

Christ the King

Theme

Jesus Christ is King.

Object

Chalkboard or whiteboard, Chalk or dry erase markers, Butcher paper, Markers

Scripture

Luke 23:33-43

Children's Sermon: Christ the King (Luke 23:33-43)

Get Ready: Draw a large crown on the chalkboard or whiteboard. Write "I chose Jesus to be my King," inside the crown. Ensure this is at a height kids can reach. Draw a large cross on the butcher paper and hang it on the wall opposite the crown. Because children will be walking backwards from the cross to the crown, estimate the size of steps or hops kids will need to take to get there in about 10 steps or hops.

Do This:

Gather kids near the cross you drew.) Today I'm going to tell you about a king that some thought of as a Backward King, and I need your help. When I stop and point at you, you'll step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!" (Demonstrate.) Ready?

A long time ago, there lived a King. He was no ordinary king. He was a Backward King. He was different from other kings because He did everything backward from the way other kings did them. (Stop and have kids take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

From the very day He was born, you could tell that this King was different. Most kings are usually born in a palace, but this King was born in a stable surrounded by donkeys, sheep, and cows. (Stop and have kids take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

It wasn't a very fancy beginning for a king. In fact, very few people even knew a king had been born. Only a handful of shepherds and three wise men got the word that the King had been born. (Stop and have kids take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

As the baby King grew into a man, He continued to be different from other kings. While most kings spent all of their time building up riches of gold and jewels, this King owned nothing at all. (Stop and have kids

take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

And while most kings surrounded themselves with servants, He chose to be a servant. He could often be found helping others. (Stop and have kids take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

As time went on, people became very unhappy with their King because He just didn't act the way they thought a king should act. Instead of riding into town on a big white horse the way other kings usually did, their king rode into town on the back of a donkey. Was that any way for a king to act? (Stop and have kids take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

And the people He chose to be his friends! His closest friends were a bunch of smelly fishermen and He could often be seen visiting with the poor and eating with sinners. (Stop and have kids take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

Finally the people decided that they had put up with this King long enough. If He couldn't act the way they thought a king should act, then they didn't want Him to be their king any more. They made a plan to have Him arrested and thrown into prison. (Stop and have kids take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

Their plan worked. When the day came for His trial, the King stood before the people. Instead of shouting, "Hail to the King, Long live the King!" they shouted, "He is not our king! Crucify Him!" (Stop and have kids take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

So the soldiers did. (Point to the cross that kids started near and are moving away from.) They nailed Him to a cross; they put a crown made of thorns on His head; they poked Him with sharp sticks and made fun of Him. It was a terrible way for the King to die! After He was crucified, they put His body in a borrowed tomb. (Stop and have kids take a step or hop backward and say, "That's backward!")

But that isn't the end of the story. Remember...this Backward King was different! This King rose from the grave to live forever. (Have kids turn and face the crown.)

Now, instead of being the Backward King, He is the Forever King. He is the King to anyone who chooses Him to be their King. We call Him King Jesus! (Read aloud the words on the crown.)

Jesus wants to be your King, too, and if you choose Him to be your King, you will live with Him in heaven! (Invite preschoolers to write their names inside the crown.)

Jesus, today we crown You King and Lord of our life. In Your name, amen.

Christ the King Group Activities

Sermon Title: "[Christ the King](#)"

Scripture Reading: Luke 23:33-43

HATS RACE:

Two teams will run a relay to the hats, put a hat on and run back to their team member, who will then run down to the pile of hats for their team and put on another hat. This will continue until all the hats for each team have been put on and everyone is back on their team line. When their team is done, they will all say together JESUS CHRIST IS KING!! Teacher, make sure that there is a CROWN in your pile of "hats" to go along with today's story!

CROWNS TO WEAR:

Have children cut out and decorate a CROWN and write JESUS IS THE KING OF KINGS. Have gel glue, sequins, glitter, etc available to make a beautiful crown for the KING!

CROWN OF THORNS:

Give each child a piece of cut poster board with the letters written on it, KING OF KINGS... and let children glue toothpicks on the poster picture to look like a crown of thorns.

HAT HUNT:

Teacher can have a scavenger hunt with hats that could be used for the HAT RELAY RACE if desired. HATS can have a Bible verse or phrase from our lesson such as KING OF THE JEWS, KING OF KINGS, JESUS IS KING, KINGDOM, CROWN OF THORNS.

CROSS CHALKBOARD DRAWING:

Teacher can have large cross drawn on the chalkboard (with the SIDE of the chalk) and children can write THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS on the board and use colored chalk to draw or write words about the story around the chalk drawing while the story is discussed. Teacher could have some lines for the words with some of the letters missing for children to fill in for the words of our story, as listed above in the HAT HUNT.

