year the people chose a prisoner to go free. He asked the people who they wanted freed this time, Jesus or Barabbas, a wicked man who had robbed and killed people.

The crowd began to shout, "We want Barabbas!"

Pilate was surprised. He asked the people, "What shall I do with Jesus?"

"Kill Him! Crucify Him!" the crowd yelled louder and louder. Pilate finally gave in.

Jesus was to be crucified. Roman soldiers took Jesus to a nearby room where they made a crown of thorns and placed it on Jesus' head. They laughed and made fun of Him as they beat Him and spit on Him.

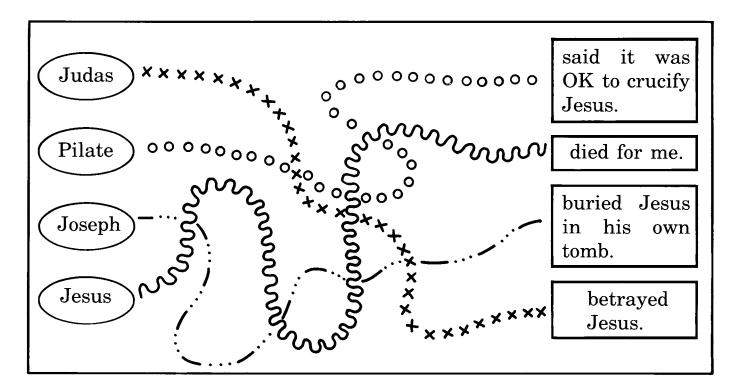
Jesus never once fought back. He loved these people.

They led Jesus out of the city to a hill called Calvary. There they nailed His hands and feet to a big cross. Jesus suffered greatly on that cross. He looked up to Heaven and cried out to God His Father, "It is finished." Then He bowed His head and died.

At first I didn't understand why this had happened. But now I know that Jesus suffered and died to take the punishment for the sins of everyone. Now, whoever will tell Jesus that they are sorry for their sins can be forgiven.

Follow the Path

Start at a name and follow the path to find out what each person did.



Parent's Corner

This lesson is about the crucifixion of Jesus. As your family begins to think about Easter, let your child help you make popcorn crosses to give to friends or family members as special Easter gifts.

In a saucepan bring 1/2 cup butter, 2 cups brown sugar, and 1 cup light corn syrup to a boil. Stir in 1 (15 ounce) can of condensed milk. Simmer on low heat, stirring constantly, until the mixture comes to a softball stage (235 degrees). Remove from heat and stir in 1 teaspoon of vanilla. Pour over 10 quarts of popped corn, and stir to coat.

When the popcorn is cool enough to handle, have your child butter his hands and form it into crosses. Write Easter messages or Bible verses on small slips of paper. Wrap the popcorn crosses with plastic wrap and enclose a note or verse in each one.

Time Together for Family Devotions

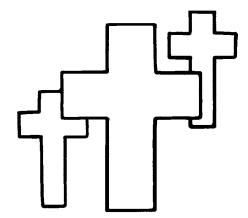
Verses to help your child understand this Bible lesson.

SUNDAY: Hebrews 9:28 MONDAY: Isaiah 53:5 TUESDAY: John 15:13 WEDNESDAY: I Peter 2:24 THURSDAY: I Peter 3:18 FRIDAY: Philippians 2:8

SATURDAY: II Corinthians 5:15

Bible Text

Mark 14:43-49,53; 15:15-28,37,42-47

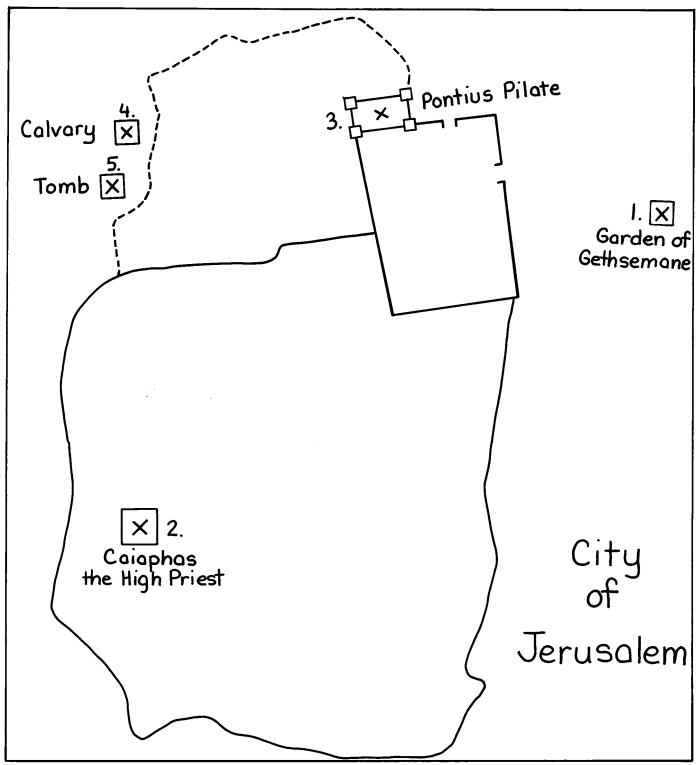


Memory Verse

Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many. — Hebrews 9:28

When Jesus Went to Calvary

Use a pencil or crayon to trace a path between the places where things happened in this lesson. They are numbered in the correct order. Stop at each number and tell at least one thing which happened at that place.



Name: