

STOWMARKET BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY BIBLE CLUB

12 APRIL 2020

Today it's my turn to write the story and I'm very excited because it is Easter Sunday. Let's find out why that's so special.

We are praying that you all keep safe and well at home with your families and that we'll soon be able to meet up again at Sunday Bible Club.

Love Liz and all the other teachers x

This week's story can be found in the Bible in Mark chapter 21 to chapter 16 verse 8 which says:

Chapter 15

²¹ A certain man from Cyrene, Simon, the father of Alexander and Rufus, was passing by on his way in from the country, and they forced him to carry the cross. ²² They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha (which means "the place of the skull"). ²³ Then they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. ²⁴ And they crucified him. Dividing up his clothes, they cast lots to see what each would get.

²⁵ It was nine in the morning when they crucified him. ²⁶ The written notice of the charge against him read: The King of the Jews.

²⁷ They crucified two rebels with him, one on his right and one on his left. ²⁹ Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, "So! You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰ come down from the cross and save yourself!" ³¹ In the same way the chief priests and the teachers of the law mocked him among themselves. "He saved others," they said, "but he can't save himself!" ³² Let this Messiah, this king of Israel, come down now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Those crucified with him also heaped insults on him.

The Death of Jesus

³³ At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. ³⁴ And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?").^[a]

³⁵ When some of those standing near heard this, they said, "Listen, he's calling Elijah."

³⁶ Someone ran, filled a sponge with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. "Now leave him alone. Let's see if Elijah comes to take him down," he said.

³⁷ With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last.

³⁸ The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. ³⁹ And when the centurion, who stood there in front of Jesus, saw how he died,^[c] he said, "Surely this man was the Son of God!"

⁴⁰ Some women were watching from a distance. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joseph, and Salome. ⁴¹ In Galilee these women had followed him and cared for his needs. Many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem were also there.

The Burial of Jesus

⁴² It was Preparation Day (that is, the day before the Sabbath). So as evening approached, ⁴³ Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent member of the Council, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. ⁴⁴ Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died. ⁴⁵ When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶ So Joseph bought some linen cloth, took down the body, wrapped it in the linen, and placed it in a tomb cut out of rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. ⁴⁷ Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw where he was laid.

Chapter 16

¹ When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. ² Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³ and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴ But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵ As they entered

the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.
⁶ "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his

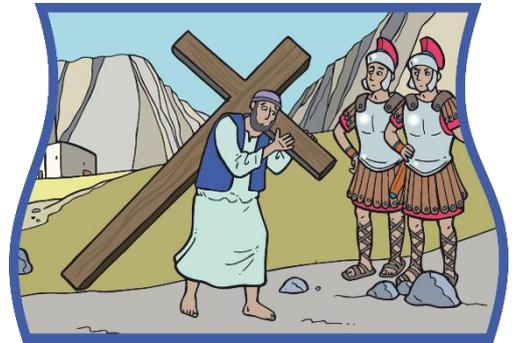
disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"
⁸ Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

Last week's story was really sad. Jesus was so badly treated. Do you like it when people tell lies about you? They told lies about Jesus and beat Him so hard His body was bleeding. Pilate and Herod, the leaders had said that Jesus hadn't done anything wrong and yet He was still sent out to die.

How strong are you?

Lots of you are very strong and I hope you help your mums carry the shopping or tidy up round the house.

Today we learn about a man called Simon. He was visiting in Jerusalem from the country. The soldiers had made Jesus carry His cross, but it was so heavy. Jesus had been beaten so badly that he was struggling to walk. When the soldiers saw Simon, they stopped him. "Carry Jesus' cross," they ordered. Simon took the cross, it was so heavy and hurt his shoulder too, but Simon must have been glad to do even that, to help Jesus. Simon used his strength to help Jesus and we must use our strength to help others.



