




# Jesus Is Tried and Crucified

Luke 19:28-40; 23:1-49

While babies and young children do not grasp the concept of death or resurrection, they are beginning to understand the concept of giving. Use this lesson to expose these little ones to the fact that Jesus gave everything he had because he loves them.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Jesus Came</b> Hear the story of Jesus arriving in Jerusalem on a donkey.	scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> gray felt, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set) 	Cut a simple donkey shape from the felt, and cut the Jesus figure on the dotted lines.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Here Is the Donkey</b> Hear a rhythmic verse about Jesus and the donkey.		
	<b>Crawling Over Cloaks</b> Crawl across towels, just as the donkey walked on cloaks.	a few towels	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



### ► Bible Point

Jesus died for us.

### Key Verse

"Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8).


### Weaving Faith Into Life

Children will hear the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey's back and begin to learn that Jesus died for our sins.





## TODDLER


LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>The People Watched</b> Hear the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem where the people praised him.	Bible, scissors, silk leaf frond <b>Teacher Pack:</b> gray felt, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set), fabric squares 	Set aside the silk leaf frond you brought to class. Cut a simple donkey shape from the felt, and cut the Jesus figure on the dotted lines.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Cloaks on the Ground</b> Step on towels, just as the donkey walked on cloaks, and hear a song.	a few towels	
	<b>Cross Reminders</b> Form crosses with craft sticks.	craft sticks, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Crosses” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



**2-YEAR-OLD**



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Blessed Is Jesus</b> Hear the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem and dying for us.	Bible, 2 craft sticks, glue, scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> gray felt, Jesus figure (from the teaching picture set), fabric squares 	Cut a simple donkey shape from the felt, and cut the Jesus figure on the dotted lines. Glue two craft sticks in the shape of a cross.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Here Comes Jesus on the Donkey</b> Act out the story.	several towels	
	<b>Jesus Died for Us</b> Glue craft sticks in the shape of a cross on the handout.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Crosses" page (at the end of the lesson) green crayons, glue stick, 2 craft sticks per child	Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



# Jesus Is Tried and Crucified

Luke 19:28-40; 23:1-49



BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## Jesus Enters Jerusalem on a Donkey

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Jesus entered the city riding a colt in order to fulfill the Messianic prophecy in Zechariah 9:9. This was a sign that Jews had been watching for. In addition, a king riding a horse indicated that the king was going into battle, whereas a king riding a donkey was a symbol of peace.

## Pilate Orders Jesus Crucified

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Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea, had been less than pleasant to the Jews during his rule. He had taken money from the Temple treasury for a city water project and had brought images from the Roman Empire into the city of Jerusalem. But he knew not to go too far in his irritation of the Jews. If too many complaints about him reached Rome, he might lose his position. So he was likely feeling insecure when the Jews came to him with their request to crucify Jesus. Thus, even though it appears that Pilate felt Jesus was innocent, he was unwilling to stand up against the Jews.

It is significant that Jesus was crucified between two criminals. To the Jews, this indicated that he was a criminal. It seems likely that the religious leaders had exerted their influence to arrange for this positioning as one more way to humiliate Jesus.

## Darkness Falls When Jesus Is Crucified

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When Jesus died, the skies became dark from noon until 3 o'clock in the afternoon when the sun would normally have been at the height of its brilliance. There is no way to explain this darkness as a natural phenomenon. God must have darkened the sun.

The centurion mentioned in Luke 23:47 was a Roman

soldier, loyal to the emperor. Something about what happened as Jesus died made a difference in that man's life. Everyone who witnessed Jesus' death seemed to sense that something very wrong had happened (Luke 23:48).

## The Jesus Connection

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With all the demands on our time and attention, it's easy to forget that everything in this life is about Jesus. This one truth is woven into the very fabric of creation. What an honor to be in a loving relationship with Jesus!

Pick up a rock. What does it tell you about God? Its mere existence is a testimony to the greatness of a Creator with no beginning or end. Invest five minutes in praising God, who created you and loves you. You can write your prayer of praise here.

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**INFANT**

**1 GETTING  
STARTED**

# Sing and Celebrate

## What You'll Do

Sing "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) to the babies anytime during the lesson.

