

GOODNESS

PINE COVE

SILVERADO



AHEAD

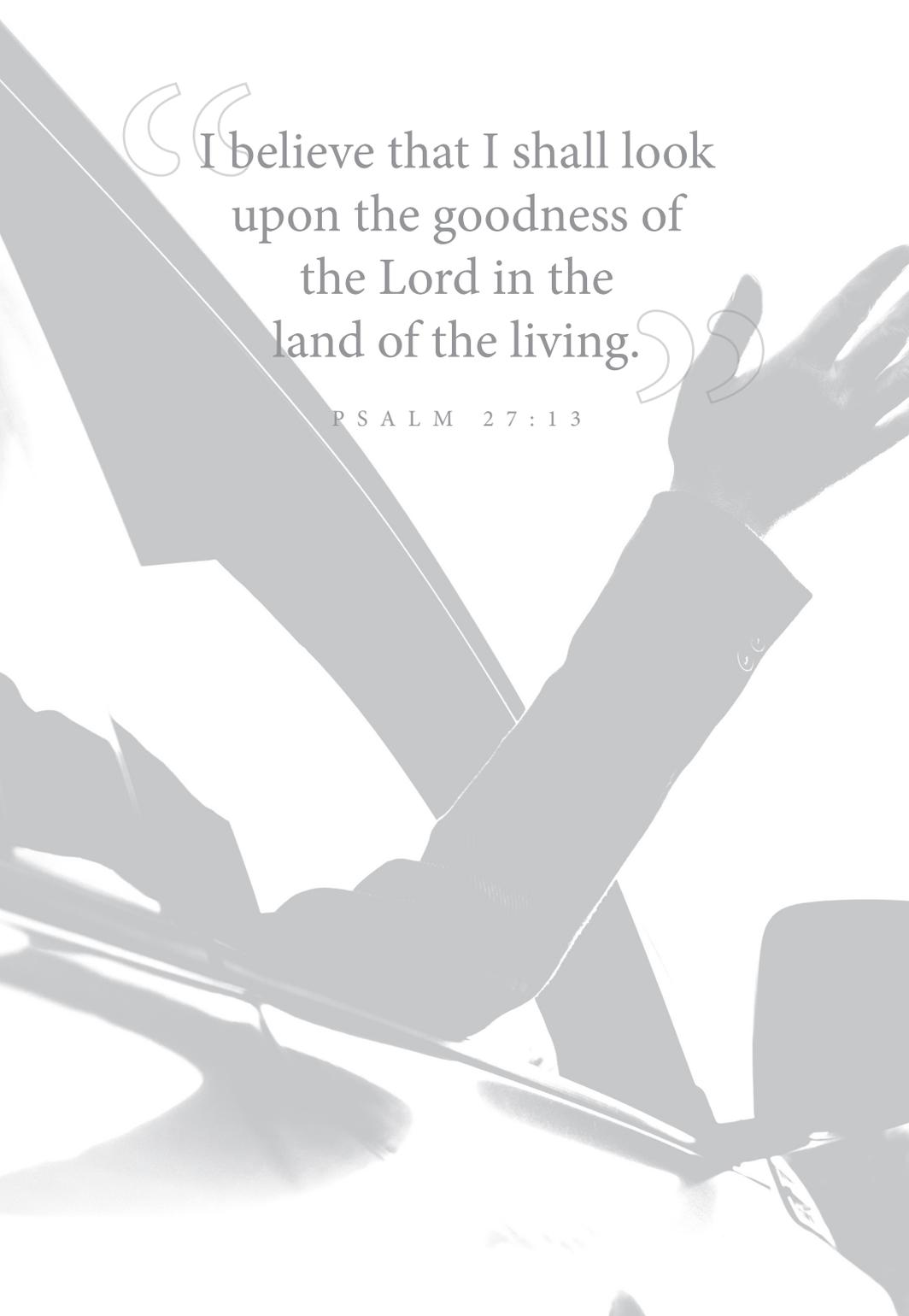
I REMAIN CONFIDENT OF THIS:
I WILL SEE THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING.
PSALM 27:13

2 0 2 5

Silverado Bible Study

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**GOODNESS
AHEAD**



I believe that I shall look
upon the goodness of
the Lord in the
land of the living.

P S A L M 2 7 : 1 3

Pine Cove Silverado Campers!

