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For Me!

"I have examined this man, and He is innocent!" Pilate argued. "I will have Him whipped. But then I will release Him."

A great roar rose from the crowd. "Crucify Him! Crucify Him! Release Barabbas to us!" The crowd shouted louder and louder.

It was the custom to release a prisoner during the Passover season. The crowd was demanding that a terrible criminal be set free, and that innocent Jesus be put to death.

Pilate was the governor. But he was afraid of the people. And at last he let them have their way. Pilate knew Jesus was not guilty of any crime. But he turned Him over to the mob. And he let Barabbas out of prison.

Thousands of people lined both sides of the road as Jesus struggled along. He staggered under the weight of His cross. Most people shouted and jeered at Jesus. His friends and followers wept.

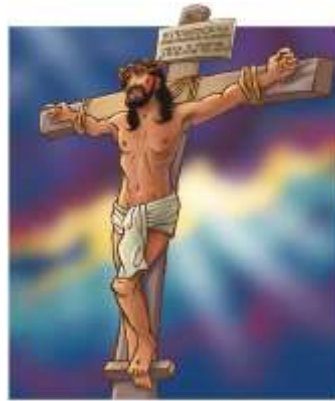


Finally Jesus fell down. He had no strength left after being beaten by the soldiers. The soldiers grabbed a strong-looking man who was

standing nearby. Simon, a traveler from the town of Cyrene, was forced to carry Jesus' cross. They reached the place called Calvary—the place where criminals were crucified. The soldiers pushed Jesus roughly down on the cross. They pounded long iron spikes through His wrists and His feet. Then they lifted the cross and dropped the bottom of it into a hole in the ground so it would stand upright. The pain was terrible. Crucifixion was the most painful and cruel way to put someone to death. But Jesus prayed, "Father, forgive these people. They don't know what they are doing."

The crowd watched as the leaders made fun of Jesus. "He saved other people, but He can't save Himself!" they jeered. The soldiers made fun of Jesus too. They made a sign and nailed it above His head. "This is the King of the Jews!" it declared.

Two thieves were crucified along with Jesus. One of



the men mocked Him. "So You're the Messiah! Prove it by saving Yourself and us too!"

The other thief responded. "We deserve to die," he protested. "But this Man has not done anything wrong!" He

turned to Jesus and said, "Remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

And Jesus promised him that He would.

At noon, the light from the sun completely disappeared. The darkness lasted until 3 o'clock when Jesus cried, "Father, I entrust My spirit into Your hands!" Then He died.

The earth shook. The curtain in the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

Only God or His angels could have ripped the thick curtain!

A good man named Joseph went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Joseph put Jesus' body in a new tomb. One that had been carved out of a rock. The very tomb that Joseph had had made for himself. A big stone was rolled in place to seal the tomb. It was very late Friday afternoon. All was quiet. Everyone there knew that something powerful had just happened.



For Me! Questions

What did Pilate Do?

