



Blood & Fireworks - Day 1

Sin is a Disastrous Accident Waiting to Happen!

There are two ways to live our lives. We can live God's way, or we can live our own way.

When we live our lives God's way, life is more fun. Plus, we get protected from choices that can harm us.

When we live our own way we can hurt ourselves and other people. You see, we all have a disease. It doesn't make us vomit or sneeze. It's a spiritual sickness and it makes us selfish and mean and greedy and hurtful. The name of the disease is 'sin'.

God can heal us from this disease if we follow Jesus, but if we live our lives our own way, we'll get sicker and sicker with sin. We will hurt more and more people, and we'll be harming ourselves too. Like driving dangerously in a car, it's an accident waiting to happen!

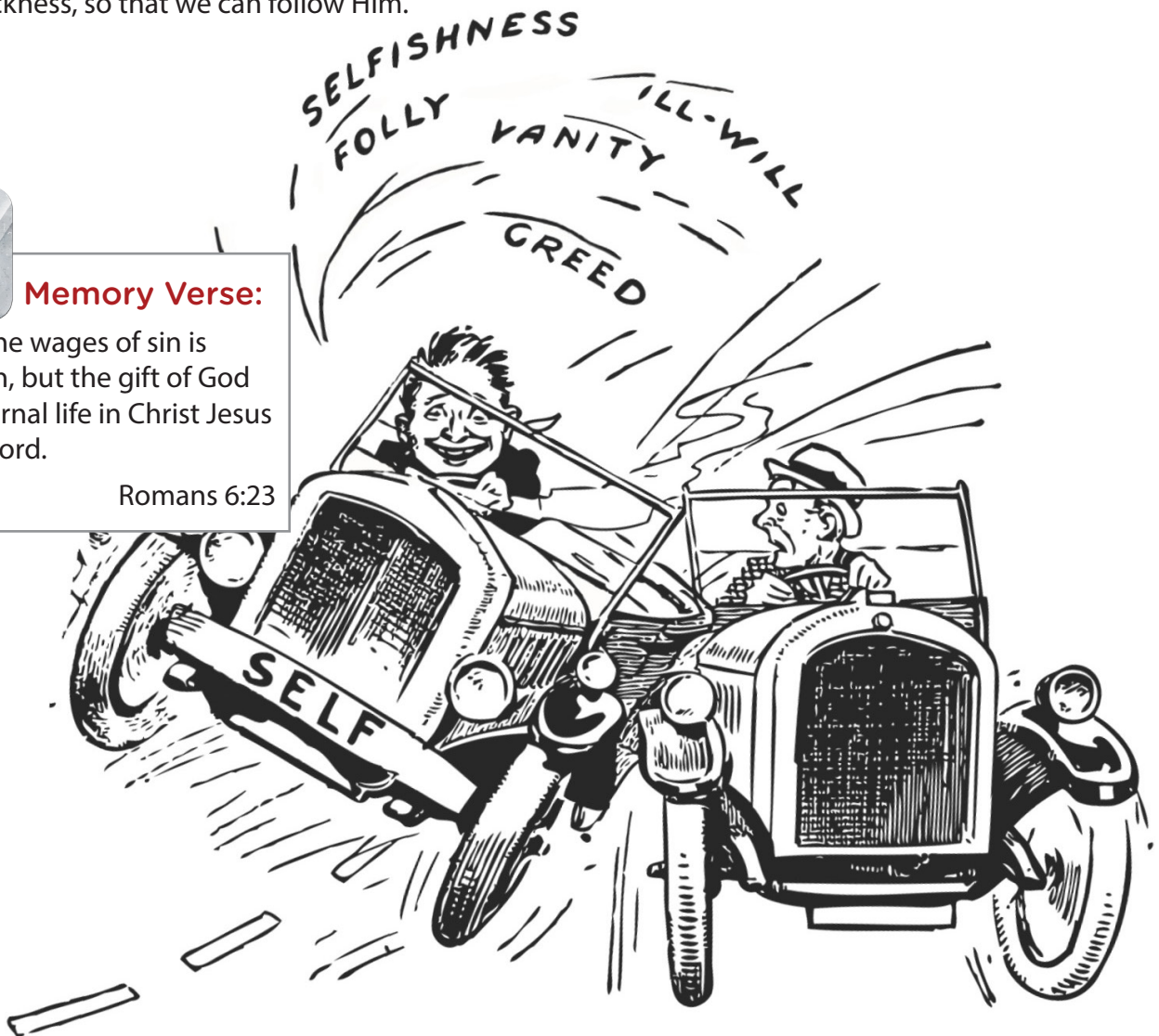
It is much better to follow Jesus, say sorry for the things we've done wrong and ask Him to heal us from our sin-sickness, so that we can follow Him.