 **God loves us.**

**God sent his Son to die for us  
Because of his great love.**

*(Repeat.)*

**His great love,  
God showed his great big love  
By sending Christ to die for us  
While we were still sinners.**

*(Repeat.)*

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**His great love, his great love, his great love.**

"His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sing "Jesus Rode Into Town" (not on CD) to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" to the babies anytime during the lesson. Hold an infant on your lap facing you while you sing, and gently bounce the baby on your knees as if he or she were riding on a donkey.

 **Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**Jesus rode into town that day.**

**Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**And the people shouted out their praise.**

**"Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,  
Praise to Jesus, he's the Son of God!  
Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,  
Praise to Jesus, he's God's Son!"**



## Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

### Teacher Pack

CD: "His Great Love"  
(Romans 5:8) (track 7)





### Jesus Came Supplies

scissors

#### Teacher Pack

gray felt

Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)

### Jesus Came Easy Prep

Cut a simple donkey  
shape from the felt, and  
cut the Jesus figure on  
the dotted lines.

### Crawling Over Cloaks Supplies

a few towels

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### Jesus Came

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sit on the floor with a baby on your lap.

Say: **Jesus went to the big city of Jerusalem. He rode to town on a donkey. The donkey said, "Heehaw, heehaw." Would you like to pet the donkey?** Let the baby touch the felt donkey. **Let's put Jesus on the donkey.** Put the Jesus figure on the donkey's back.

**The people shouted, "Hooray for Jesus. Praises to the King!" Jesus said, "Let the people praise," and the donkey said, "Heehaw, heehaw." Jesus went to Jerusalem, where he died for us.**

Return the Jesus figure to the Teacher Pack for later lessons.

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Here Is the Donkey

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sit on the floor near an infant. Say the following verse. On the words "clip-clop, clip-clop," slap your thighs in rhythm to the verse.

**Here is the donkey, clip-clop, clip-clop.  
The donkey took Jesus, clip-clop, clip-clop.  
The people watched Jesus, clip-clop, clip-clop.  
People sang praises, clip-clop, clip-clop,  
To Jesus the king, clip-clop, clip-clop.**

### Crawling Over Cloaks

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Place towels on the floor. Allow the babies to crawl over the towels as they choose.

Say: **The people showed how much they loved Jesus. They threw their coats on**



the ground for Jesus' donkey to walk on. God showed us how much he loved us by sending Jesus to die for us.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

### TODDLER

1

### GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) anytime during the lesson.



God loves us.

God sent his Son to die for us  
Because of his great love.  
(Repeat.)

His great love,  
God showed his great big love  
By sending Christ to die for us  
While we were still sinners.  
(Repeat.)

(Repeat from the beginning.)

His great love, his great love, his great love.

"His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sing "Jesus Rode Into Town" (not on CD) to the tune of "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" anytime during the lesson. Hold a toddler on your knees facing you while singing. On the verse gently bounce the toddler up and down as if he or she were riding on a donkey.



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
Teacher Pack  
CD: "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7)






### The People Watched Supplies

Bible  
scissors  
silk leaf frond  
**Teacher Pack**  
gray felt  
Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)  
fabric squares

### The People Watched Easy Prep

Set aside the silk leaf frond you brought to class. Cut a simple donkey shape from the felt, and cut the Jesus figure on the dotted lines.

On the chorus stop bouncing and hold the toddler's hands in yours. Raise his or her hands high each time you sing "Praise to Jesus." Roll the child's hands over each other on "he's the Son of God" and "he's God's Son."

 **Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**  
**Jesus rode into town that day.**  
**Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**  
**And the people shouted out their praise.**

**"Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,  
Praise to Jesus, he's the Son of God!  
Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,  
Praise to Jesus, he's God's Son!"**

## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

### The People Watched

#### What You'll Do

Sit on the floor next to a toddler. Show him or her Jesus and the donkey. Open your Bible to Luke 19, and show the toddler the words.

