In the Beginning...Jesus

Lesson 1
What Happened Here?

Themes:

- The Bible is one complete, true story that reveals to us the solution to the greatest mystery of all—the death of Jesus on the cross.

Scripture:

Mark 14:43-44; Matthew 26:71b-72; 27:1-2, 30-31;
John 19:15b-16, 25, 36; Luke 23:49; Romans 16:25b-26a

Memory Verse:

During the year, the children will be learning two large scripture portions. The first portion, Isaiah 53:3-12, will be memorized in small increments in lessons 2-20. The second portion, John 1:1-18, will be memorized in lessons 20-39.

Home and Heart:

During the week, encourage your child to read through the events surrounding Jesus' death from Luke 22:47-23:49. After reading these verses, is it clear WHO killed Jesus and WHY? Why or why not? Have your child complete the back side of this page.

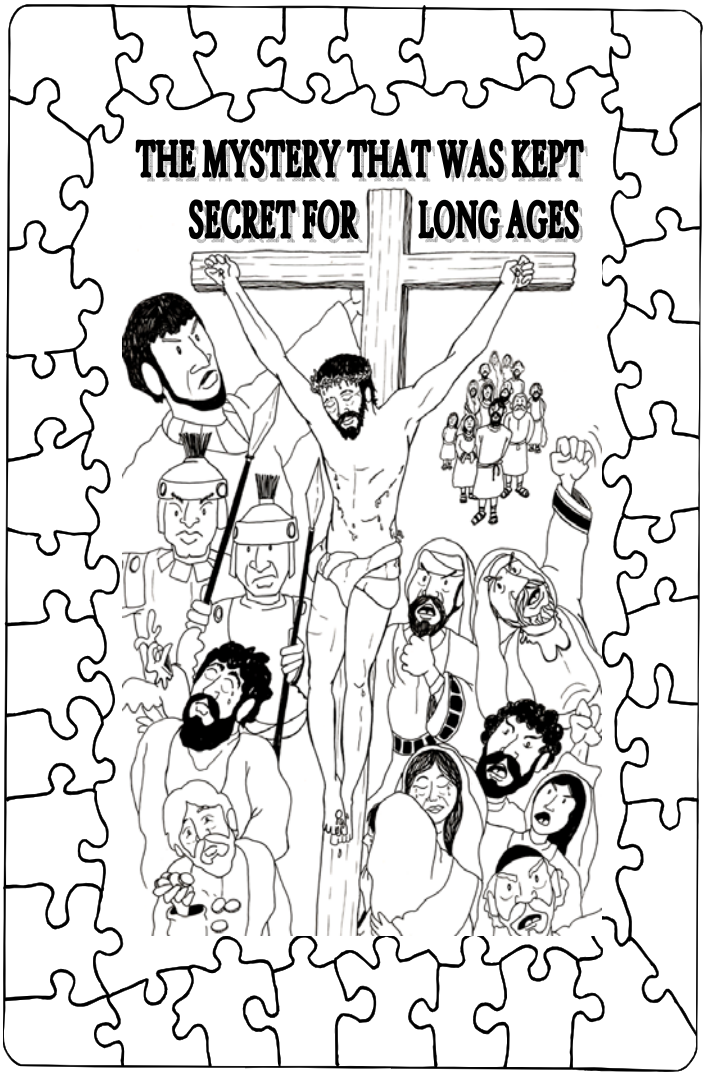
Read and discuss Luke 24:13-21. Did the two men walking along the road understand why Jesus had died? Why not? If available, show your child a few pieces of a puzzle in your house that he has not seen. Explain that these pieces are clues to what the whole puzzle looks like. By looking at the few pieces you gave him, is he able to guess what the whole puzzle looks like? Why not? Point out that even though he has been given many "clues" to the puzzle, without seeing the whole picture it is hard to understand how each individual piece fits together. The whole picture is a mystery. Point out that this was the way it probably was for the two men walking along the road and the other Jewish people who lived at the time of Jesus' death. They had the Old Testament—filled with many clues—but they could not understand how the clues fit together because they had not yet seen the whole picture. Read and discuss Romans 16:25-27. How has the mystery that was kept secret for long ages now been revealed? Who kept it a secret and why?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:8. Explain that this verse also refers to what happened to Jesus on the cross. Ask your child what he thinks this verse might mean. Read verses 6-9. Ask your child: *Do these verses help us understand verse 8? How? What had God been preparing to do for His people? How has this been revealed? When you read about the crucifixion of Jesus, what kinds of things do think about? How does it make you feel? Does it cause you to feel very sad? Glad? Thankful? All of these things? Or, does it not seem real to you? If so, why not?* Read and discuss 1 Corinthians 1:18.



DISCOVER MORE LUKE

During the week, read the events surrounding Jesus' death from Luke 22:47-71 and 23:1-49. After reading these verses, is it clear WHO killed Jesus? On the blank lines below, make a list of possible suspects based on the verses you read. Are there any suspects not mentioned in the verses you read? Try to answer the question, "Why did Jesus die?" Can you think of a Bible verse or verses to support your answer?



Who killed Jesus?
Possible suspects:

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Why did Jesus die? _____

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