



DAY #3 – LESSON PLAN – “A New Way”

Bible Story – Matthew 27:32-54 and Luke 23:26-35 – Jesus on the Cross and His Death

Memory Verse – John 14:6 *Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.”*

- **While on the Cross, Jesus Forgave His Persecutors**
 - Jesus could have been very angry at the people who crucified Him
 - He could have called down angels to free Him and destroy the earth
 - But Jesus didn't do that.
 - While He was on the cross, Jesus called out, *“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”*
- **There was Darkness from Noon Until 3 PM**
 - Jesus was crucified about 9 o'clock in the morning
 - He died about 3 o'clock in the afternoon
 - From Noon until about 3 o'clock there was darkness over the whole land
 - The Bible says that the sun stopped shining during those hours
 - This was a very unusual thing to happen!
- **When Jesus Died there was an Earthquake and the Veil was Torn in Half**
 - When Jesus died on the cross, there was an earthquake!
 - Also, when Jesus died, the veil in the Temple was torn in half
 - The veil was a very large, heavy, woven piece of fabric
 - It was 60 feet long and 30 feet wide (18.3 x 9 meters)
 - It was torn from top to bottom
 - The veil hung in the Temple
 - It separated the Most Holy Place from everyone except the High Priest
 - He came in once a year to make atonement for the people
 - When the veil was torn, the Most Holy Place of the Temple was visible and accessible to everyone.
 - Now everyone could approach God directly, through Jesus.
- **The Roman Centurion Confessed that Jesus was the Son of God**
 - A group of Roman soldiers had crucified Jesus
 - There was also a Roman centurion there
 - “Centurion” means that he might have led up to 100 men
 - When the centurion saw all that happened, when Jesus died, he confessed saying, *“Truly He was the Son of God.”*
 - Jesus the Son of God! He is **The Way** for us to approach God.

Pray with the children, thanking God that we can now approach Him with freedom and confidence, in Jesus and through faith in Him. Amen.