

Grade 6—Unit 11

The Easter Story

The story of the passion and resurrection of Jesus lies at the heart of the gospel message. Easter is important because Jesus Christ came to live and dwell among us. God gave us Jesus, God’s son, as a sacrifice for our sins. Although Christ lived, died, and rose from the dead long ago, the story continues to transform our lives today. Through Christ, we have love and hope. Because of God’s precious gift, we can have eternal life.

In this unit, the characters and events surrounding Jesus’ death and resurrection come alive in a new way. Try to plan your year so that you will use this unit during Lent and Easter.

LESSONS

1. We Were There, Part 1
2. We Were There, Part 2
3. Celebrating Christ’s Resurrection

Unit 11: The Easter Story

Unit Information

SUMMARY

For the early church, the single most important event was the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Though the story of Jesus' death and resurrection took place almost 2,000 years ago, it can be real to us today.

KEY BIBLE TEXTS

Matthew 26–28

Mark 14–16

Luke 22–24

John 13, 18–20

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

From Crucifixion to Resurrection

The gospels each tell the passion-resurrection story in a slightly different way. Blending the gospels into one story is generally not the best way to study. In this unit, however, we will bring together the four gospel accounts as we study the characters present at the first Easter.

Most of the characters (*John, Peter, Mary Magdalene, and Simon of Cyrene*) were outsiders in Jerusalem, brought there by Passover. That year, as in many other years at Passover, Jerusalem was a volatile place. Feelings against Roman rule raged, and hopes for deliverance by the Messiah heightened. In this particular year, some people were hopeful that a certain Jesus of Nazareth would emerge as the leader who would restore the nation of Israel and bring to pass all that the prophets had foretold.

They hoped the kingdom of God would be established. From their perspectives, the new reign of God's kingdom would make other nations subservient to Israel. Jerusalem would be the center of the world. Big things did happen that year, though hardly in the way most people expected.

No one, except Jesus himself, expected death. Jesus' death left his followers totally devastated. The resurrection came as a total surprise. In the Gospel of Mark, the feeling is less of surprise than of shock and dismay. As the disciples experienced the resurrected Jesus, they came to understand this as the most important event in all of history.

On Sunday after the crucifixion, two of Jesus' disciples were on their way from Jerusalem to a village called Emmaus (*approximately seven miles from Jerusalem*). Another traveler joined them and listened as the disciples expressed their disappointment over the death of Jesus. They also told about incredible reports from several women, who found Jesus' tomb empty that very morning.

The fellow traveler acted amazed that the disciples couldn't understand what had happened to Jesus. He began to quote from the Scriptures. The traveler explained that the Messiah was supposed to suffer and be rejected. When the men gathered for the evening meal, the stranger took bread, blessed it, and began to give it to them. Suddenly the two disciples recognized that the man with whom they had been talking was their beloved Jesus!

What would it have meant if Jesus had not risen? In that case, one could logically conclude that Jesus was wrong. He was wrong to claim he was the Son of God, wrong to challenge the religious authorities of his day, perhaps even stupid to refuse to take up arms for such a good cause. If Jesus had stayed dead, there would be reason to think God did not care about his suffering people. The forces of hatred and violence would have won, and there would be no reason to believe that actions of love and forgiveness are signs of the kingdom of God.

Clearly the news of Jesus' resurrection had an electrifying effect on his followers. Jesus was really the Son of God! They had talked and walked with the Messiah—the Savior who brought hope in both life and death. The story was told again and again. The gospels tell us this Easter story, the story that changed the disciples and still transforms people around the world.

Lent and Easter in Christian Worship

References in the Bible to gatherings on the first day of the week, or the Lord's Day (Acts 20:7-11; Revelation 1:10), are confirmed by outside historical sources as well. In the early church, the day after the Sabbath (*what we know as Sunday*) was a time to remember Jesus' resurrection.

The resurrection changed everything for Jesus' followers. What they had once viewed as total defeat had turned into victory. Jesus was the promised Messiah whose death had defeated evil. They were not separated from Jesus, for he was alive and with them.

The early church remembered Jesus' death and resurrection with the yearly celebration of *Pascha*. They did not separate the story of Jesus' suffering and death from the story of the resurrection. A little later, when Christianity became the religion of the empire and people took pilgrimages to Jerusalem, Christians searched the Scriptures for the times and places of each event. Observation of Holy Week became a common practice. The story of Easter became separated into days: Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter.

In the early church, Easter was often the day to baptize new believers. The preparation time for baptism became known as Lent. Eventually Lent became a time for all believers to prepare themselves for Easter. It became a time to reexamine one's attitudes and to repent of sin.

Early Christians knew nothing of Christmas. The celebration of Christ's birth and the giving of gifts during Advent and Christmas became popular much later.

ESSENTIAL UNDERSTANDINGS

- Jesus suffered and died, then rose on the third day.
- Easter is at the center of Christian worship.
- The Easter story gives life and hope to our lives today.

WORSHIP

Use any of the following songs from *Hymnal: A Worship Book*:

“Were you there” (Lessons 1 and 2), #257

“When I survey the wondrous cross” (Lessons 1 and 2), #260

“They crucified my Savior” (Lessons 1 and 2), #266

“Christ has arisen” (Lesson 3), #267

“Low in the grave he lay” (Lesson 3), #273

MEMORY PASSAGES

John 11:25-26 (Lesson 3)—main memory verse

Luke 24:36b-45 (Lesson 3)—bonus memory verse

John 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

Luke 24:36b-45

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.”