Memory Verse:

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23





Blood & Fireworks - Day 2

Let's eat, drink and be merry?

No! Look at all of those people partying, enjoying themselves and kicking back. The salvation soldier is trying to catch their attention, to call them from their distractions to the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ where they can find salvation.

The problem is that the alcohol and other drugs (deadly poisons), the gambling, the gluttony (eating like a pig all the time) are all harmful. For some in the picture, that harm includes addiction, shame and ruin. Broken families and broken promises, lost jobs and lost hope are the result from some of these habits. But for others, their 'pleasure' means that other people, maybe not in the picture, are harmed.

These other people are trafficked, are enslaved, are forced to work in unhealthy conditions to produce the goods and services that those in the picture are enjoying. The salvation soldier is blasting the truth into their ears, trying to make more noise than the blaring sounds of the harmful party, so that they will stop their sinning.



Memory Verse:

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

Proverbs 14:12





Blood & Fireworks - Day 3

God Can Save Anyone

Do you ever think that someone is too bad to get saved? Maybe you think about the biggest bully in school, or a terrible criminal who hurts a lot of people, or someone who kidnaps children. Lots of people think that these types of people are too bad to get saved.

But the amazing thing is that Jesus can save any of them. He died for all sin once and for all. That means all of my sins and all of your sins. And, there is enough blood that Jesus shed to cover all of their sins, too. Every one. God is spectacular.

What we have to remember is that none of us deserve to get saved. We have all sinned. Our sin separates all of us from God.

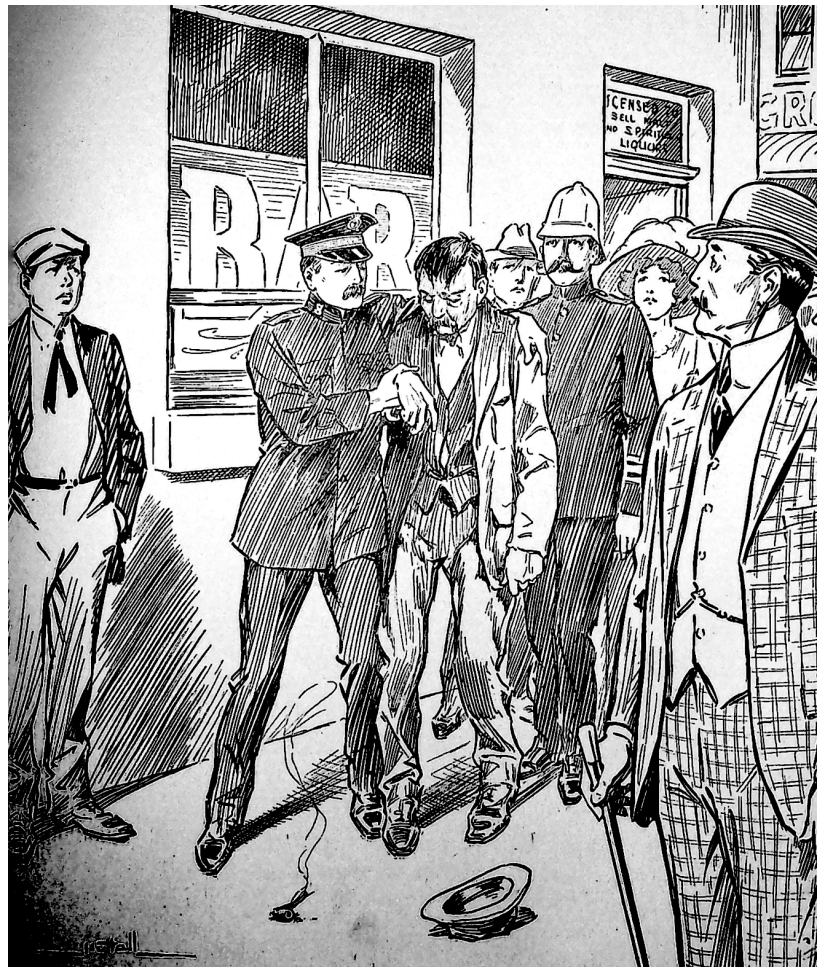
But we also have to remember that all of us can repent and believe. And that's what Jesus said was necessary to be saved. So, you can repent and believe. We can. And the very worst people on the planet can do it, too. And do you know what? Some of them have! Some of the worst people have been saved by God once they turned from their sins! Hallelujah.