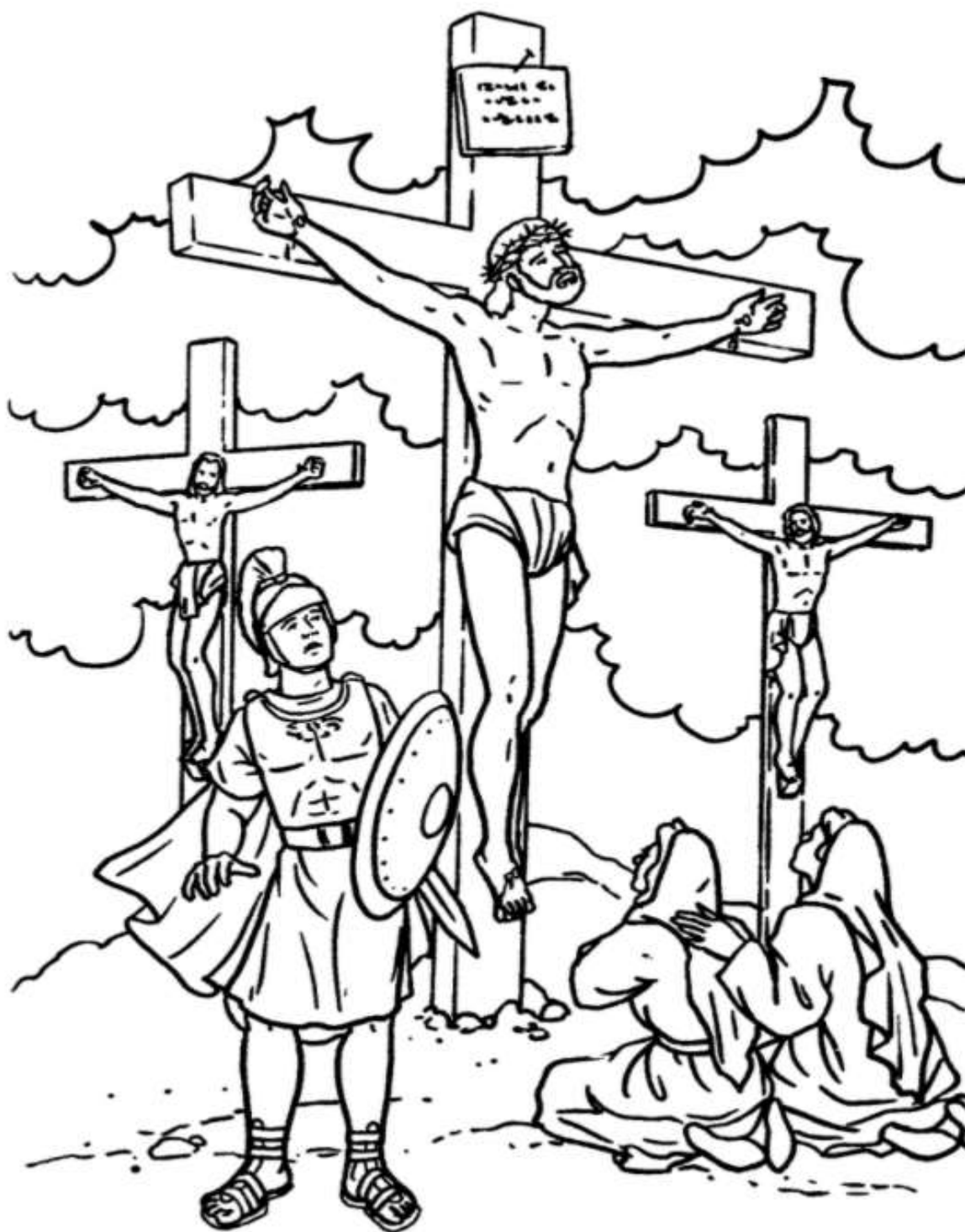
Were the people happy to see Jesus beaten? Why?

What did the soldiers do?

Was Jesus right to pray for the people who put him to the cross? Explain



For Me! Coloring Page



For Me! Craft

Jesus Crucified Craft



You will Need:

- Cross template
- Jesus template
- Markers/crayons
- Scissors and
- Glue stick

Instructions:

1. To begin, color and cut out your picture of Jesus, then cut out a cross template on construction paper.
2. Now think of some sins we commit. Personalize it by thinking of some sins you know like lying.
3. For every sin you think of write it down in a different color and direction on the cross.
4. Then glue Jesus to the cross.
5. Reflect on the words you have written and discuss with family members.

Remember, to promise in your heart to want Jesus to be my personal Savior.

Enjoy!



For Me! Puzzle

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ANGELS
 APOSTLES
 BETRAYAL
 BLOOD
 CALVARY
 CROSS
 CROWN OF THORNS
 CRUCIFIXION
 DARKNESS
 DEATH
 EARTHQUAKE
 EASTER
 GOLGOTHA
 HIGH PRIEST
 JESUS CHRIST
 JOSEPH
 JUDAS ISCARIOT
 KING
 LAMB

MARY
 NAILS
 PASSOVER
 PIECES OF SILVER
 PIERCED
 PILATE
 RESURRECTION
 ROBE
 ROMANS
 SACRIFICE
 SIMON OF CYRENE
 SOLDIERS
 SON OF GOD
 SPEAR
 STONE
 TEMPLE
 THIEVES
 THREE DAYS
 TOMB