And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

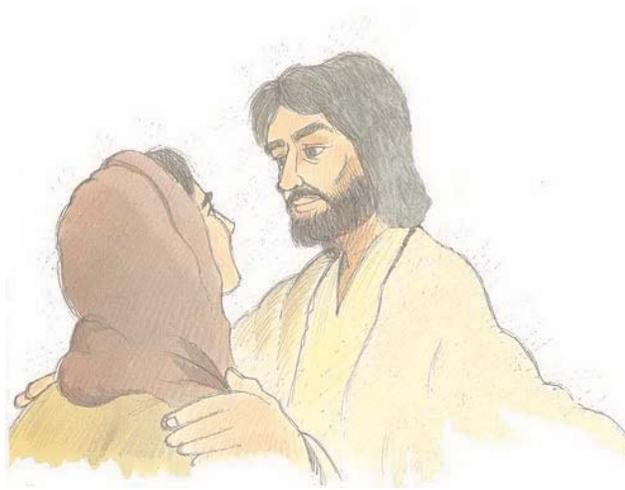
Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures.

MEMORY VERSE CONNECTIONS

The Luke 24 passage recounts one of the first appearances of Jesus following his resurrection. It honestly includes the incredulous and doubtful reactions of Jesus’ followers, showing us the true emotions we all experience as humans. We find characters to whom we can relate, and realize the significant impact of Jesus’ resurrection on his followers. In John 11:25-26, we understand the direct faith application of Jesus’ death and resurrection to our lives. This is not just a marvelous story that occurred nearly 2,000 years ago; it is a living truth that affects our faith today.

ASSESSING TEACHING / LEARNING

The Unit 11 quiz asks students to describe the events of Holy Week in their own words, requiring thoughtful processing of information. Students are also asked to explain the significance of Jesus’ death and resurrection to the Christian faith. Finally, students make personal connections with celebrations if their families observe Lent and Easter. Hopefully the Easter story has been transformed into a real encounter with the living Christ!



Jesus said to her, "I am
the resurrection and the life.

Those who believe in me,
even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and
believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?

John 11:25-26

The Easter Story

LESSON 1: WE WERE THERE, PART 1

Objective

Students will learn the events of Holy Week and understand their eternal significance.

Text: Holy Week Scriptures from the four gospels

Key Concepts

- Jesus Christ lived and died as a human among humans.
- In Christ's suffering and death, we see that God identifies with human woundedness and pain.
- Christ's resurrection gives us hope, because God has conquered the powers of sin and death.

Essential Questions

- What happened during Holy Week?
- What did Jesus Christ accomplish through his death and resurrection?

Estimated Lesson Time: 45 minutes

Materials

- Map, "Jerusalem at the Time of Jesus' Death" (p. 342)
- "Holy Week Events" (p. 343)
- Footprint pattern (p. 344)
- Brightly colored sticky notes, 3" x 3"
- 2 sheets construction paper per student
- "Make a Holy Week Calendar" (p. 345)
- Rulers, markers
- For Extend the Lesson, option one: *Jesus* video from Inspirational Films (see page 341 for more information)

Teacher Preparation

- Create a bulletin board featuring the map of Jerusalem at the time of Jesus' death. Use the map as a guide to draw a similar map directly on the bulletin board paper, or on poster board. You could project the map to trace it onto the bulletin board.
- Use the footprint pattern to cut out footprints from brightly colored sticky notes.
- Make an overhead transparency or project the image of the song "Were you there" (*Hymnal: A Worship Book* #257).
- Make copies of "Make a Holy Week Calendar," one per student.
- Make an overhead transparency or project the image of "Holy Week Events."

INTRODUCING THE LESSON

Lead the class in singing "Were you there." This song outlines some of the main events of Holy Week, which will be the focus of this lesson. If you are not comfortable leading a song, have various students read the verses.

LESSON STEPS

1. Call students to the bulletin board, instructing them to sit on the floor to hear the stories of Sunday through Thursday of Holy Week. Project the page, “Holy Week Events,” and invite volunteers to read the passages listed. You will need one volunteer to move the set of sticky-note footprints to the appropriate locations on the bulletin board map as the stories are read. Encourage discussion of each passage, so students understand the events and their significance.

2. Make Holy Week calendars. Distribute the handout from page 345 and two pieces of construction paper to each student. Make sure they have access to other materials needed, such as rulers and markers or colored pencils. Students should follow the directions and make their own calendars. Have them fill in the first five days—Sunday through Thursday. They may refer to the Bible passages on the overhead to recall the events of each day.

Make sure students put their names on their calendars. Collect their work at this time. Students will be able to finish their calendars during class time in Lesson 2. *Note: Holy Week calendars will be used in all lessons in this unit. Please be sure to save them for Lessons 2 and 3.*

EXTEND THE LESSON

(These activities will extend the lesson to longer than 45 minutes.)