We made it to Summer 2025! I cannot believe that you are going to spend the next week with us! We have planned, prepped and prayed for you to be here all year. I'm so thankful that you get to learn more about who Jesus is, do an awesome blob and even be one of the first campers to go on the three man swing! In this week's Bible study, we are going to learn about God's goodness and what He has promised us.

Throughout this Bible study I hope you see that God intends what is harmful for good in our lives and ultimately says that He will make it all okay. He is good and LOVES giving good gifts to us. His best gift yet was Jesus, who not only saved us from our sins but listens to our prayers right now, fights for us, and will one day turn everything around us from sad to happy. One day, all that will be left is goodness with our Father! How cool is that?

Last summer we went on a road trip everyday through the Bible study, and I think it is only fitting to do that once more. After all, 'Goodness Ahead' makes me think about those cool road signs you see when you are traveling.

Each day is split into five different sections: start the GPS (pray), hit the road (read the story), pit stop! (questions about the story), car game (questions about us), find the destination (learn the verse). When we conclude each day I hope you see that God is Good right now and forever!

Looking towards the Goodness Ahead,
Smilin'
Silverado Camp Director



START THE GPS:

Every journey has a destination, and to get there it's helpful to use a map or GPS. In our journey with Jesus, talking to Him is like using a GPS. It helps us see more clearly where we are going. We will start each day with prayer and talking to Jesus.



HIT THE ROAD:

When we hit the road, we will start to read God's Word. Looking at His Word helps us to get through the journey of life.



PIT STOP!

After reading for a while, we will take a pit stop! This means we will ask questions about what we read and talk about the truth we are hearing.



CAR GAME:

A good road trip passes more quickly when you have a fun game to play! We will talk about how the story applies to our lives, how we are to live because of what we have learned, and what it teaches us about God.



FIND THE DESTINATION:

Once you have ended your journey, you will arrive at your destination! In the Bible study, this means you will memorize the Bible verse to hide God's Word in your heart. During this week we will learn that when we trust in Jesus, our final destination in life is one FULL OF JOY!

STORIES

God's Promise: Ultimately, Everything will be Good.

Day 1: Adam and Eve

Verse: "Behold, it was very good."

GENESIS 1:3B

Day 2: Ruth

Verse: "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you without a redeemer!"

RUTH 4:14

Day 3: David and Goliath

Verse: "Go, and the Lord be with you!"

1 SAMUEL 17:37

Day 4: Jesus' Death

Verse: "He humbled himself to the point of death on a cross."

PHILIPPIANS 2:9

Day 5: Jesus' Resurrection

Verse: "Behold, I am making all things new."

REVELATION 21:5

Day 1: Adam and Eve



START THE GPS:

Lord, your story is beautiful and exciting and sometimes heart breaking. We know that you are good and you want good things for us. We ask today that you would show us what it looks like to trust your goodness.



HIT THE ROAD:

Genesis 1-3

Genesis 1:10,26-31; Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-19

Picture this: Nothing.

Kind of hard to picture, right? There are so many people and places that fill our minds. But a long long time ago there was nothing. Well, nothing but God. There were no people or camps or oceans or puppies. No stars in the sky or birds in the air. Nothing... except God.

There was nothing until one day God decided there should be something. He decided to create good light, good oceans and good land. He wove together good plants and animals, good stars and a good Sun and moon. He only created good things. And God loved all that He created.

God realized something though, this beautiful, good creation was missing something. It was missing something that was like Him. It was missing ... people. So, he created people! He created people to be like Him. We feel like Him and create like Him, we play like Him and laugh like Him. We have friendships like Him and enjoy creation like Him. We are made in *His image. He made His kids like Himself!*

The first two humans were Adam and Eve. He loved them so much. He said they were VERY good. The world He created was for them to enjoy. To play in and laugh in and to work and raise their family in! He loved giving them this good gift! More than anything though, He loved being WITH them. He loved it because He is good!

Adam and Eve lived in their new home and loved doing life with God and together. They were joyful and peaceful, humble and kind. They laughed together and joked together, they created things together and worked together. God was with them for it all. God told them one thing - do not eat the fruit that will make you think you don't need Me!

I wish that the story could go on this good, but sadly Adam and Eve had an enemy. Someone who hated them and hated God. He did not want God's kids to have good things and definitely did not want God's kids to be with God. So, he stepped in and tried to steal all the goodness. He tried to steal their bond with God. He tricked them into disobeying God. He made them wonder if God was really good. He made them question if God really loved them. In their fear of losing God's love and closeness, they chose to disobey. Then something terrible happened to earth. Sadness, pain, sin, tears and death entered God's good creation. All of a sudden, everything shifted. Things began to crumble and the goodness was harder to see.