Memory Verse:

But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8





Blood & Fireworks - Day 4

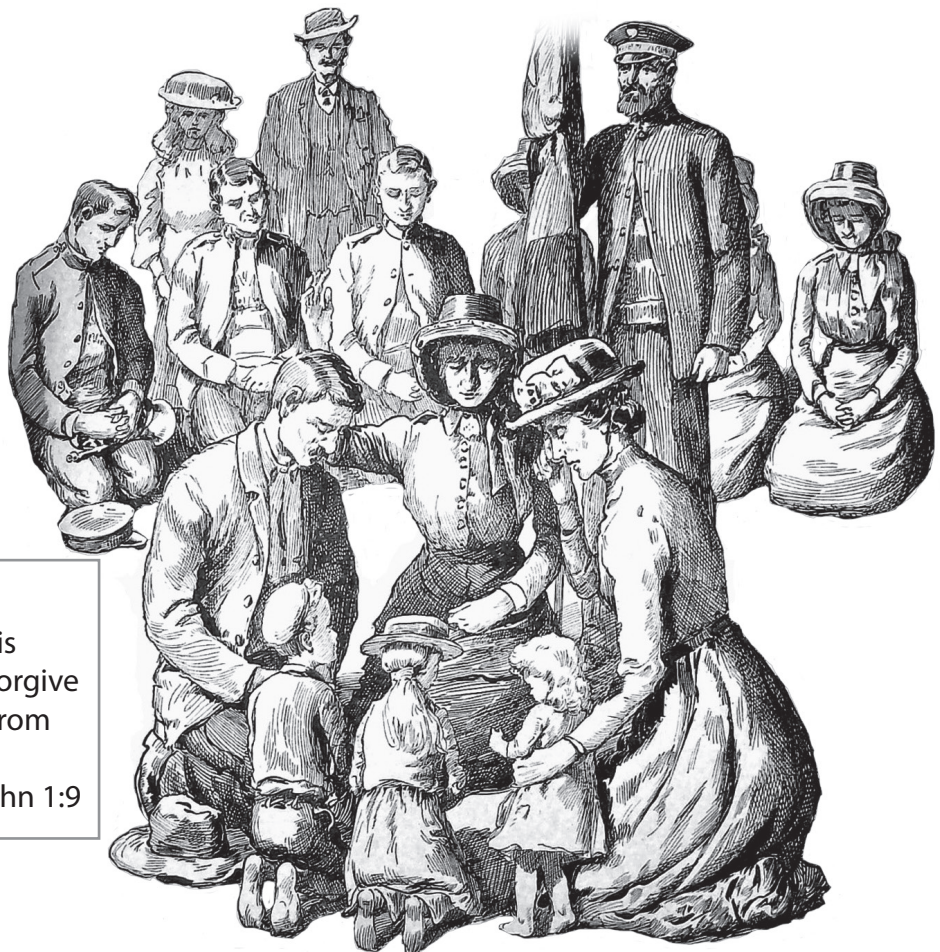
The Mercy Seat

The salvation soldiers in this picture have just had an open air meeting and have come to the most important part of any Salvation Army meeting: the appeal time, also called the prayer meeting. This is the time in the meeting where saints and sinners can encounter God at the mercy seat or the holiness table. Here, the salvation soldiers have used a drum as a makeshift mercy seat. It doesn't matter what it's made of, what matters is that God is there.