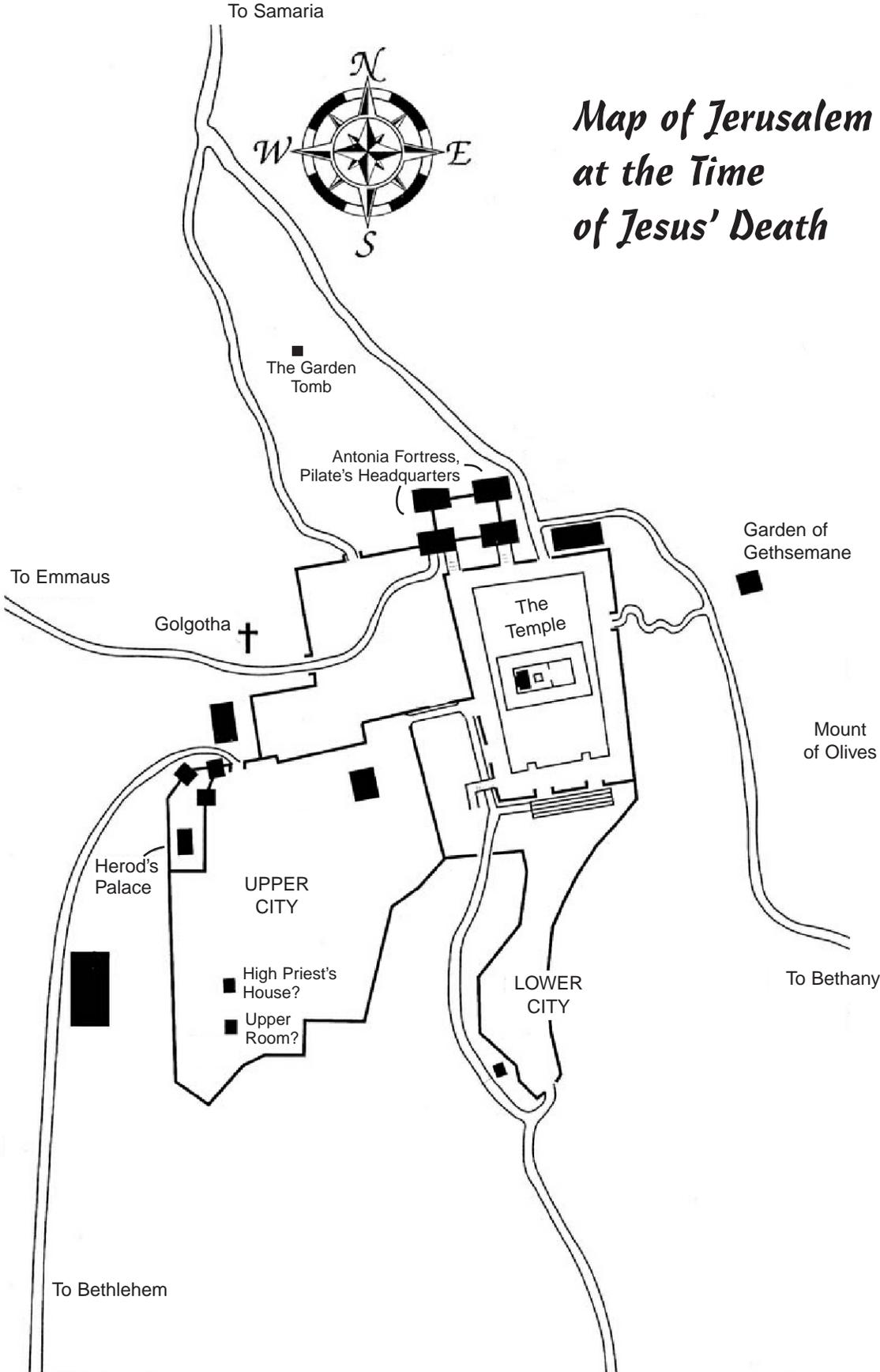
- **View a clip from the video, *Jesus*** (Inspirational Films, 1979). This video, starring Brian Deacon and Rivka Neuman, has been discontinued by the manufacturer. You may be able to borrow it from a library or video store, or purchase it used from Amazon.com.

- **Write journal entries** from the perspectives of Holy Week eyewitnesses. Have each student choose one of the following characters mentioned in the passion/resurrection narratives: Peter, Pilate, Simon of Cyrene, Caiaphas, Judas, James, John, Thomas, Barabbas, Mary Magdalene, Joseph of Arimathea, an angel, Mary the Mother of Jesus, an unnamed disciple, or a Roman soldier (*centurion*).

Students should pretend to be one of the characters and write several diary entries about the events of Holy Week from that character’s perspective. They may gather information by looking up the name in Bible encyclopedias or dictionaries. They should find all the places where their characters are mentioned in the Holy Week story, and keep a list of the specific references for rereading.

- **Memory work.** Introduce the memory passage for this unit, John 11:25-26, and allow time for students to begin memorizing.

Map of Jerusalem at the Time of Jesus' Death



Holy Week Events

Note: All four gospels are included as references for this section, to affirm the harmonious account of Holy Week among these texts.

