



Family Craft & Activity Pack

Aimed at families with Children
but fun for all ages!

LENT 5 - YEAR B - Passiontide
John 12: 20-33

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Some Greeks Wish to See Jesus

²⁰ Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²² Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³ Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

Jesus Speaks about His Death

²⁷ "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say - 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰ Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

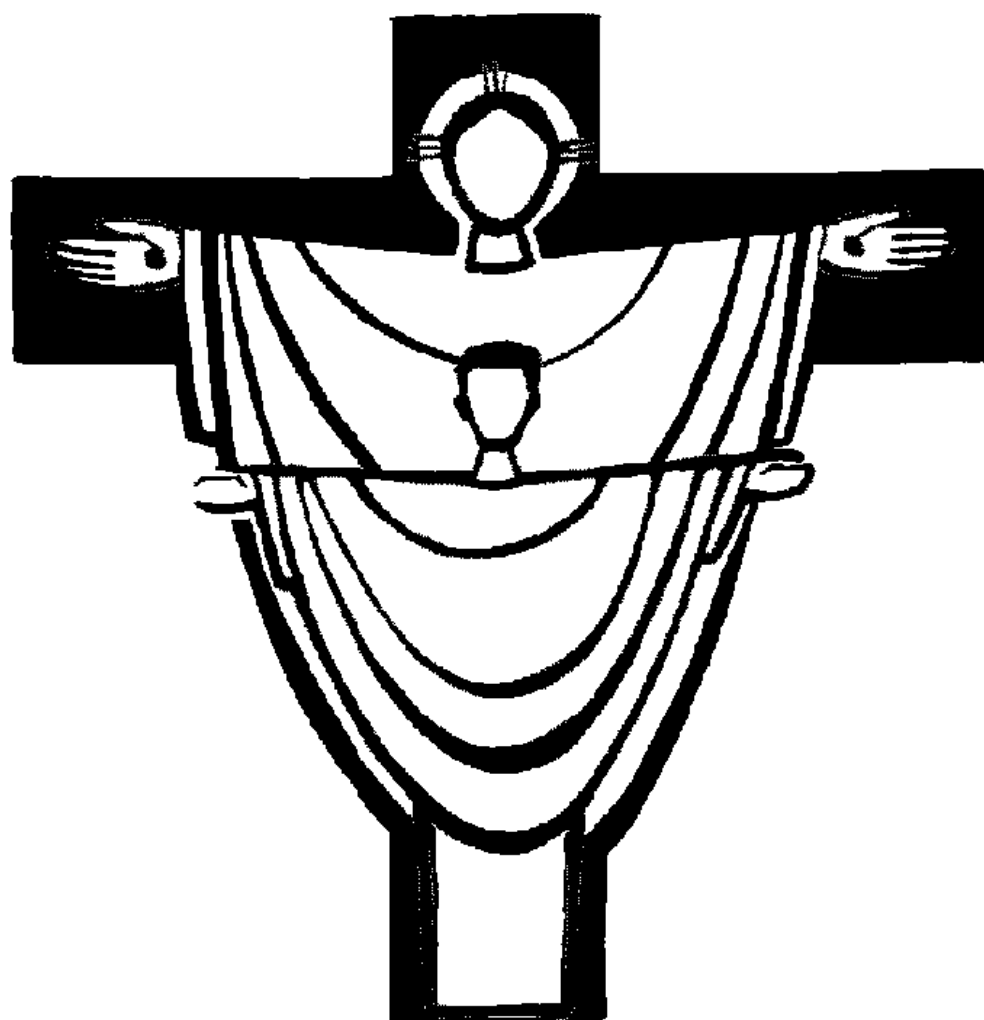
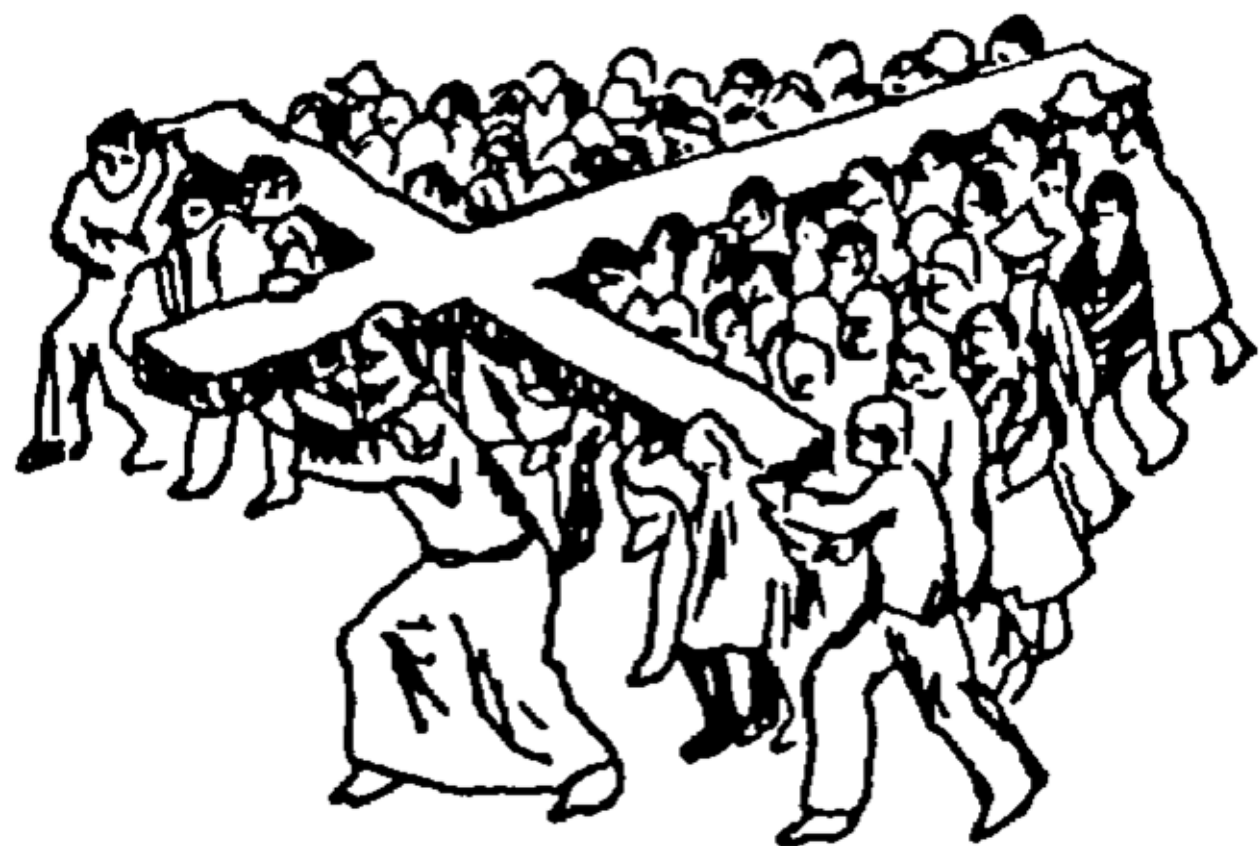
Let us pray

