Jesus Dies on a Cross
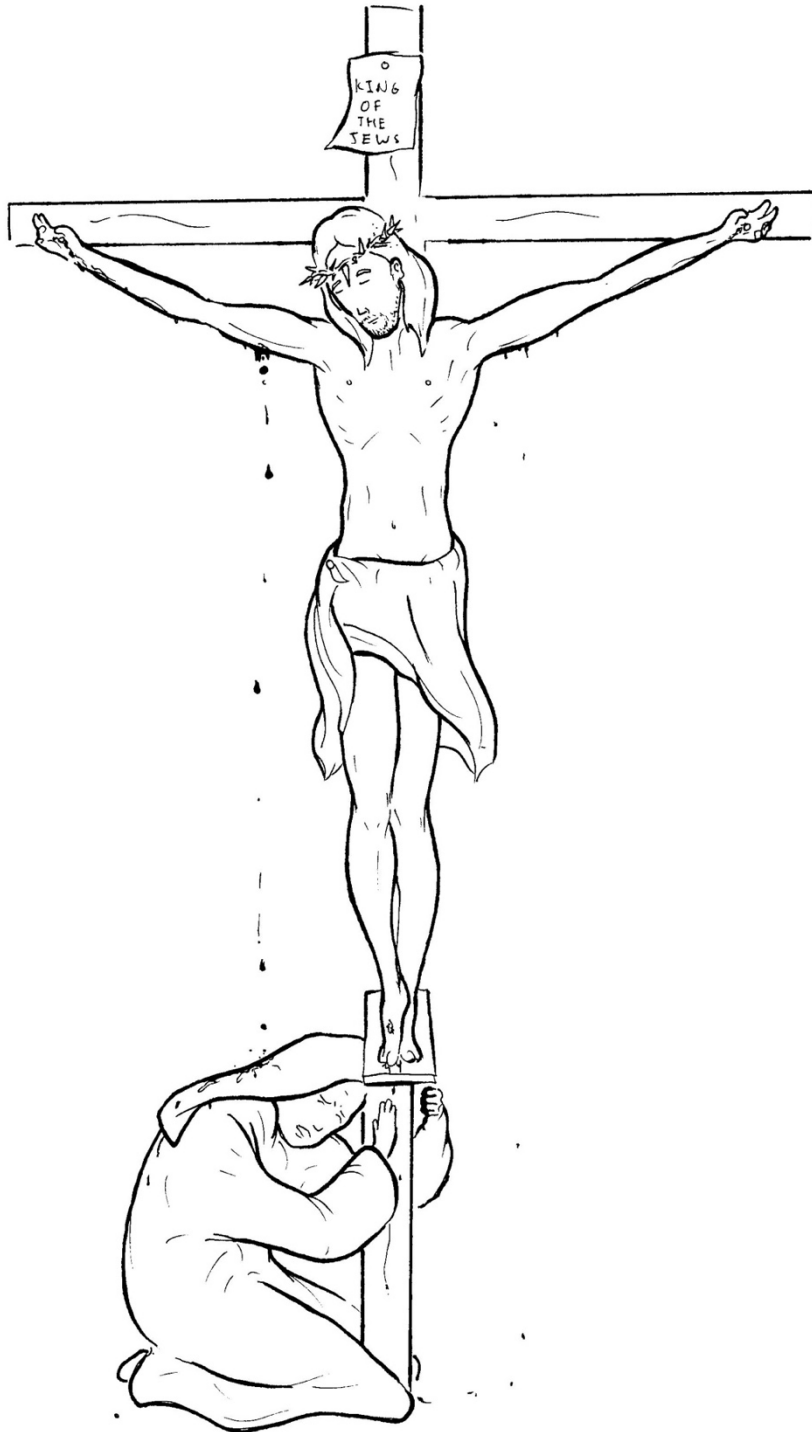
Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 23; John 19

"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing," Jesus said.

Luke 23:34

Jesus Dies on a Cross

They crucified Jesus at a place called "The Skull." Soldiers put him on a cross. They put nails in his hands and feet. A note above him read, "This is the king of the Jews."

Two robbers hung on a cross next to Jesus. They made fun of him. So did the Jewish leaders. "He saved others but he cannot save himself," they mocked.

If Jesus asked, God would send hundreds of angels. He could have gotten off the cross. But he stayed there…to forgive us. "Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing," Jesus said.

One robber begged, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

"Today," Jesus said, "you will be with me in paradise."

His mother Mary and a few friends cried at the cross. Darkness covered the land. "My God, my God, why have you left me?" Jesus cried out loud. "It is finished!" Jesus gave up his spirit. The curtain in the temple ripped in two. The earth shook. Dead people rose out of their graves! The soldiers yelled, "Oh no. He truly was the Son of God!"

But it was too late. Kind and gentle Jesus was gone.

Questions

1. Why did Jesus die on the cross?

2. What could Jesus have done if he chose to?

3. What did Jesus say would happen to the robber who believed in him?

4. Do you believe that Jesus died on the cross to forgive your sins? What will happen to you after you die?

Pray this prayer:
Dear Jesus,

You could have gotten off the cross. You decided to die for me. Thank you. I know when I die that I will be with you in paradise (heaven) forever.
Amen

Write in the cross sins you have done.
Write around the cross a prayer of thanks.