Say: **Our Bible tells us that Jesus sent his disciples to get a donkey. His disciples found a soft donkey for Jesus to ride. Can you help me put Jesus on the donkey's back?** Allow time for the toddler to feel the felt donkey and to help place the Jesus figure on it. **The donkey announced that Jesus was coming with a loud "Heehaw, heehaw."**

**The people who saw Jesus were happy. They pulled branches off trees and waved them.** Let the toddler wave the silk leaf frond. **They put their coats on the ground to show their love for Jesus.** Give the toddler a fabric square to lay on the floor. Have the donkey walk across the cloth. **The people shouted, "Blessed be Jesus. Praises to the King!" Jesus said, "Let the people praise," and the donkey said, "Heehaw, heehaw."**

**Jesus loved the people so much that he died for all the bad things they did.**  
▶ **JESUS DIED FOR US, too.**

Return the Jesus figure and the fabric squares to the Teacher Pack for later lessons.






### 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

## Cloaks on the Ground

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Place towels on the floor. Encourage the toddlers to step from towel to towel as you sing the following song (not on CD) to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb."

 Jesus rode a donkey colt,  
Donkey colt, donkey colt.  
Jesus rode a donkey colt,  
And people praised him so.

Applaud and shout "Hosanna!" after you sing the last line.

Say: **The people threw their coats on the ground for Jesus' donkey to walk on. The donkey stepped on the coats the way you stepped on the towels. Jesus knew the people loved him. Soon Jesus would show how much he loved the people by dying for them.**

## Cross Reminders

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Call one toddler over at a time to do his or her handout.

Say: **A few days after Jesus rode the donkey, he walked to a hill to die for us. When we see a cross, it reminds us that ► JESUS DIED FOR US.**

Show the child how to make a cross with craft sticks. Lay down a craft stick, and encourage the toddler to put one down on top to form a cross. As you form each cross, say "Jesus." Continue forming crosses until the child's interest wanes.

Say: **Jesus showed his love on the cross. Thank you, Jesus.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



### Cloaks on the Ground Supplies

.....  
a few towels

### Cross Reminders Supplies

.....  
craft sticks  
My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Crosses" page (at the  
end of the lesson)

### Cross Reminders Easy Prep

.....  
Remove the Lesson 4  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

.....  
My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Growing With Jesus"  
page (at the end of the  
lesson)





### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "His Great Love"  
(Romans 5:8) (track 7)

## 2-YEAR-OLD

# 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) (track 7) anytime during the lesson.

 **God loves us.**

**God sent his Son to die for us  
Because of his great love.**

*(Repeat.)*

**His great love,  
God showed his great big love  
By sending Christ to die for us  
While we were still sinners.**

*(Repeat.)*

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**His great love, his great love, his great love.**

"His Great Love" (Romans 5:8) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Sing "Jesus Rode Into Town" (not on CD) to the tune of "Give Me Oil In My Lamp" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, gather several 2-year-olds, and sing the verse and chorus. As you sing the words of the verse, encourage the children to gallop around the room with you. For the chorus stop galloping, and stand in place. For each "praise to Jesus," jump, throw your arms in the air, and spread your feet apart, as if cheering.

 **Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**Jesus rode into town that day.**

**Jesus rode into town on a donkey, donkey, donkey.**

**And the people shouted out their praise.**

**"Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,  
Praise to Jesus, he's the Son of God!  
Praise to Jesus, praise to Jesus,  
Praise to Jesus, he's God's Son!"**



## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Blessed Is Jesus

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather the 2-year-olds on the floor next to you. Open your Bible to Luke 19, and show the words to the children.

Say: **Our Bible story is about Jesus going to Jerusalem. Jesus sent his friends to get a donkey for him to ride. Jesus rode into town on the donkey. The donkey said, "Heehaw, heehaw." Can you make a sound like a donkey?**

Pass the felt donkey around, and have each child make the donkey sound when the donkey comes to him or her. When the donkey returns to you, place the Jesus figure on the donkey.

Say: **The people were so happy to see Jesus. They knew he was God's Son. They wanted to show Jesus how happy they were to see him. The people threw their coats on the ground for the donkey to walk on.**

Give a child the fabric squares. Show him or her how to gently toss the fabric on the floor and shout "Hosanna!" Let children take turns with the fabric squares. Pass the felt donkey around again, and then walk the donkey and Jesus figure across the fabric.