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

(or)

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**









Child's Name:





BIBLE NOTES

DEALING WITH THE BIG STUFF



SET THE SCENE

The Gospel John 12.20-33

Jesus has arrived in Jerusalem. His ministry to the villages of Galilee is over, and his last earthly journey is beginning.

John introduces the teaching of Jesus through some Greeks requesting to meet Jesus. They don't actually seem to meet him, but they represent Gentiles everywhere. The Good News is not only for the Jews.

Jesus' thoughts focus on his death. Pain and suffering have to be faced and there is fear in his soul. Yet this is why he has come, and when he is 'lifted up' on the cross, God will be glorified, Satan and evil will be overruled and he will draw all people to himself.

The Old Testament Jeremiah 31.31-34

This prophecy is set in the context of the hope that Israel will be delivered from exile and restored to her own land. There is a journey to be made, leading the people to repentance and faithfulness. Forgiveness and a renewing of the

covenant relationship – jeopardised because of disobedience – are ahead for them.

Jeremiah was thinking of his own nation in relation to this promise. The young church will see its fulfilment in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

The Epistle Hebrews 5.5-10

The writer of Hebrews sees Jesus as the one who intercedes for us with God. He is compared to the priests in Judaism who offered sacrifices for the sins of the people. It was not a role Christ took upon himself, but he was appointed by God who called him, 'my Son'.