Sunday

(Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, to Jerusalem and the temple)

The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem—Mark 11:1-11

Monday

(Returns to Jerusalem from Bethany)

Jesus curses the fig tree—Matthew 21:18-22

Jesus clears the temple—Mark 11:15-18

Tuesday

(In Jerusalem and the temple, returning to Bethany)

Jesus' authority is questioned—Mark 11:27-33

Jesus teaches at the temple—Luke 20:9-19, Luke 20:20-26, Luke 21:1-4

Jesus is anointed at Bethany—Mark 14:3-9

Wednesday

(Undisclosed location)

The plot against Jesus—Luke 22:1-6

Thursday

(In the upper room, then the Garden of Gethsemane)

The Last Supper—Matthew 26:17-30

Jesus comforts the disciples—John 14:1-7

Garden of Gethsemane—Luke 22:39-46

Jesus' arrest—Matthew 26:47-56

Friday

(At Pilate's headquarters, then to Golgotha, then to the tomb)

Jesus' trial—Mark 15:1-15

Jesus' crucifixion at Golgotha—Luke 23:26-43, 44-49

Jesus' burial at Joseph's tomb in Jerusalem—Matthew 27:57-61

Saturday

(At the tomb)

Sabbath: Jesus' body in the tomb—Luke 23:55-56

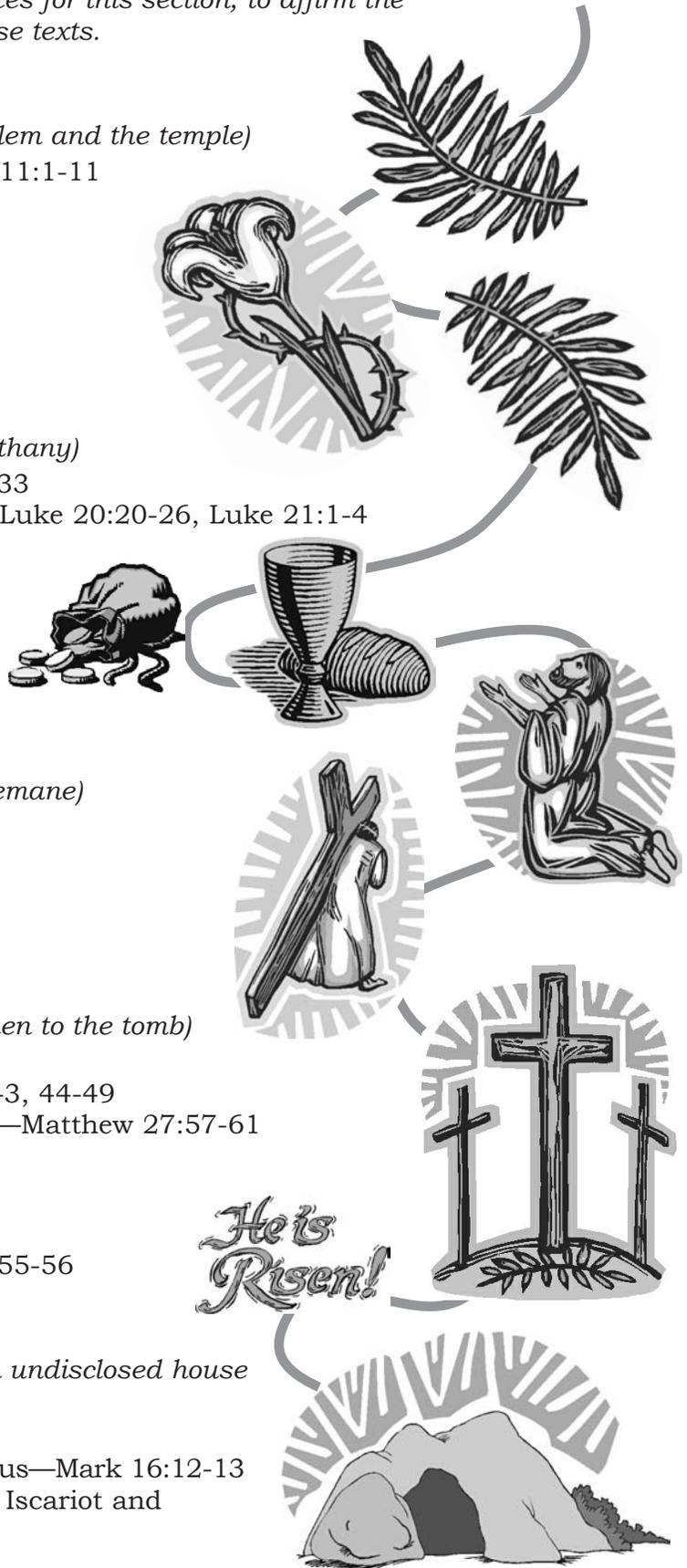
Sunday

(At the tomb, on the road to Emmaus, then an undisclosed house where the disciples had met)

The empty tomb—Matthew 28:1-10

Jesus appears to two disciples going to Emmaus—Mark 16:12-13

Jesus appears to his disciples, except Judas Iscariot and Thomas—John 20:19-23



Footprint Pattern

Cut a pair of footprints from 2 brightly colored sticky notes. Be sure to place the top of the foot pattern along the top edge of the note, so that it will be sticky on the back.