Say: **The people gave their happiness and praise to Jesus. Soon Jesus would give something to the people. Jesus gave his life by dying on a cross because he loved the people of Jerusalem. Jesus gave his life for the people in our town, too. Jesus died for [child's name].** Touch the craft-stick cross to each child's hand as you name each child. ► **JESUS DIED FOR US. Thank you, Jesus, for dying for us.**

Return the Jesus figure and the fabric squares to the Teacher Pack.

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

# Here Comes Jesus on the Donkey

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Choose one child to be the donkey. Have the other children stand around him or her, holding towels. Say the following rhyme, and encourage children to act out the story as you go. Act it out several times, choosing different children to be the donkey each time.



### Blessed Is Jesus Supplies

Bible  
2 craft sticks  
glue  
scissors

### Teacher Pack

gray felt  
Jesus figure (from the  
teaching picture set)  
fabric squares

### Blessed Is Jesus Easy Prep

Cut a simple donkey shape from the felt, and cut the Jesus figure on the dotted lines. Glue two craft sticks in the shape of a cross.

### Here Comes Jesus on the Donkey Supplies

several towels





### Jesus Died for Us Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Crosses" page (at the end of the lesson)  
green crayons  
glue stick  
2 craft sticks per child

### Jesus Died for Us Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 4 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

**Here comes Jesus on a donkey.** (Have the "donkey" crawl slowly and say, "Heehaw, heehaw.")

**The people spread their coats and sing.** (Have the children lay their towels on the floor and say, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!")

**Here comes Jesus on a donkey.** (Have the donkey crawl over the towels on the floor and say, "Heehaw, heehaw.")

**The people sing praises to the king.** (Have the children raise their hands in the air, as if cheering, and say, "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!")

## Jesus Died for Us

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Call one 2-year-old over at a time to work on a handout.

Say: ► **JESUS DIED FOR US on a cross. When we see a cross, it reminds us of Jesus' gift of love to us.**

Encourage the child to use a green crayon to color the grass on the hill in the picture. Help him or her use a glue stick to glue the craft sticks in a cross shape in the middle of the picture.

Pray: **Thank you, Jesus, that you loved us enough to die for us.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



# Growing With Jesus

Your child learned Jesus died for us (from Luke 19:28-40; 23:1-49). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

## INFANT

### Here Is the Donkey

Sit on the floor near your infant and say the following verse. On the words “clip-clop, clip-clop,” slap your thighs in rhythm to the verse.

**Here is the donkey,  
clip-clop, clip-clop.  
The donkey took Jesus,  
clip-clop, clip-clop.  
The people watched  
Jesus,  
clip-clop, clip-clop.  
People sang praises,  
clip-clop, clip-clop,  
To Jesus the king,  
clip-clop, clip-clop.**

## TODDLER

### Cloaks on the Ground

Place towels on the floor. Then encourage your toddler to step from towel to towel as you sing the following song to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”

**Jesus rode a donkey colt,  
Donkey colt, donkey colt.  
Jesus rode a donkey colt,  
And people praised him  
so.**

Applaud and shout “Hosanna!” after you sing the last line.

Say: **The people threw their coats on the ground for Jesus’ donkey to walk on. The donkey stepped on the coats the way you stepped on the towels. Jesus knew the people loved him. Soon Jesus would show how much he loved the people by dying for them.**

## 2-YEAR-OLD

### Here Comes Jesus on the Donkey

Have your child be the donkey, and you hold a towel. Say the following rhyme with your child, and encourage him or her to act out the story as you go.

**Here comes Jesus on a donkey.** *(Have the “donkey” crawl and say “Heehaw, heehaw.”)*  
**The people spread their coats and sing.** *(Lay your towel on the floor and say, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!”)*

**Here comes Jesus on a donkey.** *(Have the donkey crawl over the towel on the floor and say “Heehaw, heehaw.”)*  
**The people sing praises to the king.** *(Join your child in raising your hands in the air, as if cheering, and say, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!”)*



## Easter Traditions

Many parents struggle with keeping a spiritual emphasis on Easter. Whatever your decisions are about Easter bunnies and colored eggs, celebrate this season in ways that will establish meaningful traditions in your family. Traditions bind families together. When those traditions include activities centered on church, they are powerful tools to bind children to the things of God.