Adam and Eve immediately knew something was wrong. They knew something horrible had happened and they weren't sure if God would still love them, so they hid from Him. God came looking for them with sadness in His heart, knowing His kids would suffer now. He was sad because all this goodness He made was now going to unravel. His heart was shattered and the people He loved so deeply were now in darkness.

But God's unstoppable love would not let our story end here. He had a plan and He told them to wait on His Goodness Ahead. One day, He would make everything new. One day, we would get to be with God again. But a lot would have to happen before that was possible.



PIT STOP:

What stuck out to you in the story?

What does God think about creation? About us?

What do you think life was like before Adam and Eve disobeyed?

Do you want that kind of life?

What was the saddest part of the story to you?

What was the most hopeful?



CAR GAME: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

Where do you see God's goodness in this story?

What do you want to remember from this story?

What questions do you have about this story?



FIND THE DESTINATION:

Memorize: "Behold, it was very good." Genesis 1:31b

Day 2: Ruth



START THE GPS:

Lord, We know that you are good. Sometimes life does not seem good. There is sadness and pain, sorrow and death. You have promised that You will make everything better someday. We ask that when we see Ruth's story, it will give us hope!



HIT THE ROAD:

Ruth 1-4

Ruth 1:1-5, 19-22; 2:8-13; 3:10-13; 4:4-6; 4:13-22.

Adam and Eve had kids and their kids had kids and so on. There were families and sin, floods and escape from slavery. There were wars and babies born and so much that happened between Adam and the story of Ruth. The years in between included God promising to send Someone who would save the world! Someone who would make everything good again! The nations would outnumber the stars and God's people would be saved from death! Although this promise was made, there was a lot of waiting until this would happen.

God's people were waiting on their promised Savior. Searching and hoping for everything to be made right. God used many people along the way.

Naomi was a woman who was a part of God's people. She was married to a man she loved and they had two sons. They lived in a town called Bethlehem and were excited to raise their children there! Unfortunately, one day they had to make a difficult decision. You see, there was a famine (no food around) in Bethlehem and so Naomi and her husband had to decide if they would stay and starve or leave to find food. They decided to go to Moab to take care of their sons.

So, the family made it to Moab, but while they were there, Naomi's husband passed away. It was a hard time for her, and she missed him a lot! Life wasn't east but her story was not over yet!



On a happier note, her sons got married during those years! One married Ruth and one married Orpah. She was thrilled, seeing her sons excited to start families of their own.

Naomi had so many hopes and dreams for her family, there was certainly joy in the midst of the sadness of losing her husband. But then the years filled with more sadness. Both her sons passed away after her husband died. Naomi was devastated. She was so devastated that she began calling herself Mara which means “bitter.” She was sad, angry, and losing sight of any goodness ahead for her family. She did not really know what to do, but she knew she had to go back to Bethlehem to be closer to family. She wanted to be close to people who knew her and cared about her. So, she set out for Bethlehem. She told her two daughters-in-law to stay in Moab where they could start families of their own. Although a fine suggestion, Ruth did not like that idea. She decided to stay with Naomi, to care for her, to make sure she was not alone in her journey. So, Ruth went with Naomi to a place she had never lived and to people she had never met. Ruth was probably a little unsure what all would be in store for her but she told Naomi that no matter what she would stay with her.

They arrived to Bethlehem: two single, widowed women. They could not find work and could hardly find food. Things were not looking good...

A man named Boaz, who everyone respected and loved, showed them great care. He allowed them to eat from his field. He let them take his food so that they could live. He was an answered prayer as they tried to survive in this new place.

Naomi, still sad and heart broken over all the loss in her family, wanted Ruth to have a hope for a future family. She told Ruth to go to Boaz and ask him to redeem their family. Essentially, to ask Boaz to marry her. So, Ruth did! Boaz chose to take her as his wife and take care of her for the rest of her life! Naomi was thrilled - what seemed like a hopeless situation in her life turned into a time of great hope and rejoicing! God had provided for her family. But God had more he was going to do, more goodness for Naomi. Ruth and Boaz had a son! His name was Obed and he was the great great great great great....lots more greats grandfather of Jesus! The One who ultimately cares for, redeems, and provides hope for all of us!