Christ is well qualified for this role. He understands human weakness, temptation, suffering and fear. He knows what is involved in being obedient to God's will. Thus he becomes the source of salvation for all who obey him.

(A full version of these notes can be found on the web site at www.rootsontheweb.com)

Display all, or some, of the items below.

- Seeds of plants of different kinds. You will need ones of different colours for some of the craft activities, so include different coloured grains and dried peas and beans.
- If possible, include some packets of vegetable seeds – to contrast what is inside with the picture of the grown product on the outside.
- Just before the session, cut open a few pieces of fruit to display the seeds or pips inside.
- Pictures of plants and trees ready to be harvested – fruit trees, fruit bushes, fields of wheat and so on.
- A pot of earth or compost.



GET STARTED

1 Let's grow

Let the group imagine they are seeds. They need to find a space. When everyone is quiet ask them to drop suddenly to the ground. The seeds have dropped off the plant. There, they curl up tight and keep very still. What has happened? Are the seeds dead when they stay in the ground all winter? Now the spring has come and the sun is shining. Gradually the seeds begin to grow towards the sun, up and up. When they are full grown, they sway in the breeze, and eventually produce more grain. No new plant would have come if the seed hadn't fallen.

2 Different seeds

Pass round the packets of vegetable seeds from the display. Cut open an apple and look at the seeds. Look at potatoes. Talk about all the different kinds of fruit and the way they all have seeds. What do you have to do to make the seeds grow? All of them have to go into the dark earth. For a long time they do nothing, until the spring comes. In today's story, Jesus talks about a seed going in the earth.

3 What's important?

Ask the children to think of one object that is important to them. If they had to give up everything and just keep one belonging, what would it be and why?

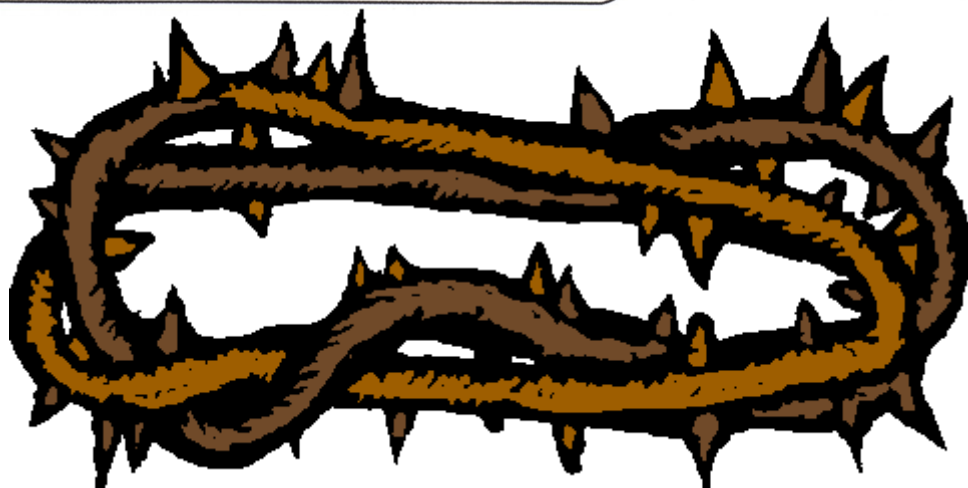
To encourage people to think about this, the leaders can each bring something of their own to show the group and explain why it is important to them.

4 I don't want to

Ask the children about the things they hate doing. Having a bath? Going to bed? Washing up? Tidying their rooms? Doing their homework? Write up a big list. Then say that today's story is about Jesus saying, 'I don't want to ... but I will.'

5 Follow my leader

Have a quick and energetic game of 'follow my leader', making sure you do some fun things and some things that are harder – maybe like crawling under tables. Return to this game in *Be creative 1*.

