



PARENT DEVOTION

EASTER SERIES | LESSON 5

JESUS OUR SAVIOR

When the Roman officer who stood facing him saw how he had died, he exclaimed, "This man truly was the Son of God!" – Mark 15:39

JESUS' SACRIFICE

READ MATTHEW 27:32-56; MARK 15:21-41; LUKE 23:26-43; JOHN 19

There are events that change the course of our days – traffic jams, waking up with a fever, petty arguments. And there are events that change the course of our lives – marriage, job choice, serious illness. Then there are events that change the course of history. Those are few and far between. The event described in this week's passages is one of those world-changing, history-altering events.

There were definitely signs that the man being crucified was no ordinary human being: The sky turned dark in the middle of the day. There was an earthquake! And the temple curtain separating the most holy place from everything else tore right down the middle!

And things only got more incredible. His body disappeared even though the tomb was guarded and sealed with a huge stone. Then Jesus started appearing to his followers: sharing meals and continuing to teach them! The devastation and despair they felt on Good Friday was changing into hope – the hope only Jesus can give. And that is the same hope he continues to offer us today. We still have to deal with traffic jams, illnesses, and life's many disappointments – but we have a Savior who rose from the dead! That is something to celebrate this Easter season!

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT

1. What is your favorite part of the story of Jesus' last week on earth? What emotions did the events of this last week bring out in you?
2. First Corinthians 15:17 says "And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless, and you are still guilty of your sins." What do you think Paul meant by this? What point is he trying to get across?
3. List some specific reasons why Christ's death and resurrection give you hope. This week, consider who you can share these reasons with. If you are struggling to find hope this season, consider reaching out to a trusted pastor or friend. You are not alone!