MUSICAL HATS

Option 1:

This can be played like musical chairs but as the music plays, the children will pass hats around (1 hat less than there are children) until the music stops and the child without a hat is allowed to take one hat and take a seat (so there will still be one hat less than there are children).

Option 2:

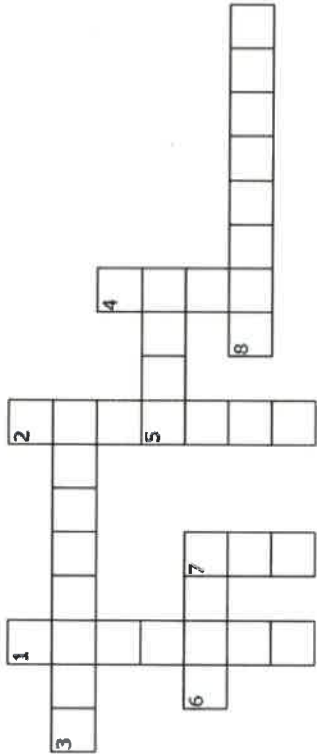
Played like musical chairs but only ONE hat could be passed around and the child that is holding the hat can leave the game and go to the chalkboard to write one of the words from the story inside a hat that is drawn on the board, while the "musical hat" continues.

Song: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

[Words and Music](#) (pdf)

[MP3 Accompaniment](#) Track

Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- A place of peace and rest; sometimes used to describe heaven
- To rescue someone from harm
- A male ruler; opposite of queen
- A person guilty of crime

DOWN

- To kill by nailing to a cross
- The promised Savior sent from God
- To be afraid of something
- The creator and ruler of the universe