We can pray to God at the mercy seat and ask Him to take away our sins and help us to follow Jesus. When we want to give God our whole lives, and ask Him to make us belong to Himself, we can do this at the holiness table. Even if we're just having a bad day and want to pray, we can use these places to meet with God.

When you use the mercy seat or holiness table, usually someone will come and offer to pray with you. They are there to help you and you can talk with them.

God loves you, and loves it when you decide to meet with Him. Have you ever given Him your life and asked Jesus to take away your sins? You don't have to wait until Sunday when you can use the mercy seat, you can ask Him right now today!



Memory Verse:

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9



Blood & Fireworks - Day 5

Every Nation in This Generation!

You might not know this old song, but it says, 'all are precious in His sight, Jesus loves the little children of the world.' That includes you. But it also includes kids your age in every single country in the world. It includes kids who speak Farsi and Swahili and English and Mandarin and Arabic and Spanish and French and your language, too, if it isn't part of that list! Jesus loves all of you.

Jesus died for all children, regardless of where they were born or where they live, or how much money their parents make or if they even have parents, how they travel to the shops and if they can afford to buy anything once they arrive. He loves all of you.

And the exciting news is that all kinds of children from all over are giving their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ. We know from the Bible that there will be followers of Jesus from every tribe and every language and every nation.

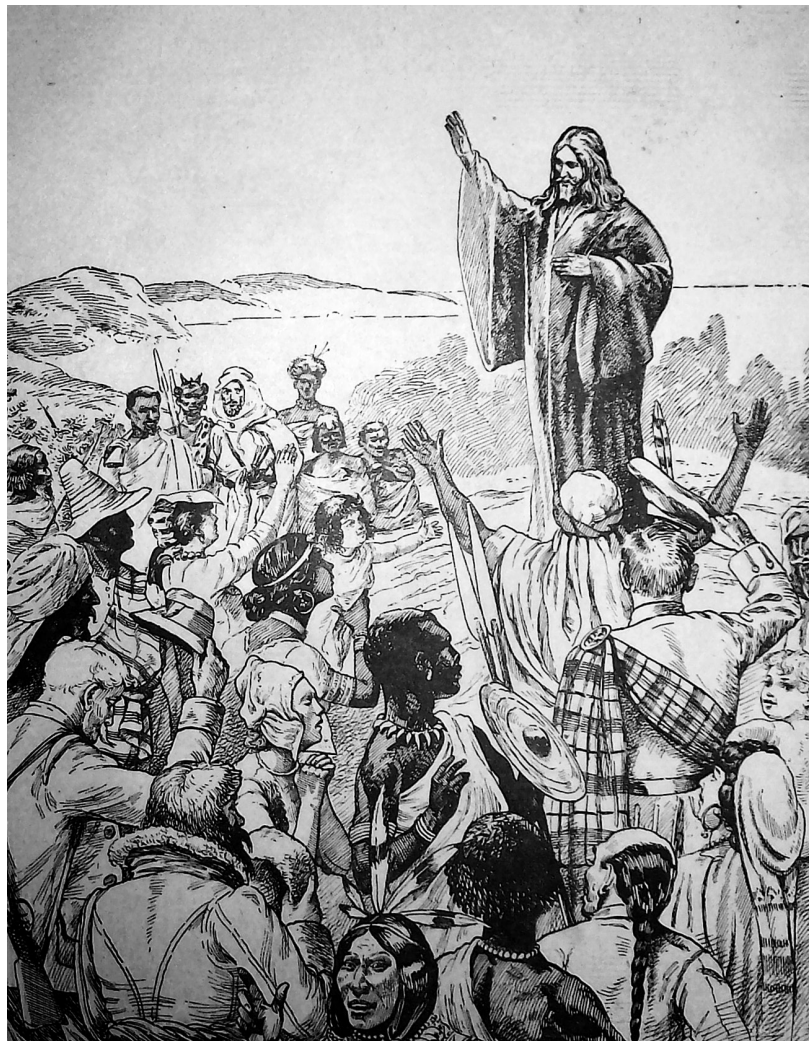
Do you think we can reach every nation in this generation? Let's start with you! And your friends!