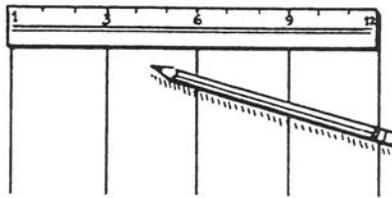


Make a Holy Week Calendar

You will need:

- 2 sheets of white construction paper (9 x 12 inches)
- Transparent tape
- Ruler
- Pencil, crayons, and markers
- Bible

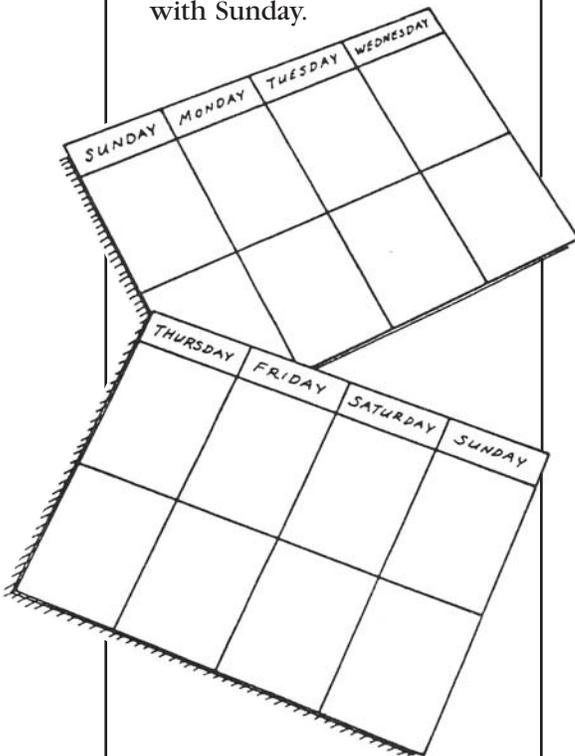
1. Divide each paper into four equal parts, vertically. Each column will be 3 inches wide. Do this by placing your ruler along the top of the paper and placing a dot at 3, 6, and 9 inches. Do the same thing at the middle and bottom of the page. Draw straight lines between the dots. You will have 4 equal columns.



2. Now concentrate on horizontal lines. The first horizontal line should be 1 inch from the top of the page. Place your ruler at the left of the page and measure exactly 1 inch from the top. Do this at the middle and the right as well.

Draw straight lines between the dots, and you will have a straight horizontal line! Now measure $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the horizontal line you just drew. Be sure to make dots on the left, middle, and right. Connect the dots and you have the template for your calendar.

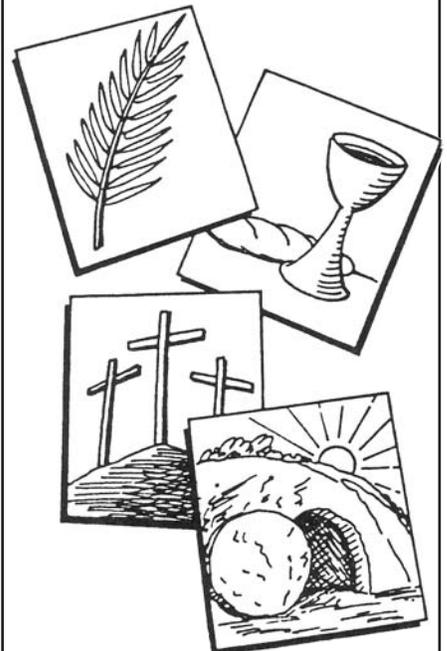
3. Label the top row of boxes with the days of the week, beginning with Sunday and ending with Wednesday. Label the next row of boxes, beginning with Thursday and ending with Sunday.



4. In each box, you will write the Scripture references that tell what happened on that day of the week.

- Sunday Mark 11:1-11
- Monday Matthew 21:18-22
Mark 11:15-18
- Tuesday Mark 11:27-33
Luke 20:9-19
Luke 20:20-26
Luke 21:1-4
Mark 14:3-9
- Wednesday Luke 22:1-6
- Thursday Matthew 26:17-30
John 14:1-7
Luke 22:39-46
Matthew 26:47-56
- Friday Mark 15:1-15
Luke 23:26-43, 44-49
Matthew 27:57-61
- Saturday Luke 23:55-56
- Sunday Matthew 28:1-10
Mark 16:12-13
John 20:19-23

5. In each square, draw an illustration that depicts what happened on that day. Be sure to read each Scripture passage that tells of events on that day, so you can be accurate. Look for illustration ideas in Bible storybooks, if you have them. Share your calendar with your family.



The Easter Story

LESSON 2: WE WERE THERE, PART 2

Objective

Students will learn the events of Holy Week and understand their eternal significance.

Text: Holy Week Scriptures from the four gospels

Key Concepts

- Jesus Christ lived and died as a human among humans.
- In Christ's suffering and death, we see that God identifies with human woundedness and pain.
- Christ's resurrection gives us hope, because God has conquered the powers of sin and death.

Essential Questions

- What happened during Holy Week?
- What did Jesus Christ accomplish through his death and resurrection?

Estimated Lesson Time: 45 minutes

Materials

- Students' Holy Week calendars from Lesson 1
- Markers
- Sticky note footprints from Lesson 1
- "Were you there" overhead transparency from Lesson 1 (or project image)
- "Holy Week Events" overhead transparency from Lesson 1 (or project image)
- For Extend the Lesson, option one: *Jesus* video from Inspirational Films (see page 341 for more information)

Teacher Preparation

- Read over the Scriptures for Friday through Sunday (*on the "Holy Week Events" list*). Think about what parts you want to emphasize during the discussion with students.

INTRODUCING THE LESSON

Lead the class in singing "Were you there." This song outlines some of the main events of Holy Week, which are the focus of this lesson. If you are not comfortable leading in singing, have various students read the verses.

LESSON STEPS

1. Call students to the bulletin board, instructing them to sit on the floor as they did during the last lesson. This time they will hear the stories of Friday through Sunday of Holy Week. Invite new volunteers to read the passages listed for Friday through Sunday. Ask another student to move the sticky-note footprints to the appropriate locations on the bulletin board map as the stories are read.