CRUCIFY	PARADISE	GOD	CRIMINAL
SAVE	FEAR	KING	MESSIAH



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Children's Worship Bulletin

Christ the King

Luke 23:33-43

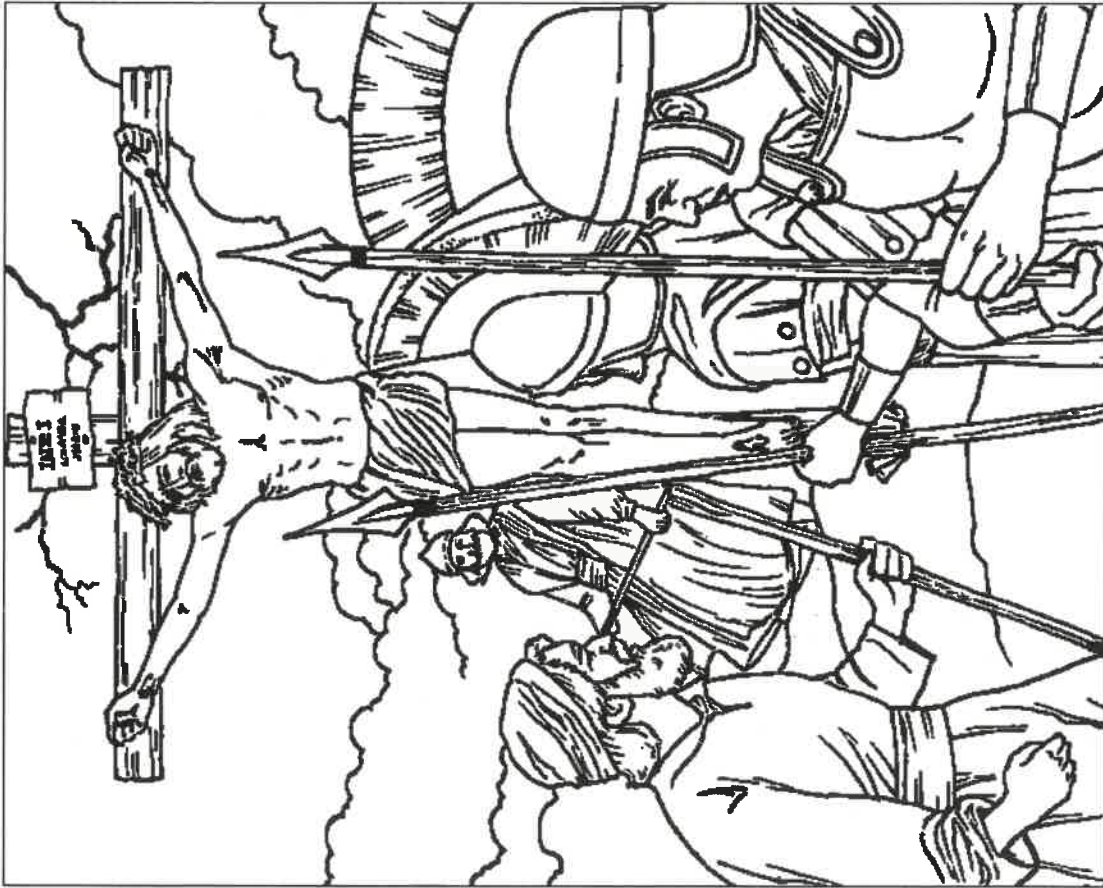
Word Search Puzzle

B F P J J S W N D U U P Z P V
 R E M E M B E R M H W T K R U
 R M B C E L F C P B F Q A H L
 T Q E B R W S Z H E T G W A M
 N R R S T I W K L O E L N V P
 L S S W S Z G P F N S I P F V
 I P A I C I W H I O M E I K U
 W H V N M R A V T I R G N I X
 F X E E O L U H R K E G P N G
 R P W X G H R C B J K C I G S
 S K U L L B R N I X G D L V P
 B D G W M S O E A F Y Q D Z E
 U A I R F P A R A D I S E O L
 Z G R U I Q Q R M P K E Q G V
 N G T S O L D I E R S R D J T

SKULL	PARADISE	KING	CHOSEN	SOLDIERS
SAVE	LEFT	RIGHT	CRIMINAL	FORGIVE
REMEMBER	CRUCIFIED	WINE	VINEGAR	MESSIAH

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
 2800 Trimmier Rd
 Killeen, Texas

Coloring Page



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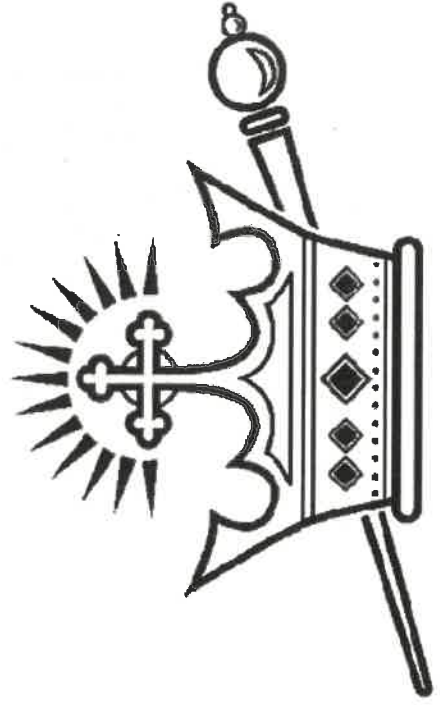
Decoder Puzzle

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 3-18-9-13-9-14-1-12 _____
- 16-1-18-1-4-9-19-5 _____
- 3-18-21-3-9-6-9-5-4 _____
- 18-9-7-8-20 _____
- 6-15-18-7-9-22-5 _____
- 18-5-13-5-13-2-5-18 _____
- 11-9-14-7 _____
- 12-5-6-20 _____

PARADISE	CRIMINAL	FORGIVE	LEFT
REMEMBER	RIGHT	CRUCIFIED	KING



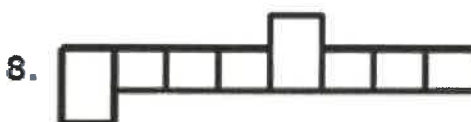
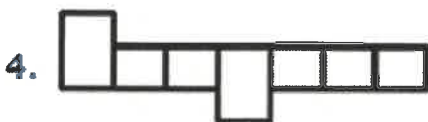
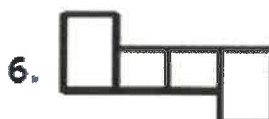
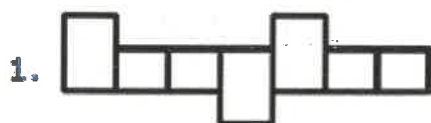
Christ the King

When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Luke 23:33 (NIV)