Memory Verse:

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16





Blood & Fireworks - Day 6

Family Unity

We know that some families are like the one in the picture. Not everyone is moving in the same direction. This is a terrible danger.

Demons hate families because they represent the love and togetherness of the Trinity (that's God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit).

God created families and He loves them. He wants us all to love Him together. In fact, our fellowship as families really exists through our fellowship with God.

So, as a child, you have a few responsibilities. First, pray that God will unite your family. Second, make sure you are saved by Jesus. Third, make sure that you are behaving like Jesus would, so that your siblings and parents will see God has made you new. Fourth, try to get the rest of your family saved. Fifth, try to help your friends.



Memory Verse:

We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and His Son.

1 John 1:3



Blood & Fireworks - Day 7

Anyone Can Follow Jesus

Jesus commands us a bunch of times to follow Him (e.g. in Mark1:17), and we all know that 'life is more fun when you're good!'

Following Jesus means that we live our lives in a way that pleases Him – where we love God with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, and love other people just as much as we love ourselves. When we follow Jesus we join a special club of people called Christians.

See all the different types of people following Him in the picture? This club is open to everyone! That's right, anyone is allowed to follow Jesus. All they have to do to become a Christian (and all we have to do to become a Christian) is to repent (that means turn away) from our sins and say sorry to God the Father, ask Jesus to forgive us (and believe that He will), and ask the Holy Spirit to live inside us and help us to follow Him well.

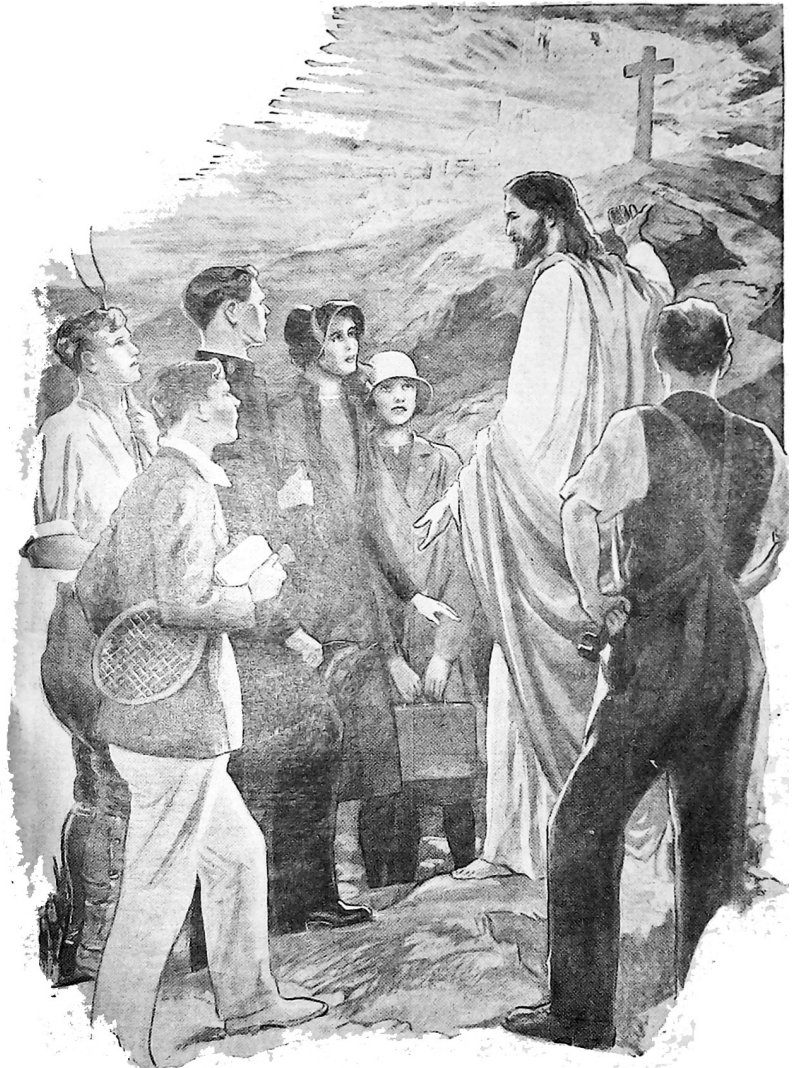
And you know what? A life spent following Jesus is the best kind of life you can get!