Encourage discussion of each passage, so students understand the events and their significance.

2. Distribute the Holy Week calendars the students made in Lesson 1, and have them fill in the last three days—Friday through Sunday. They may refer to the Bible passages on the “Holy Week Events” overhead transparency to recall the events of each day.

3. Gather again at the bulletin board. Sing “Were you there” another time. Lead the students in prayerful reflection as you ponder these wondering statements:

- I wonder what Jesus’ suffering means to us when we feel sad and lonely.
- I wonder how the story of Jesus’ death and resurrection helps us when we’re afraid.
- I wonder what this story means for people who have a friend who died.
- I wonder what this story says to people who realize they have done wrong.
- I wonder how this story helps Christians when they think about sin and evil in the world.

(The purpose of this exercise is to focus on the deeper spiritual meaning of the story. Students are not expected to respond aloud to the statements.)

4. Finish the calendars. Use the remaining time for students to complete their Holy Week calendars.

EXTEND THE LESSON

(These activities will extend the lesson to longer than 45 minutes.)

• **View a clip from the video, *Jesus*** (Inspirational Films, 1979). This video, starring Brian Deacon and Rivka Neuman, has been discontinued by the manufacturer. You may be able to borrow it from a library or video store, or purchase it used from Amazon.com.

• **Write journal entries** from the perspectives of Holy Week eyewitnesses. Have each student choose one of the following characters mentioned in the passion/resurrection narratives: Peter, Pilate, Simon of Cyrene, Caiaphas, Judas, James, John, Thomas, Barabbas, Mary Magdalene, Joseph of Arimathea, an angel, Mary the Mother of Jesus, an unnamed disciple, or a Roman soldier (*centurion*).

Students should pretend to be one of the characters and write several diary entries about the events of Holy Week from that character’s perspective. They may gather information by looking up the name in Bible encyclopedias or dictionaries. They should find all the places where their characters are mentioned in the Holy Week story, and keep a list of the specific references for rereading.

The Easter Story

LESSON 3: CELEBRATING CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

Objective

Students will learn the historical Christian traditions of celebrating Christ's resurrection.

Text: Luke 24:36b-45, John 11:25-26

Key Concepts

- Jesus' death and resurrection are central to the Christian faith.
- Lent and Easter are observed to remember and celebrate Christ's death and resurrection.

Essential Questions

- What's the big deal about Jesus' death and resurrection?
- How do Christians commemorate Christ's death and resurrection?

Estimated Lesson Time: 45 minutes

Materials

- Students' Holy Week calendars from Lesson 1
- Student Bibles
- "Easter in Church History" (p. 350)
- For Extend the Lesson, option one: paper, construction paper, glue, art supplies

Teacher Preparation

- Make copies of "Easter in Church History," one per student.

INTRODUCING THE LESSON

Review Lessons 1 and 2 by asking several students to give an overview of each day of Holy Week, referring to their Holy Week calendars.

LESSON STEPS

1. Act out Luke 24:36b-45. Divide the class into groups of four or five, assigning each group the task of acting out the Bible passage. Give the groups 10 minutes to prepare a presentation, and then act it out for the entire group. Students may vote on their favorite presentation, if they wish.

2. Talk about Jesus' resurrection, emphasizing its importance. Ask students to imagine what life would be like if Jesus had stayed in the tomb. (*There would be no Christianity, because it is based on Jesus' resurrection.*) After Jesus was buried, his followers thought he was gone forever, and they were discouraged in their faith. When they saw Jesus alive, how joyful they must have been!

3. Read John 11:25-26 and ask the students to repeat the verses with you. (*This is the main memory work for this unit.*) Jesus' death and resurrection are central to

the Christian faith. His death symbolizes the forgiveness of sins, and his resurrection symbolizes life everlasting. When we were dead because of our sins, Jesus died for us and forgave us, offering us new and eternal life in his name.

4. Lent and Easter symbols. Christians' central belief in Jesus Christ is symbolized through the religious observance of Lent and Easter. Ask students to name common symbols associated with Lent and Easter. List them on the board. Examples:

Purple stands for Lent and sorrow.

White symbolizes Easter and purity. (*People who are baptized sometimes wear white.*)

The cross helps us remember Jesus' death.

Candles are associated with Jesus as Light of the World.

Easter lilies represent new life through Christ's resurrection.

Eggs and rabbits symbolize spring and new life. (*In North America, these symbols are not necessarily part of Christian worship.*)

The lamb represents Jesus as the Lamb of God, sacrificed for our sins.

Crown of thorns

Towel and basin

Pretzel—its twisted shape suggests arms crossed in prayer

5. "Easter in Church History." Distribute the student page and invite volunteers to read the paragraphs aloud. Some students may want to share their own family traditions of Lent and Easter.

