

# good friday

# MY SIN

Christ carried our sins in his body on the cross. He did this so that we would stop living for sin and start living for what is right. And we are healed because of his wounds. [1 Peter 2:24 International Children's Bible (ICB)]

**THINK ABOUT IT:** What sin (bad choices and behavior) do I need to correct to make my life better?

**PRAY:** God, help me to make wise choices so that others see You in me.

## **MY SACRIFICE**

But he took our suffering on him and felt our pain for us. We saw his suffering. We thought God was punishing him. [Isaiah 53:4 (ICB)]

**THINK ABOUT IT:** Jesus, being both fully human and fully God, experienced hurt, pain and sadness. What worries, fears or hurts can I ask for help with from Jesus? **PRAY:** Jesus, help me to trust in you and remember that in both good and bad times you have good plans for my life.

## **MY CHOICE**

Jesus went on to say to all of them, "If anyone wants to follow me, he must say 'no' to the things he wants. Every day he must be willing even to die on a cross, and he must follow me. [Luke 9:23 (ICB)]

**THINK ABOUT IT:** Jesus doesn't want us to actually die on a cross like Him, but He does want us to understand that there are sinful and harmful things that are not what's best for us. What are things I need to stop doing or say "No" to so that I can better follow Jesus?

**PRAY:** Lord, Your way is best. Give me the ability to see what's most important and remind me to think of others first before thinking of myself.

# HIS POWER

The teaching about the cross seems foolish to those who are lost. But to us who are being saved it is the power of God. [1 Corinthians 1:18 (ICB)]

**THINK ABOUT IT:** Jesus died on the cross to make things right between me and God. How can I better remember and experience God's love for me?

**PRAY:** God, remind me that to have a relationship with You Your son had to give up his life for me. In good times or bad, help me remember how much You love me and how faithful You are to keep Your promises to me.

# **MY PART IN THE STORY**

God was pleased for all of himself to live in Christ. And through Christ, God decided to bring all things back to himself again—things on earth and things in heaven. God made peace by using the blood of Christ's death on the cross. [Colossians 1:19-20 (ICB)]

**THINK ABOUT IT:** God is restoring all things on earth for good. Where in my neighborhood, school or city do I see people hurting or in need of encouragement? How is God making things better in those situations?

**PRAY:** God, thank You for not giving up on me or this world. Show me ways that I can be part of Your story and show others Your love through my actions.

### GOD,

Help me remember that the only way to have a relationship with you is through the death and return to life of Your son, Jesus. Remind me that Jesus died for me so I may be free from the grip of sin. Forgive me that I forget to notice all the things You're doing in my life. Forgive me that I forget to think about and talk to You. Forgive me that I often put myself and other things first, instead of You.

On this Good Friday, help me remember just how much You love me. Remind me that Your way is always best and that Jesus wants nothing more than to be my best friend, a relationship that will last forever.

God, thank you for the cross. Thank you that death does not win. Thank you for your promise to make all things new, including me. Amen.