

JESUS IS OUR PENALTY BEARER

STORY: REDEMPTION

BIG TRUTH: JESUS IS OUR PENALTY BEARER

Isaiah 53:4-6; Romans 8:1-4; Galatians 3:13-14; Ephesians 5:2; Colossians 2:13-15

BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 53:5

"But He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed."

BIG IDEAS

- Someone has to be punished for our sin.
- Jesus bore our punishment as penalty-bearer.
- Jesus was crushed, rejected, wounded, and killed so we do not have to be.
- God's righteous wrath was poured out on Jesus so we might be forgiven.

BIBLE STORY: LEVITICUS 16

God gave instructions to Moses and Aaron to institute a Day of Atonement in the temple to atone for the sins of the people. This day was a time when the high priest would make a sacrifice on behalf of the people to pay for their sins. It pointed to the coming of God's Son, Jesus who took our place on the cross. He died the death we deserved so we would not have to.

STORY: REDEMPTION

Thankfully, God does not just leave us in the broken world, but is repairing the brokenness through His Son. From the very beginning of time, God promised He would fix creation, and He kept His promise by sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin. Jesus came to live on the earth and willingly died on the cross so that sin's power over creation would be broken forever.

BIG AIMS



KNOW

Every child should know that:

- God sent Jesus to die in our place as our substitute
- We need a substitute because we cannot pay our sin debt on our own



DO

Every child should:

- Talk about why we need a substitute and how Jesus is our substitute



FEEL

Every child should feel:

- Awe at Jesus's willingness to sacrifice Himself as our substitute



WANT

Every child should want:

- To believe in Jesus's work on their behalf to pay their sin debt

FAMILY DEVOTION: THE PENALTY BEARER

We all owe a sin debt that we cannot pay. God provided a sacrifice for us so that we would not have to die the death our sin required. He sent Jesus to atone for our sin just like He commanded Moses and Aaron to institute a Day of Atonement to pay for the people's sins.

BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 53:5

"But He was wounded for our transgressions; He was crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed."

Jesus bore the punishment that we deserve.

- We all deserve to die for our sin.
- We reject God and rebel against Him. Our sin bears a punishment of death.
- In order for our sin to be paid for, or atoned, a sinless sacrifice had to be made.
- We cannot make that sacrifice for ourselves.
- God made a way for us to be free from the sin debt we owe by sending His Son Jesus to take our place.
- Jesus bore the punishment that we deserve and died on the cross for our sin.
- Jesus lived a sinless life and did not deserve to die, yet He died in our place.

Through His sacrifice for us we have peace with God.

- While we are in our sin, we are enemies to God.
- We war against Him, reject, and rebel against Him.
- Because Jesus paid our sin debt, we no longer have to live as enemies to God.
- We also are no longer under the wrath of God. We can be at peace with God because Jesus died the death we owe.
- He sacrificed Himself on our behalf so we can call God friend.

Our sin debt is fulfilled through Him.

- No person could pay for his or her own sin debt.
- We are all sinful and unable to be the perfect sacrifice.
- Jesus came to the earth to become like us. He lived the perfect life, always obeying God, and then He took on our sin when He went to the cross.
- He died on the cross for our sin, and God saw our sin debt as fulfilled.
- We no longer have to pay the debt when we repent of our sin and believe in Jesus.

BIBLE STORY: LEVITICUS 16

The Day Of Atonement

Opening Illustration:

Gather together clear contact paper, different colored tissue paper (torn and balled up), and black construction paper. Draw a cross on the construction paper and then cut the inside of the cross out, leaving a one inch edge. Next, place the contact paper over the cross and place it sticky side up. Give the children different colored tissue paper to place on the contact paper. Once they finish filling in the contact paper with tissue paper, place another piece of contact paper on the back of the cross. Remind the children that the cross shows us that God rescues us from our sin and brokenness. He fixes our brokenness by sending Jesus to pay our sin debt.