God was working in every mundane, difficult moment of Naomi and Ruth's story. He was able to see that the tragedy was not going to last forever, He led them to the Goodness that was ahead. Ruth and her family are also a part of God's ultimate plan to bring Goodness to all people through Jesus!



PIT STOP:

- What stuck out to you in this story?
- What do you think you would feel if you were in Naomi's shoes?
- Why do you think Ruth decided to stay with Naomi?
- Where did Naomi and Ruth move together?
- What was the saddest part of the story to you?
- What was the most hopeful?



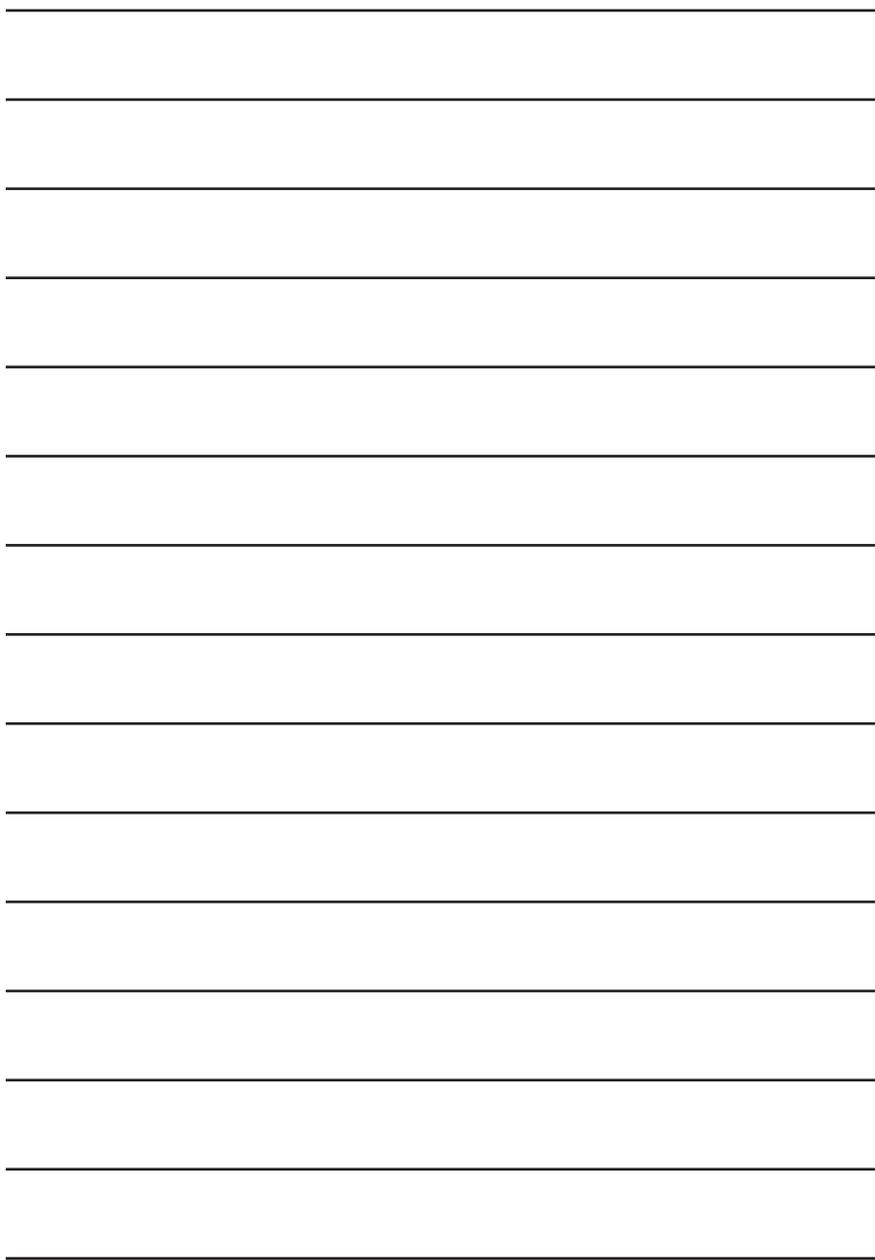
CAR GAME: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

- Where do you see God's goodness in this story?
- What do you want to remember from this story?
- What questions do you have about this story?



