

[HOMEPAGE]

For families of junior soldiers

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC:

Eyewitness At Jesus' Trial

MEMORY VERSE:

Romans 10:13 (NIV)

"Scripture says, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'"

The memory verse for the week is included on each HOMEPAGE. Help your child review it during the week.

PARENT POINT:

Ask your child what forgiveness means to them. Share with your child what forgiveness means to you. Remind them that it's important not to expect forgiveness, but to ask for it.



MANY PEOPLE

were involved in the trial and crucifixion of Jesus. Each person or group involved played a major part in the events that led to Jesus' death on the cross. There's an important lesson to learn from each person involved in this story. Today in junior soldiers the children learned about forgiveness by studying the roles Judas, Pilate, Herod, Peter, the disciples, and the soldiers played in the trial and death of Jesus.

Jesus forgave Peter for denying Him and the other disciples for leaving Him because they asked for His forgiveness. He even forgave the soldiers who mocked Him as He hung from the cross because they acknowledged that He is the Son of God. They asked for forgiveness, and received it.

There's no record in Scripture that Judas, Pilate, or Herod asked for forgiveness. Judas was sorry that he accepted money to betray Jesus. He went back to the people who gave him the 30 pieces of silver, but they had no sympathy for him. Judas threw the pieces of silver into the Temple, and then killed himself. Pilate felt remorse for the death of Jesus. He tried to make himself feel better by putting the responsibility on the crowd present at Jesus' sentencing, but that didn't work. Herod mocked Jesus and sent Him back to Pilate because he was concerned about his image. They were all sorry to some degree, but the Bible doesn't say they asked for forgiveness.

Jesus suffered and died on the cross for a special reason, to save lost people from sin, and to lead them to eternal life in heaven with God. Jesus died on the cross to forgive us for our sins. In order to receive the forgiveness that Jesus offers, we must ask. By praying to God and acknowledging that He is Lord, apologizing for the sin in our lives, and asking Him to strengthen us, we're forgiven for our sin, and given eternal life through Jesus.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME

This lesson helped junior soldiers understand the roles of the witnesses at Jesus' trial. They learned that God forgives our sins, but we must ask Him for forgiveness.