BIG IDEA: SOMEONE HAS TO BE PUNISHED FOR OUR SIN.¹**Our sin requires a punishment.**

- Our sin is rebellion against God.
- Because we sin against God, we must pay for our sin.
- The punishment for our sin is death. In order for our sin to be atoned for, someone must die.
- This punishment is just and right because it comes from God.
- God is right and just; therefore, all that He does is right and just.



Divide the children into small groups or pairs and ask the children to define the words “debt” and “life”. Allow the children to share their definitions and then discuss with them what it means to owe a debt and then to have someone else pay that debt.

We are unable to pay our own sin debt.

- Because we are all sinful, we cannot pay our own sin debt.
- In order for our sin debt to be paid, a sinless sacrifice must be made.
- There is no person who is without sin.
- We all reject God.
- We all rebel against God and choose to follow our sinful hearts instead of following His Word.

Our sin debt must be paid in order for us to live.

- The wages of our sin is death. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, death entered the world.
- We are all born spiritually dead, and in order for us to live spiritually, our sin debt must be paid.
- Because we cannot pay our debt, we need a substitute—someone who can pay our debt for us.
- Since our sin debt is paid, we are given new life spiritually, and we will live forever with God.

Why does someone have to be punished for our sin? (In order for us to live spiritually, our sin debt must be paid.)

1. 2 Corinthians 5:10: *Our sin requires judgment and will be judged. Our sin debt must be paid.*

BIG IDEA: JESUS BORE OUR PUNISHMENT AS PENALTY-BEARER.²**Jesus took on our sin so we might be free.**

- We are all born enslaved to our sin nature.
- We choose sin because our hearts are sinful.
- We are blinded from the truth by our sinful hearts that lead to sinful choices and actions.
- Jesus lived a perfect life on earth.
- He was not sinful at all. He was always obedient and lived according to God's commands.
- Jesus took on our sin and was seen as sinful for our sake.
- Just as God accepted the blood sacrifice for the people's sin on the Day of Atonement, He accepted Jesus as the sacrifice for our sin.



Divide the children into pairs or small groups. Set a timer for thirty seconds or a minute and ask the groups to make a list of as many situations that result in a person owing a penalty as they can. Help them think of a few examples to get started. Discuss with them how God sent Jesus to be our penalty bearer.

Jesus was the perfect sacrifice for our sin.

- When Adam and Eve sinned, they died spiritually because they were cut off, or separated from God.
- We are all born spiritually dead and unable to save ourselves.
- Because the result of our sin was death, a sacrificial death was required to give us new life.
- Jesus lived a perfect life as a human, so He was the perfect sacrifice for our sin.
- He died sinless, taking on our sin, and bearing the wrath of God in our place.

Jesus bore our punishment though He was perfect.

- Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice for us when He became sin for our sake.
- He died the death we deserve and bore the punishment of God in our place.
- He felt the full wrath of God when He was on the cross. We deserve to feel God's wrath, yet we do not have to because of Jesus.
- Jesus took our place, and now we can live in freedom.

How did Jesus bear our punishment? (He took our place on the cross and became sin for our sake.)

2. 2 Corinthians 5:21: Jesus knew no sin, yet He became sin for our sake and bore our punishment on the cross.

BIG IDEA: JESUS WAS CRUSHED, REJECTED, WOUNDED, AND KILLED SO WE DO NOT HAVE TO BE.³

We deserve eternal damnation for our sin.

- Every person deserves to feel the full wrath of God.
- We are all sinful and continue to sin even though God has revealed Himself to us, so we deserve the righteous punishment for our sinfulness.
- We all reject God and choose to disobey His Word.
- We rebel against God and suppress the truth about Him.
- Because we are so sinful and our sin is so great against God, we deserve to be separated from God for all of eternity.



Give the children an index card and a marker. Ask the children a series of questions about their behavior for the week, such as “did you obey your parents always?”, etc. Ask the children to write down the behaviors they are guilty of and then to share what a consequence of that behavior would be. Talk with them about what it feels like when our parents show mercy and grace to us. Talk with the children about how we all sin and deserve to be punished, but Jesus took our punishment.