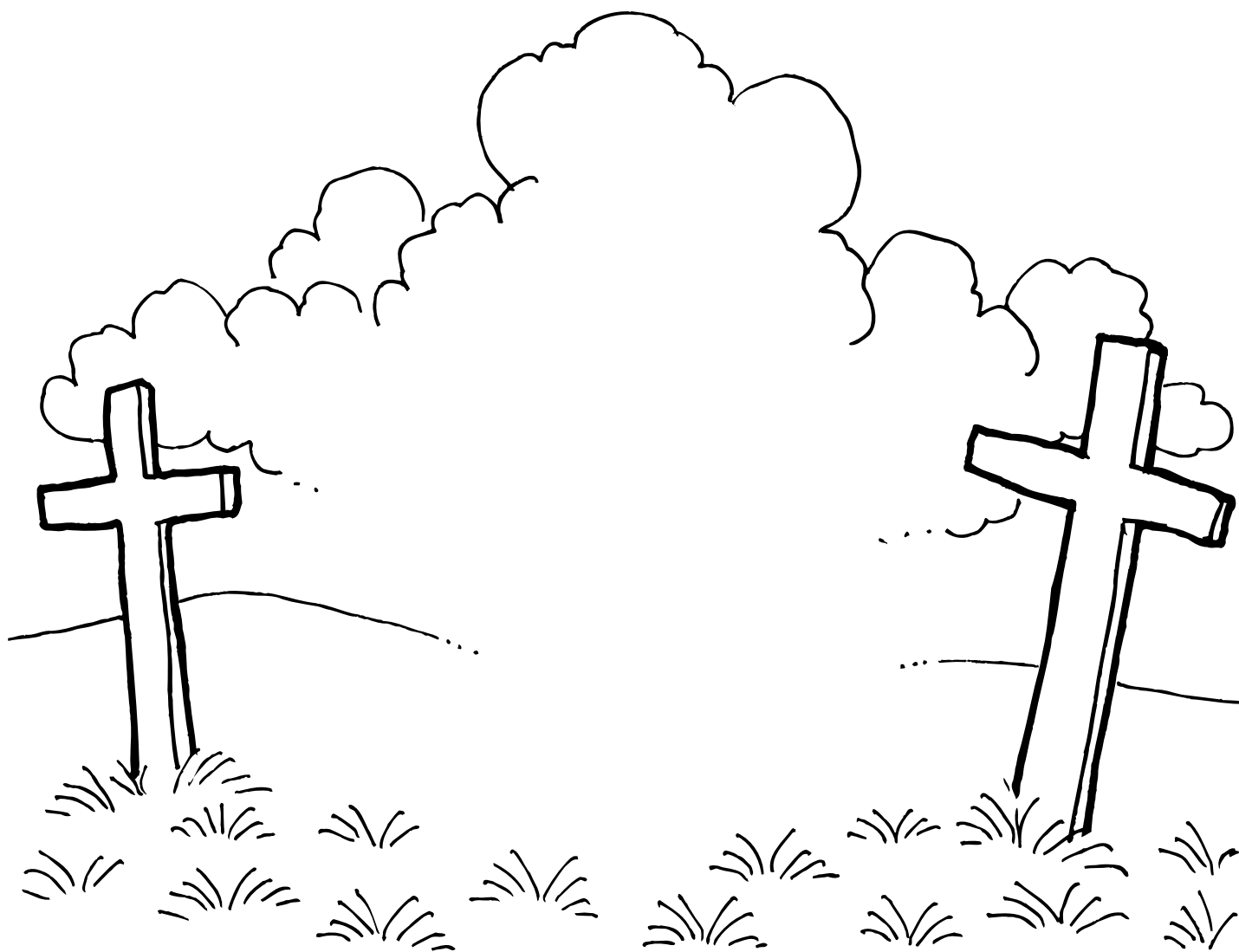
### Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

- Play Donkey Tag. Place a coat in the middle of the floor, and chase each other on hands and knees. When your child is on the coat, offer a big hug. Remind your child that people showed their love for Jesus by sharing their coats with him. Jesus showed his love by giving his life.
- Each time you see a cross this week, help your child say “Jesus.”

**OK  
TO COPY**



# Crosses



**OK**  
**TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.