FIND THE DESTINATION:

Memorize: Verse: "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you without a redeemer!" Ruth 4:14



Day 3: David and Goliath



START THE GPS:

Lord, we know that you are trustworthy even when things are scary and hard. We ask that David's story would show us that You are powerful and provide for us no matter what we are facing.



HIT THE ROAD:

1 Samuel 17

1 Samuel 17:1-9; 31-37; 41-58

God's people continued to live in Israel. They grew and grew - Ruth's great grandson was a man named David. David was the youngest son of Jesse and in the eyes of his family wasn't very impressive. He was smaller than his brothers, younger than his brothers, and overall just seemed like he didn't fit in.

God's family faced some scary enemies. A group of people called the Philistines were the scariest. They were constantly trying to attack God's people. They wanted to take them over. One day they decided to attack using their scariest soldier. His name was Goliath and he was MASSIVE. A giant. No one had ever taken him down. He always won.

Until he faced God's people.

You see, Goliath knew he was the scariest soldier around. He knew that he could defeat just about anyone because of his size. He taunted God's people saying "I know I will win this. I know I will crush you."

But what Goliath did not know was that God had a plan for His people to defeat him. He sent David, the small boy from Jesse's family to defeat Goliath. God was with David as he went to fight. In fact, David's friend sent him into battle and said "Go and the Lord be with you!" I'm sure the Philistines laughed at that - thinking David did not stand a chance against massive Goliath. But guess what? David won! He won with a sling shot and a few smooth stones. He won because God is powerful and defeated His enemy. He won because ultimately, God always wins. There is always goodness when you are in God's family.

David defeated Goliath, and we see that God had the victory. Fast forward hundreds of years later and one of David's great great great... grandchildren would defeat the ultimate enemy for us. He would come to earth and seem small and unimpressive. No one would expect all that He would do and yet, He defeated the scariest enemy of all!



PIT STOP:

- What do you think David was thinking when he faced Goliath?
- What do you think God's people were thinking?
- What would be the hardest part of facing Goliath?
- What was the saddest part of the story to you?
- What was the most hopeful?



CAR GAME: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

- Where do you see God's goodness in this story?
- What do you want to remember from this story?
- What questions do you have about this story?



FIND THE DESTINATION:

Memorize:

Verse: "Go, and the Lord be with you!" 1 Samuel 17:37



Day 4: Jesus' Death



START THE GPS:

Lord, we trust you even when things around us don't make sense. You are good no matter what. Your love goes so deep for us. Thank you for taking our punishment for us and allowing us to have a relationship with you now.



HIT THE ROAD:

Matthew 27

Matthew 27:27-61

Fast forward many many years after David. God's family still grew. God's family still lived on the earth. They messed up a lot but God kept His Promises to them because that is what God does, it's who He is! The most important Promise was in the works - the Promise to us that God would send someone to take the punishment of our sins. God had been planning on this all along, showing His people that someone even better than Ruth and David and Adam and Eve was coming to the rescue!

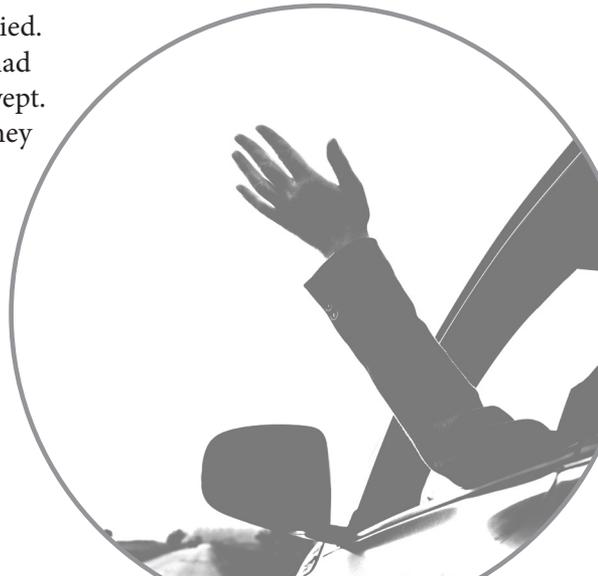
This man's name was Jesus and when He was born it was not in a mansion or in a family with a lot of money or power. He was God's Son which meant He had all power and authority and majesty. Instead, He was born into a normal family but in God's family. Fully God and fully human! He lived a life that was always connected to God. He walked and talked and lived exactly as God intended. He never turned His back on God, He never disobeyed or talked back or was mean or bullied anyone. He was perfect in a way that no one had been since God created earth and sin entered the world. Jesus' life was not about "doing the right thing" all the time. His life was about walking with God closely in His heart and listening to God. He walked in perfection, with a whole heart that trusted in God. He did this in a way that no one else can because everyone else is sinful. Because Jesus was whole and perfect, He was able to spend forever with God. He would not have to experience the tragedy of death. This isn't our story. Sadly, because of sin we are not able to spend forever with God. Because of our sin, we are separated from Him through death.