Jesus suffered the death we deserve.

- The wage of our sin is death. God told Adam and Eve if they ate of the tree of knowledge that they would die.
- When they ate of the tree, they were instantly separated spiritually from God, which resulted in the spiritual death of every person.
- We are all spiritually dead and deserve to die for our sin.
- Jesus took our place and died the death we deserve.
- He died physically and spiritually as He was separated from God while He was on the cross.

We no longer have to pay our sin debt.

- Jesus’ death on the cross fulfilled the sin debt that we owe.
- God sees Jesus’ death as satisfactory in paying our sin debt.
- Because God accepts Jesus’ death on our behalf, we no longer have to pay our own sin debt.
- We are free from that debt because Jesus suffered the punishment we deserve.
- He was beaten, crushed, and accused in our place, and now we do not have to face that.

What is significant about the fact that Jesus bore our punishment? (Because Jesus bore our punishment, we do not have to face the just punishment we deserve.)

3. Psalm 103:10: God does not deal with us according to our own sinfulness because He dealt with Jesus in our place.

BIG IDEA: GOD'S RIGHTEOUS WRATH WAS POURED OUT ON JESUS SO WE MIGHT BE FORGIVEN.⁴

Jesus came to the earth to take our place.

- When God commanded Moses to institute a Day of Atonement, it pointed to the coming of the promised Messiah who would satisfy man's sin debt once and for all.
- Jesus was born as a man in order to live a perfect life so that He could pay our sin debt.
- He came to the earth, setting aside His rights and privileges as God, to take our place on the cross.
- Jesus was our atonement offering.



Ask the children to make a list of causes and effects, such as playing in the rain causes you to get wet, etc. Help the children see that our sin is the cause of God's wrath. Remind them that Jesus bore that wrath for us.

God poured the wrath we deserve on Jesus.

- Our sin required a payment. The payment for our sin is death.
- When Jesus came to the earth, He went to the cross to take our place, to be our substitute.
- While He was on the cross, He took on our sin and bore the full cup of wrath that we should have experienced.
- God's wrath poured onto Jesus meant that Jesus experienced separation from God.
- Jesus felt the full weight of God's judgment that we deserved.

Jesus suffered the wrath of God on our behalf.

- When Jesus came to the earth, He came for mankind.
- He went to the cross and took on our sin so that we might have forgiveness of sin, and the hope of eternal life with God.
- Jesus suffered in our place so that we might be reconciled to God.
- We do not have to experience the wrath of God because Jesus took our place and became our substitute.

How was God's wrath satisfied on our behalf? (Jesus suffered in our place and bore the wrath of God that we deserved.)

4. 1 John 4:10: God made Jesus the sacrifice on our behalf.

HOOKS

**The Sacrificial Lamb**

Bring in paper plates, cotton balls, and glue. Help the children draw the outline of a lamb on their plate. Next, help the children glue cotton balls inside of the outline of their lamb. As they glue the cotton balls, talk to the children about how each cotton ball represents a sin that we commit. Lead them in a discussion about how Jesus was our sacrificial lamb.



- Jesus knew no sin. He lived a perfect life.
- When He died on the cross, He took on our sin and became our substitute.
- He was our sacrificial lamb and He died in our place.

**Our Penalty Bearer**

Help the children create a lamb's mask using a paper plate, markers, and a craft stick. Ask the children to draw a lamb's face on their paper plate and then use scissors to cut out eyes and a mouth. Use glue to attach the mask to the craft stick. Lead the children in a discussion about how Jesus is our penalty bearer. He took on our sins.



- Just like a sacrificial lamb was used on the Day of Atonement, our sin required a sacrifice.
- Jesus became our sacrificial lamb and took our place on the cross.
- He bore our punishment, and now we do not have to bear the punishment that we deserve.