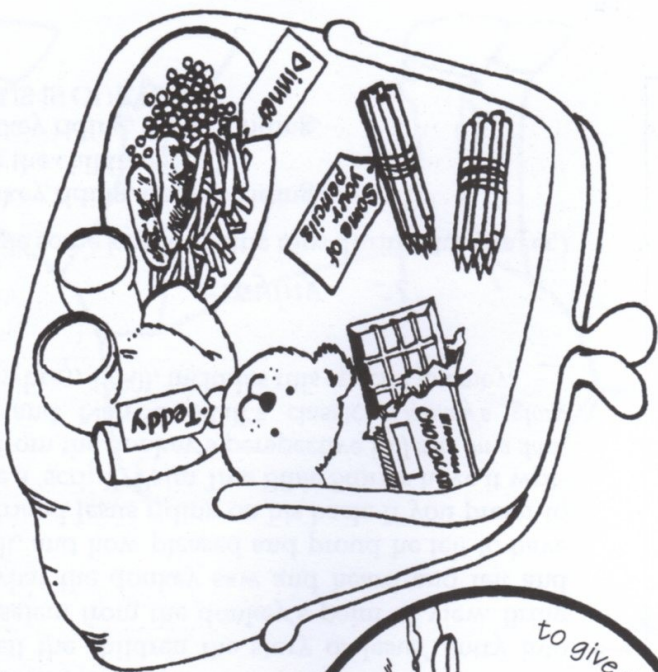


For parents to pray with your child

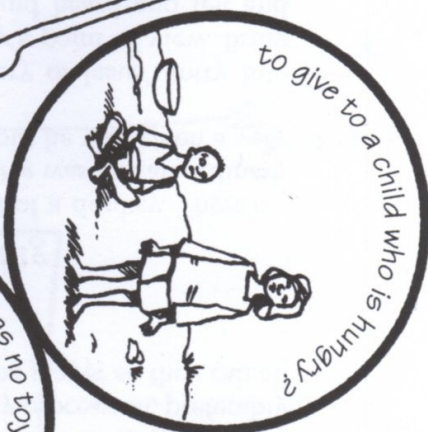
(To the tune of Frère Jacques)

YOU	YOUR CHILD
I am dancing, (dance)	I am dancing,
'Thank you, God!' (clap)	'Thank you, God!'
I am singing, (sway)	I am singing,
'Thank you, God!' (clap)	'Thank you, God!'

GIVING CAN BE HARD FOR US

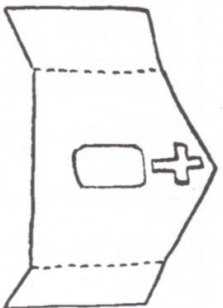


Would you part with these ... for these ...



Stick on shiny bits of paper to decorate the hat. Stick string to each side (A and B) and tie on child's head.

Thank you, Jesus!



Colour in
the dots as
you read
the Bible
each day

This SUNDAY

John 12:23

MONDAY

John 12:24

TUESDAY

John 12:25-26

WEDNESDAY

Mark 8:31

THURSDAY

Psalm 145:13

FRIDAY

Psalm 130:7-8

SATURDAY

Psalm 124:8

Gift

My Lord, what love is this
that pays so dearly,
that I, the guilty one,
may go free!
Amazing love, O what
sacrifice,
the Son of God given
for me.
My debt he pays
and my death he dies,
that I might live.

(Taken from the song *Amazing love*
by Graham Kendrick
© 1989 Make Way Music)

OF HIS LOVING

PALM SUNDAY

Mark 11:8-9

MONDAY

Mark 14:32-36

TUESDAY

Mark 14:37-38

WEDNESDAY

Mark 14:39-42

THURSDAY

Mark 14:43-46

GOOD FRIDAY

Mark 15:33-39

SATURDAY

John 19:41-42

Colour this part
today and stick on
thin card

E	C	N	E	T	N	E	S	V	F
L	A	V	I	T	S	E	F	E	T
G	E	D	S	D	E	A	T	H	R
N	L	G	I	C	V	S	L	I	O
I	I	E	N	A	T	O	O	L	U
S	S	I	G	A	S	H	I	U	B
H	R	P	E	E	K	H	U	C	L
P	I	H	S	R	O	W	T	N	E
I	W	O	L	L	O	F	A	E	D
R	E	D	N	U	H	T	S	E	B

WORSHIP FESTIVAL WHEAT
 BETHSAIDA SINGLE SOUL
 VOICE THUNDER ANGEL
 SENTENCE PRINCE DEATH



John 12:20-33

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

promise

worship

grain

teach

alive

care

dies

disciples

follow

fruit

glorify

ground

help

honor

Jesus

love

plant

seed

serve