Memory Verse:

Then He called the crowd to Him along with His disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.

Mark 8:34





Blood & Fireworks - Day 8

Jesus Fought the Good Fight for You

He did. Jesus did not have to suffer and die. He could have stayed in heaven, worshiped by countless angels all the time.

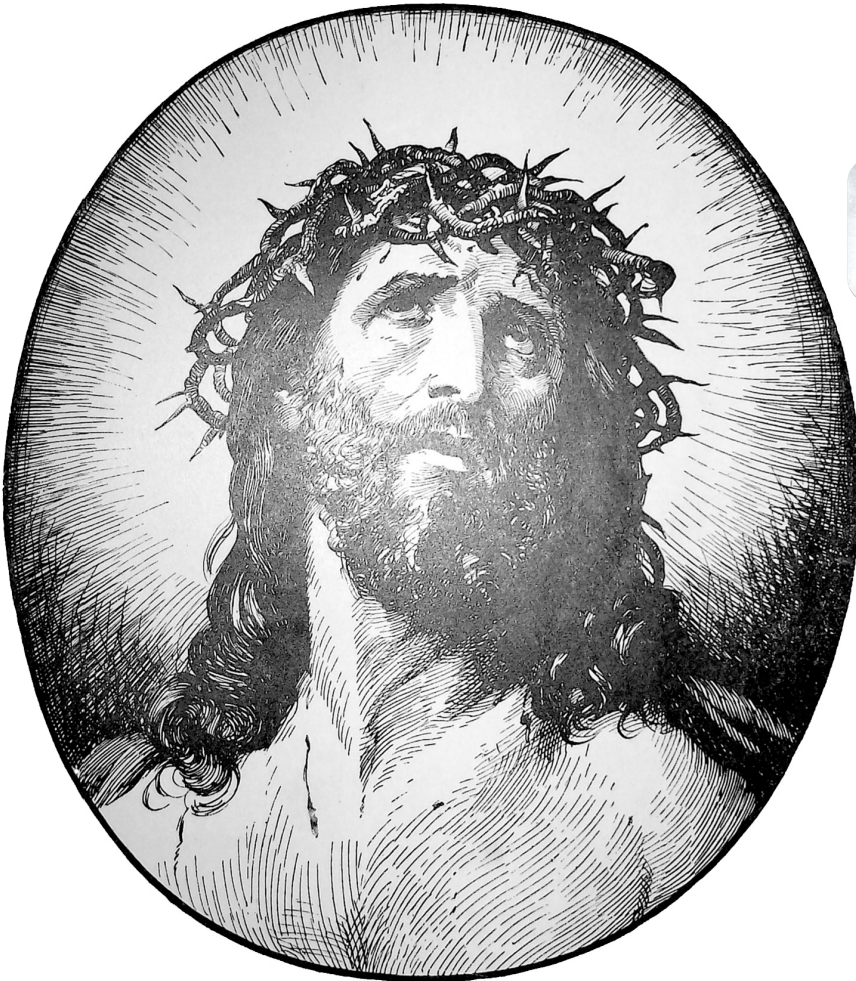
Instead, He came down to earth. He was born poor, in difficult circumstances. He lived a perfect life – never sinning. He came to seek and to save all who were lost (that’s all of us!).

And to do that, He was cursed and beaten and oppressed and falsely charged. And He was killed. He was crucified (nailed to a cross) and there He died for your sins and ours.

The great news is that He came back to life again on the third day!

Why? He loves your socks off. He really loves you. On the cross, He fought and defeated the devil. Then he conquered sin and death. He was punished for your sins. He did it all so that you can be saved.

How can you respond to that? Turn from your sins and trust and obey Jesus. He fought the good fight for you.



Memory Verse:

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.

1 Peter 3:18