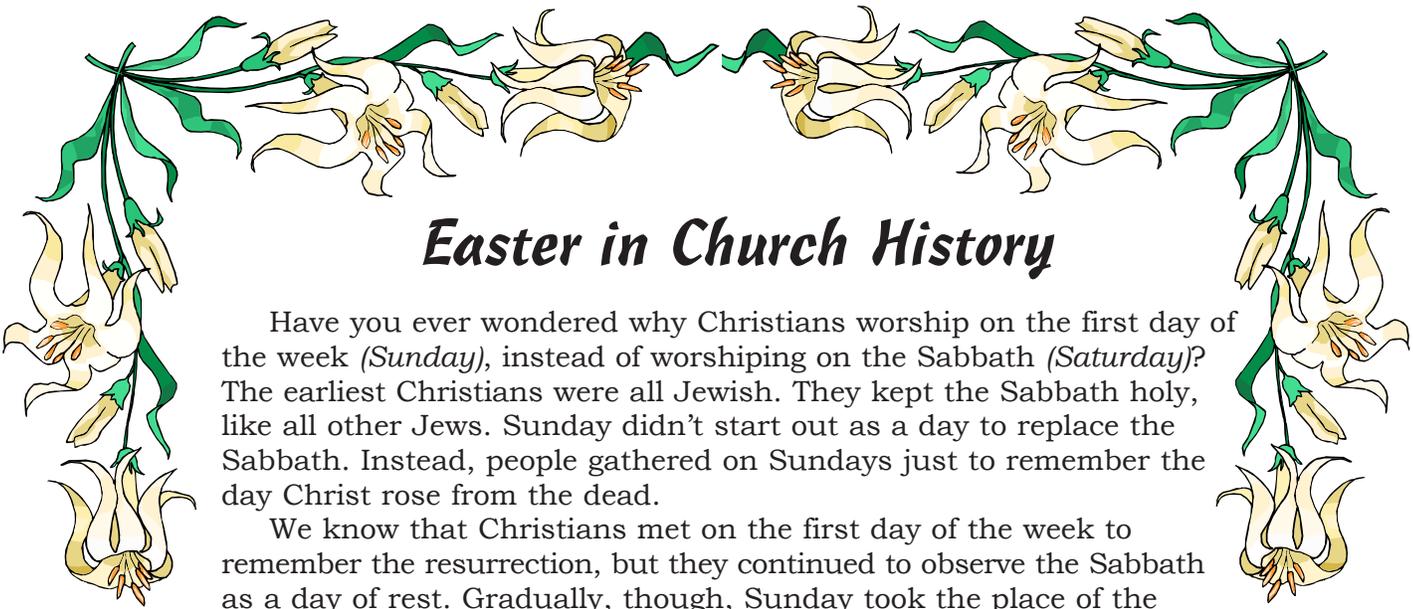
6. Lead in a prayer of gratitude for Jesus' death and resurrection. Sing Easter hymns, if you wish. (*See suggestions on page 337.*)

EXTEND THE LESSON

(These activities will extend the lesson to longer than 45 minutes.)

- **"Hands for Lent" pictures.** Have students trace both hands onto a sheet of white paper. On the right hand, they should write: "_____’s hands for Lent." On the left hand, they should write down an activity they choose to do wholeheartedly during Lent (*prayer, Scripture memorization, ministry to someone in need, listening to others, kind acts to family members, etc.*). Glue the white papers to sheets of construction paper that are slightly larger, to make frames. Decorate the frames and hang the pictures in the hallway.

- **Share one of your own experiences** of giving up something for Lent, in order to better focus on God. Talk about whether the students have ever given up something for Lent, and if so, how that felt to them. What would they give up this year? Does their pastor or anyone in their family practice giving up things for Lent? What do students think is helpful about this practice?



Easter in Church History

Have you ever wondered why Christians worship on the first day of the week (*Sunday*), instead of worshipping on the Sabbath (*Saturday*)? The earliest Christians were all Jewish. They kept the Sabbath holy, like all other Jews. Sunday didn't start out as a day to replace the Sabbath. Instead, people gathered on Sundays just to remember the day Christ rose from the dead.

We know that Christians met on the first day of the week to remember the resurrection, but they continued to observe the Sabbath as a day of rest. Gradually, though, Sunday took the place of the Sabbath day. The resurrection was very important to early Christians.

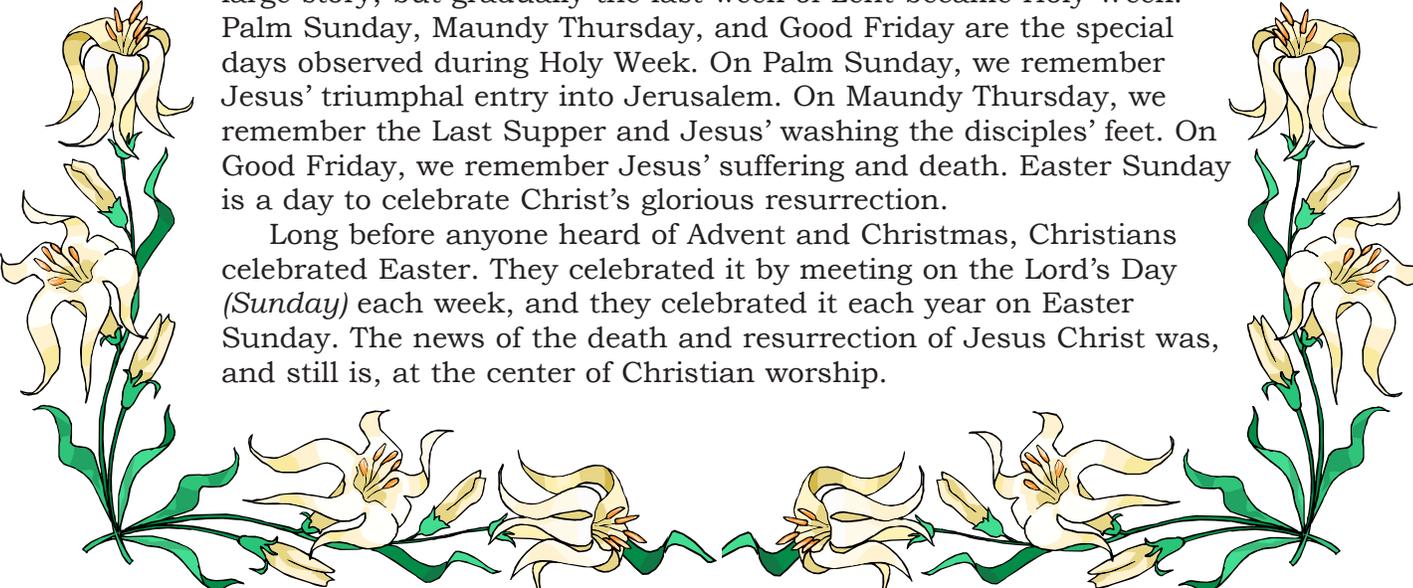
Easter Sunday was also important to Christ's followers centuries ago. New believers were baptized on Easter Sunday. The time spent preparing these new believers for baptism became known as Lent. It was a time to truly repent of past sins and prepare for the Easter Day baptism. Imagine the symbolism of being cleansed from sin on the same day that fellow believers around the globe celebrate Christ's resurrection!