But, that's not what Jesus did. Jesus knew that if He wanted anyone else to walk with God in the way that He did - in perfect wholeness ... then He would need to die for us. He would need to bear the weight of all of the sickness and sorrow and pain in the world. He would need to be separated from His Father in order for sin to be eventually taken away completely. Jesus would choose to die for us. He did not have to - He did nothing to deserve death. But He chose to because He is loving and cares about us so much. He knew how sad and painful earth is and He did not want us to be stuck, away from God, away from what we were intended for, away from God's goodness. He wanted us to be able to be home safely with God, in heaven forever and ever.

So, one day, after Jesus had lived a life of love and joy and peace and patience and goodness and faithfulness and gentleness and self control, He was arrested. He had not done anything. He was innocent and definitely did not deserve to be arrested or beaten or made fun of or whipped or taken to a hill to die. He did not deserve this, but He chose to do this. And He hung from a cross for hours and hours, fighting to bear the weight of all of the darkness and sin in the world. Even as He was on the cross He prayed for the sinful people and asked God to forgive them.

And He did. With one final breath he said "It is finished." The payment was accomplished. Sin had been defeated. People could walk rightly with God again and walk in joy forever for the rest of eternity.

But this came at a price. Jesus died. He was gone. The people who had followed Him and loved Him wept. They were scared. What were they going to do now? What were they going to do now that the One who was supposed to save them was gone?





PIT STOP:

What do you think about this story?

How does this story make you feel?

Why do you think Jesus chose to die for us?

Did Jesus deserve death?

What was the saddest part of the story to you?

What was the most hopeful?



CAR GAME: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

Where do you see God's goodness in this story?

What do you want to remember from this story?

What questions do you have about this story?



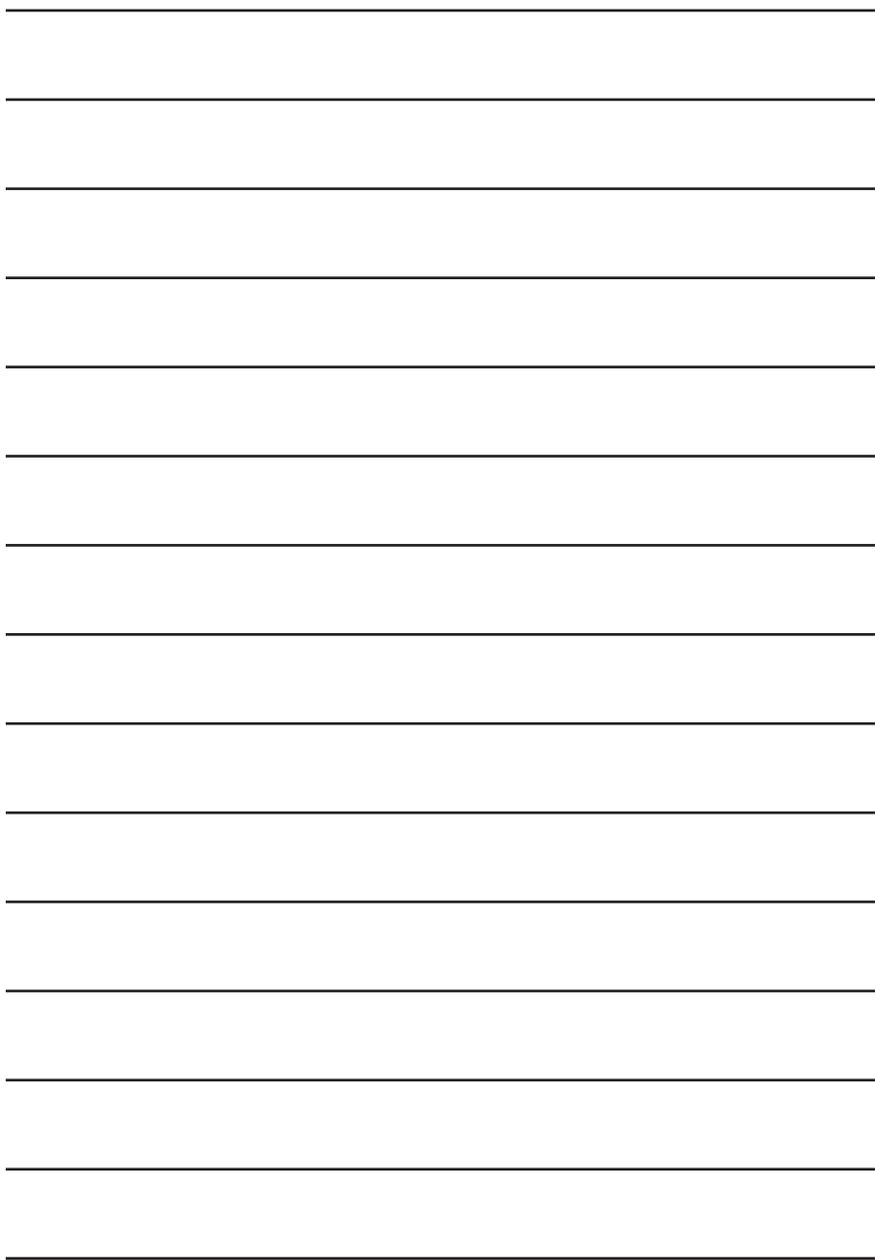
FIND THE DESTINATION:

Memorize:

Verse: "He humbled himself to the point of death on a cross."

Philippians 2:9





Day 4: Jesus' Resurrection



START THE GPS:

Lord, there is hope in the darkness for us because of your son Jesus. Thank you for giving us Jesus so that we can have life! We ask that You show us your goodness today when we see what Jesus did for us.
Amen



HIT THE ROAD:

Matthew 28

After Jesus' death, there were many people who were sad and crying and grieving. They lost not only their best friend but also who they thought was going to be their King forever. Now He was gone, and they were sad and confused. Back then, people were buried in tombs which means there was a BIG rock covering a cave where Jesus was. People would leave the flowers and incense (good smelling things!) around the tomb to honor their friend.

A group of women who were Jesus' friends were doing this three days after He was killed on the cross. They were going to honor Him and bring flowers to Him. When they arrived at the tomb they were startled and confused. The tomb was open...strange. So, they walked in the tomb, looking around for Jesus' body. He wasn't there ... strange. They started to worry, where could He be? Did someone take Him? What should they do?

Then, all of a sudden, they saw a man standing in front of them! They jumped back! This man started talking to them and said "He is not here, for He has risen, as He said!" The women looked at each other, what did this man just say? They couldn't believe it! Could it be true? Could Jesus really be back? Could they really hug him again and talk with Him again? Could it be true that He defeated death, the curse for sin?

They started walking back toward town and one of the women saw Jesus. The only thing was, at first she did not recognize Him. Then Jesus came closer to her and said "Mary!" As soon as He said her name, she knew who He was! She heard the voice of her friend and shepherd, Jesus and she could not believe it. Jesus told her, "go tell everyone that I'm alive!"



Mary went back and told everyone that would listen that Jesus, their Teacher, Friend, and Savior, was alive! Not only had they gained their friend back, but everyone who will ever live gained access to live in a place that is joyful and beautiful and filled with God's good presence.

Jesus made a way for us to be restored to everything God made us for! We will get to be with Him forever. We will get to laugh and play and be together! We will never cry again or be sad again. We will live with Him forever and it will be so GOOD! That is what we get to hope for and look forward to. There is Goodness Ahead! Jesus gave us that, the best gift in the whole world!!

So everything will end how it started: *with God forever and He will call it good.*



PIT STOP:

- What sticks out for you in this story?
- What does this true story mean for us?
- Why do you think Jesus' friends were so surprised He was gone?
- What do you think being with God forever will feel like?
- What do you think God wants for us, ultimately?
- What was the saddest part of the story to you?
- What was the most hopeful?



CAR GAME: WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?

- Where do you see God's goodness in this story?
- What do you want to remember from this story?
- What questions do you have about this story?



FIND THE DESTINATION:

Memorize:

Verse: Revelation 21:5 "Behold, I am making all things new."

