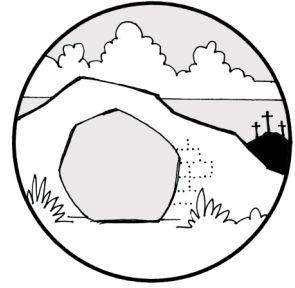


Lesson #4-L3***Preparing the King for Burial***

John 19:31-42

**Key Verse:**

...one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.

John 19:4

The Point:

Signs are given and Scripture is fulfilled when Jesus is taken from the cross and buried.

Unit Theme (March 11—March 30):

God's Kingdom Revealed

Closing Prayer

Leader: Today we leave you on the cross.

All: This is not what we expected, Lord.

Leader: Last week we were filled with joy and hope, singing Hosannas.

All: This is not what we expected, Lord.

Leader: Now we end defeated and hopeless.

All: This is not what we expected, Lord.

Leader: We leave you in a tomb, and walk away.

All: This is not what we expected, Lord.

Leader: Be with us in our darkness. Be with us as we wait.

All: Amen.

Blessing

Invite worshippers to turn to the people on either side of them and, with their permission, make the sign of the cross on their hand or forehead, and repeat the blessing: **Jesus died for you.**