

Q6

LIFE OF JESUS

An Easy Yoke

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Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're going to learn about a lesson Jesus taught to the people. Jesus often used everyday examples to teach important truths about who he was and what he came to do. In this story, Jesus talked about a yoke. A yoke was like a bracket that connected two animals together so they could work side by side to do a job. Back then, the people used yokes to plow their fields to grow their food. Plowing was a hard job and the animals would get tired if they had to do it all alone. So, yokes helped to make the job easier by having the animals work together. Jesus used the idea of the yoke to describe his love for us. See, Jesus came to die to pay for our sins. He did all the hard work for us. He doesn't make us do a bunch of stuff to earn his love and forgiveness, either. He offers it to us for free! Isn't that awesome? Do you know a great way to respond to Jesus' amazing gift of forgiveness? It's easy. Invite him to live in your heart and live your life to honor him!

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: What's the worst chore you have to do at your house?** (Tip: Maybe it's making your bed or unloading the dishwasher. Jesus did the hard work for us when he chose to die for us.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **Because we all have a sin problem.** (The Bible tells us that we all have a sin problem that has broken our relationship with God. Sin is wanting to go our own way instead of God's way. That's why Jesus came. He loves us so much that he didn't want to leave us in this bad situation so he came to die for us to pay for OUR sins. It's a gift he offers. It's not something we can earn.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** What is sin and why is it a problem? Why can't we earn God's love? **4-5th** Why is it important to understand that Jesus' forgiveness is a gift?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. What did Jesus do for us? What do you think it means that when we're weak, then we're strong in Jesus?** (Answer: Jesus came to die to pay for our sins. He did it because he loves us and because he wants a relationship with us. When we realize that we can't earn our way to God, we appreciate this amazing gift that Jesus offers. When we understand that we are weak and broken, we reach for Jesus and rely on him to be our strength.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to PursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Big Idea

Following Jesus isn't a chore because he did the hard work for us.

Key Question

Why can't we work to earn God's forgiveness?

Memory Verse

Matthew 11:30 "For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: MATCHING GAME

Instructions:

- Divide the class into groups of 4. Give each group a set of Matching Cards (page 5-6).
- Have the groups place the cards on the ground or table, face down. Then, have them play a game of Concentration where one kid starts by flipping over two cards. If a match, they get to keep those cards and go again. If not a match, the kid on the right gets a turn. Continue playing until all the matches have been found. Kid with the most cards at the end, wins.

Supplies needed: Matching Cards (pg. 5-6, pre cut, 1 set per group)

OPTION 2: JESUS' YOKE IS EASY BOOKMARK

Instructions:

- Give each kid a Bookmark template (page 7). Have them glue the Big Idea at the top of the bookmark and the Memory verse at the bottom. Then allow them to color and decorate the rest of the bookmark.
- As they work, remind the kids that Jesus doesn't make it hard for us to follow him. He did the hard work by dying on the cross for us. All we have to do is receive his gift of forgiveness by inviting him to live in our hearts.

Supplies needed: Bookmark template (pg. 7, pre cut, 1 set per kid), Glue, Crayons



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Following Jesus isn't a chore, it's something we should be happy to do!

Key Points:

- In Bible times, every normal person had to _____ really hard.
- When animals were put to work they had to wear a “_____”.
- Jesus said his yoke was _____, not hard like other religions.
- _____ isn't a chore, it's something you really want to do.

Memory Verse:

Matthew 11:30 For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *What's the worst chore you have to do at your house?*
3. *In Bible times, who didn't have to work very hard? What did the normal people have to do?*
4. *What is a yoke? How did it help the animals to do their job? Who offers to help us?*
5. *Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. What did Jesus do for us? What do you think it means that when we're weak, then we're strong in Jesus?*
6. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Color the picture.