CHRIST THE KING

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



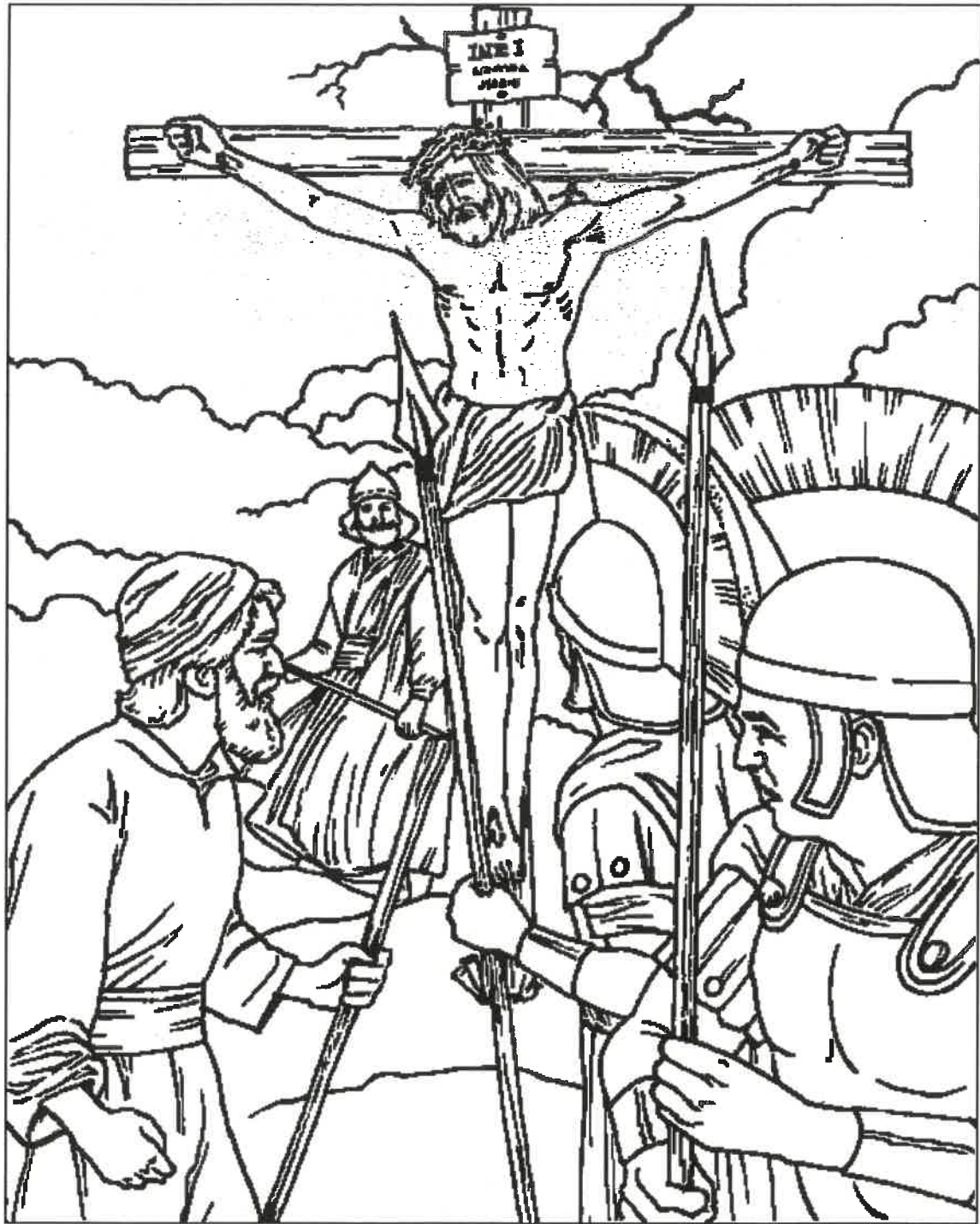
crucified	paradise	king	Christ
kingdom	forgive	criminals	saved

CHRIST THE KING

Multiple Choice Quiz

Instructions: Circle the letter by the correct answer.

1. **What made Jesus Christ the King different from other kings?**
 - a. He lived in a palace.
 - b. He did not wear a beautiful robe or a jeweled crown.
 - c. He had servants to wait on him.
2. **What else made Jesus Christ the King different from other kings?**
 - a. He had soldiers to fight his battles.
 - b. He had a country to rule.
 - c. He had no coins engraved with his face or his name.
3. **Christ is not just any king. He is the....**
 - a. King of Kings
 - b. King of Israel
 - c. King of Rome
4. **What did the first criminal being crucified with Christ say?**
 - a. I do not deserve to be crucified!
 - b. I am not guilty! Why are you doing this to me?
 - c. If you are the Messiah, prove it. Save yourself and us, too.
5. **What did the second criminal being crucified with Christ say?**
 - a. I do not deserve to be crucified!
 - b. Remember me when you come into your Kingdom.
 - c. Jesus, why don't you get us off these crosses?
6. **What did Jesus say to the second criminal?**
 - a. Today, you will be with me in paradise.
 - b. You deserve to die! Don't ask for my help!
 - c. I'm sorry, but I cannot help you.



When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals--one on his right, the other on his left.

Luke 23:33

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