Eventually, Lent became a time for all Christians to prepare for Easter. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 40 days (*not counting Sundays*) before Easter. It is a time to think about Jesus' suffering and death. It is a time to ask the Holy Spirit to examine our attitudes and actions. Sin and selfishness led to the crucifixion. Lent is a time to repent and experience God's forgiveness.

Sometimes people fast during Lent. Some people give up certain foods or favorite activities. This symbolic action gives the message: "I don't want anything to be more important than God in my life."

At first, Christ's death and resurrection were remembered as one large story, but gradually the last week of Lent became Holy Week. Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday are the special days observed during Holy Week. On Palm Sunday, we remember Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. On Maundy Thursday, we remember the Last Supper and Jesus' washing the disciples' feet. On Good Friday, we remember Jesus' suffering and death. Easter Sunday is a day to celebrate Christ's glorious resurrection.

Long before anyone heard of Advent and Christmas, Christians celebrated Easter. They celebrated it by meeting on the Lord's Day (*Sunday*) each week, and they celebrated it each year on Easter Sunday. The news of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ was, and still is, at the center of Christian worship.



Name _____

The Easter Story: Unit 11 Quiz

Part 1: Memory Passages

Write out, or say aloud to your teacher, the main memory passage for this unit. Be sure to include the reference. You may say or write the bonus passage for extra credit.

Part 2: Holy Week

List the main events that occurred on each day of Holy Week, using the spaces below.

SUNDAY _____

MONDAY _____

TUESDAY _____

WEDNESDAY _____

THURSDAY _____

FRIDAY _____

SATURDAY _____

SUNDAY _____

Part 3: Short Answer

Answer the question briefly in the space provided.

1. Why are Jesus' death and resurrection so important to the Christian faith?

2. Define each holiday below and explain why it is observed. If your family observes these holidays, describe specific things you do to remember these events. If not, describe common ways Christians celebrate these holidays.

Lent: _____

How it is observed: _____

Easter: _____

How it is observed: _____

ANSWER KEY

The Easter Story: Unit 11 Quiz

Part 1: Memory Passages

Write out, or say aloud to your teacher, the main memory passage for this unit. Be sure to include the reference. You may say or write the bonus passage for extra credit.

Part 2: Holy Week

List the main events that occurred on each day of Holy Week, using the spaces below.
(Give points for students if they remember one item for each day.)

SUNDAY Jesus rides a colt into Jerusalem and to the temple. People cheer and wave branches.

MONDAY Jesus returns to the city, curses a fig tree, and clears the temple.

TUESDAY Jesus teaches in temple, and his authority is questioned. In Bethany, he is anointed by woman with alabaster jar.

WEDNESDAY Judas plots against Jesus.

THURSDAY The Last Supper, Jesus comforts disciples, in Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus' arrest

FRIDAY Jesus' trial, his crucifixion at Golgotha, and burial in Joseph's tomb in Jerusalem

SATURDAY The women visit the tomb.

SUNDAY Tomb is empty; Jesus appears to 2 disciples going to Emmaus, and appears to other disciples.

Part 3: Short Answer

Answer the question briefly in the space provided.

1. Why are Jesus' death and resurrection so important to the Christian faith?

Answers will vary. Students should at least mention that Jesus Christ died and rose again, to release his followers from the powers of sin and death, so they can be reconciled to God.

2. Define each holiday below and explain why it is observed. If your family observes these holidays, describe specific things you do to remember these events. If not, describe common ways Christians celebrate these holidays.

Lent: The 40 days before Easter, a time to remember the life and sufferings of Christ

How it is observed: Answers will vary. Many Christians examine their spiritual lives, think about Jesus' suffering and death, give up something to focus on God and identify with Jesus' suffering.

Easter: Celebration of the day Jesus rose from the grave

How it is observed: Answers will vary. Many Christians participate in worship services, attend sunrise services, hold family meals, sing hymns of rejoicing, or baptize new believers.