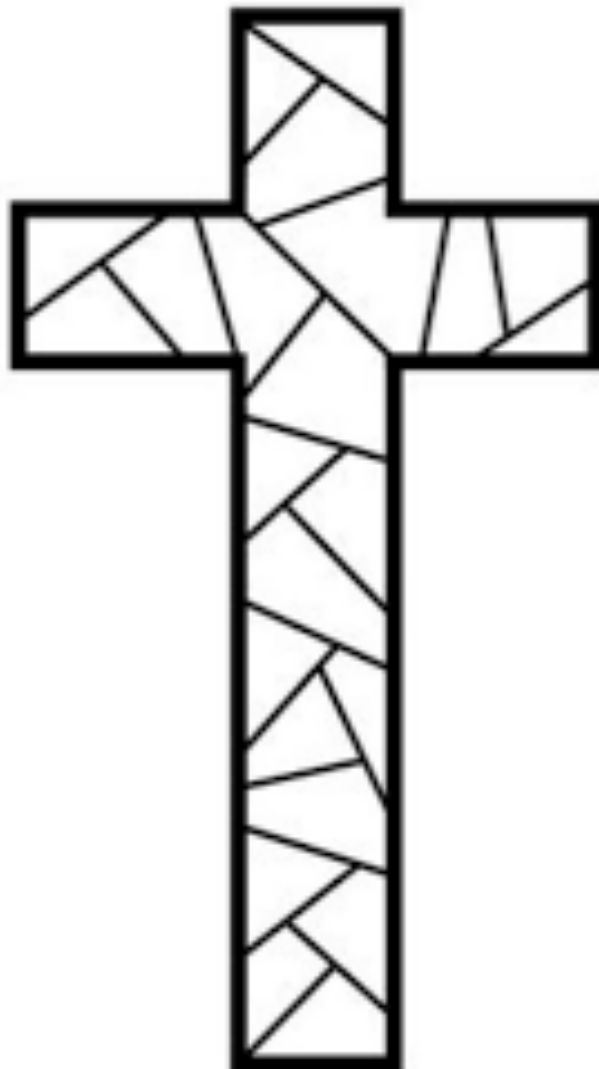
FOLLOWING JESUS
ISN'T A CHORE
BECAUSE HE DID THE
HARD WORK FOR US

Key Question

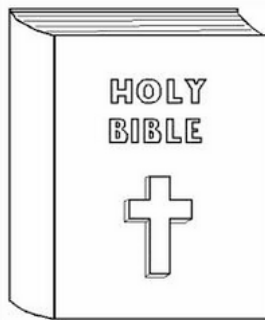
Why can't we work to earn God's forgiveness?

Memory Verse

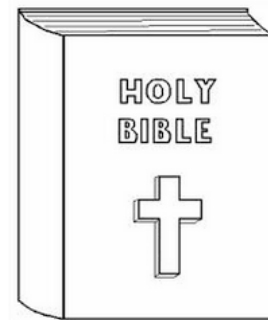
Matthew 11:30 "For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."



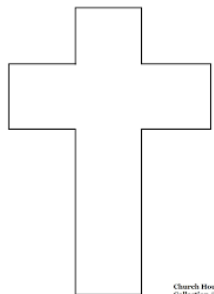
JESUS



JESUS

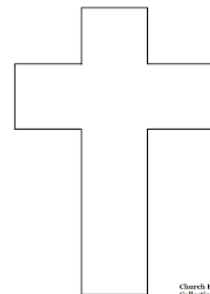


YOKE



Church House
Collection ©

YOKE

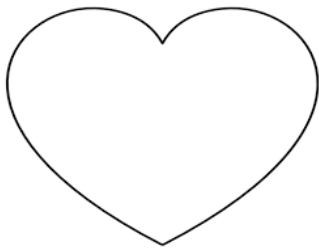


Church House
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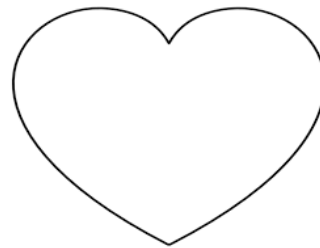
LOVE

LOVE

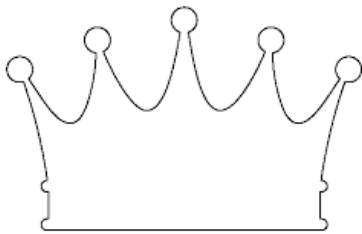
FAITH



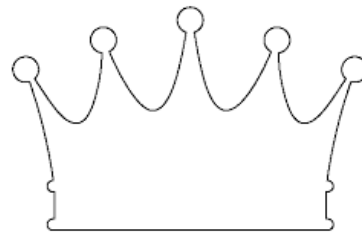
FAITH



CHORES



CHORES



FORGIVE

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