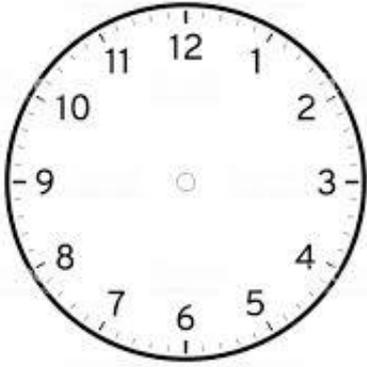
Jesus and 2 robbers were taken outside of Jerusalem to a place called Golgotha. Here all 3 crosses were put in the ground and 3 men were crucified (nailed on the cross, until they died).

Some people gathered near the cross.

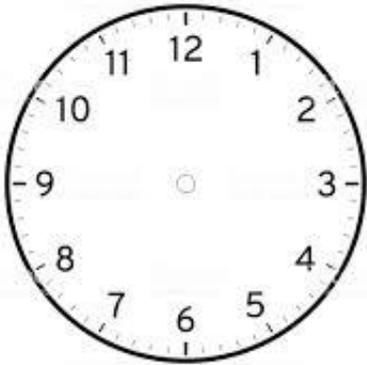
- The soldiers were there to keep guard, but they played games and argued over who could have Jesus' clothes!
- Jesus' mother and John were there and they were sad to see Jesus die.
- Others came to mock (make fun of) and sneer at Jesus. "He did lots to help others but He can't save Himself", they said. BUT Jesus could have saved Himself, but chose not to. If Jesus had come down from the cross, none of us would ever be forgiven for our sins by God.



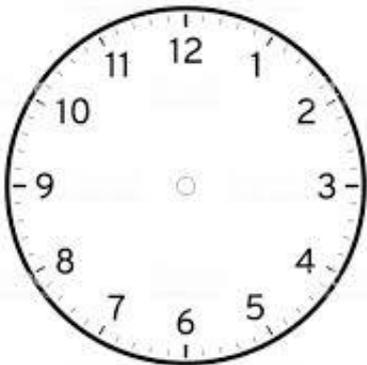
Thank you, Jesus, that you chose to die, so I could be forgiven of all my sin and help me to love you more!



It was 9 o'clock when Jesus was hung on the cross

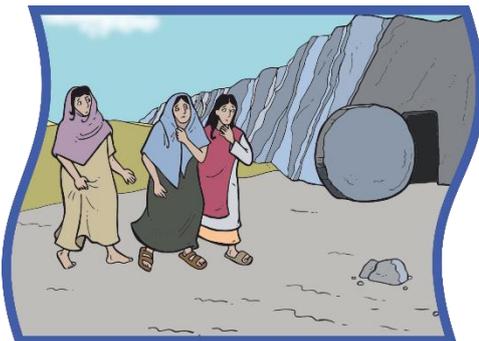


It was 12 o'clock (the middle of the day) when everything went dark



It was 3 o'clock when Jesus died

Jesus' body was taken from the cross, wrapped in cloth and placed in a tomb. The tomb was like a small cave with a massive stone rolled across the front. This was to stop anyone going inside.



Early on the Sunday morning, some of the women went to the tomb. They carried some spices, because they wanted to put them on Jesus' body and there hadn't been time on Friday. They thought "How can we roll away the stone?", "It will be so heavy." But when they got there, the stone was already rolled away. Who had moved the stone?

They walked into the tomb and there was a young man dressed in a long white robe, sitting down. I wonder how they felt when they saw him?

The Bible says they were "alarmed", which means scared and I would have been scared too!

"Don't be afraid," he said, "Jesus is risen, He is not here, He is alive again." "Go and tell all Jesus' friends, that they will see Him soon." The women were so amazed that they rushed away excited at the wonderful news that they had heard.

The story we have heard today is amazing news, Jesus died so that your sin can be all forgiven. Jesus did not stay dead because God was pleased with what Jesus did. Jesus came alive and now lives in Heaven with God. If you are sorry for your sin and believe Jesus died to take it away, you, too, will go to be with Him in Heaven.

We believe that Jesus died and rose again.

I Thessalonians chapter 4 verse 14

Can you say that and mean it?