

LESSON 33

EASTER LESSON

THE LORD IS THE HERO WHO FIGHTS EVIL

Reading from the Word: John 18:28-38

Readings CD 3, Track 10

Recitation CD, Track 33

**The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?**

(Psalm 27:1)

You have studied many heroes in the Books of Joshua and Judges. They were heroes because they obeyed the Lord and led the people to worship Him. All their power came from the Lord.

The Lord is the greatest Hero

It is the Lord who is *the* hero. In the Easter story the Lord shows us the qualities of a hero—strength, commitment, and courage. He shows us how we can become heroes as well.

The Lord fought against all the hells

A hero fights for what is right. When the Lord was in the world, He fought to save the human race from the power of the hells. Evil spirits live in hell. They love to make us feel terrible and do bad things.

The Lord fought against all of the evil spirits in hell, and conquered them, so that they couldn't take away our ability to be good people.

You may remember the story of a man possessed by demons—the Lord told the evil spirits to come out of the man, and they entered a herd of swine (*Luke 8*).



Today, evil spirits can still make us feel bad, and inspire us to do wrong things, but now the Lord has made it possible for us to send them away.

The Lord is brave against evil

A hero is very brave. The Lord was very brave in His fight against evil. Can you think of stories that show the Lord's courage?

What did the Lord do in the temple when He found people buying and selling? They had made it a den of thieves instead of a house of prayer. The Lord overturned their tables and drove them out of the temple! He knew the scribes and chief priests would be very angry, but He fought for what is right! (*Mark 11:15-19*)



What did the Lord do when He was brought before the chief priests, and Pontius Pilate? Even though He was treated terribly, He was strong and unyielding. Read for yourself how brave the Lord was in *Mark 14:53-65* and *Mark 15:1-15*.

What did the Lord do in the Garden of Gethsemane when He knew He was going to be crucified? He did not try to escape. He knew He had to suffer on the cross to finally overcome the hells and save people from their power. He prayed for strength, showing us that we too can pray for strength and bravery.

(*Luke 22:41-44*)



Jesus and Joshua

❖ *The names Jesus and Joshua have the same meaning.*



In Old Testament times, the Lord spoke to the people through leaders like Moses and Joshua. He was called Jehovah.

Later, He came on earth to teach and lead people Himself, and He was called Jesus. Jesus is a Greek name that means "The Lord is Savior."

In Lesson 2 you learned that the name Joshua is a Hebrew word that also means "The Lord is Savior."



❖ *Jesus and Joshua fought against evil*

The Lord fought against the Scribes and Pharisees. And especially, the Lord fought against evil spirits. Joshua fought many battles against the Canaanites.

❖ *Jesus and Joshua were brave and faithful.*

The Lord's courage in His battle with the hells was more than we can ever understand. He remained faithful to His mission of saving the human race, even when it was so hard that **"His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground."** (Luke 22:44) Joshua bravely led the Israelites into battle no matter how strong or frightening the enemy seemed. All his life he remained faithful to his task of leading the children of Israel in their conquest of the land, and to the worship of the Lord.

❖ *Jesus and Joshua were victorious.*

The Lord's Truth is a mighty sword against which the forces of evil are powerless. The Lord defeated the power of all the hells. Joshua defeated the enemies of the Israelites. He fought for the Lord.

Joshua was a hero. He bravely carried out the tasks the Lord had set for him, to cross the Jordan and take possession of the Promised Land. He obeyed the Lord, who is the greatest Hero.

Be strong and of good courage

We have a task to do too. Our task is to learn to follow the Lord, and do what is right, so we can come into heaven, our Promised Land. Sometimes it is hard. Sometimes it seems that our "enemies" are too strong.

We will be victorious when we fight on the side of truth. The Lord and the angels will fight for us.

**The Lord will give strength to His people;
The Lord will bless His people with peace.**

(Psalm 29:11)





ACTIVITIES

- 1) **Learn the recitation** (*Psalm 27:1*)

**The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?**

- 2) **Draw a picture to show the Lord being brave against evil**
Choose a story from the New Testament to illustrate.

- 3) **A Chart about Joshua and Jesus**
Fill in the chart about Joshua and Jesus.

- 4) **Make a diorama**
- Choose a part of the Easter story. Use a shoebox for the diorama.
 - Paint scenery on the sides of the box.
 - Make figures with pipe cleaners or clay or cardboard.
 - Make clothing with tissue paper, or scraps of fabric.
 - Other materials to use: moss, dry flowers and twigs, sand, pebbles, clay, colored paper, cotton balls, yarn.

- 5) **Easter Story Sequencing Cards**
- Cut out the cards. Mix them up.
 - Arrange them in order (*use the list below to help you*).
 - Practice until you can do it without looking at the list.
 - Read the story on the sequenced cards to a parent.

1. *Mark 14:10*

8. *Matthew 27:3, 5*

15. *Matthew 27:51*

2. *Mark 14:22*

9. *Matthew 27:11*

16. *Mathew 27:59, 60*

3. *Mark 14:26*

10. *Matthew 27:24*

17. *Matthew 28:1*

4. *Luke 22:41*

11. *Matthew 27:29*

18. *Matthew 28:2*

5. *Luke 22:47*

12. *Matthew 27:35*

19. *Matthew 28:5, 6*

6. *Luke 22:54*

13. *Matthew 27:37*

20. *Matthew 28:8*

7. *Matthew 27:1*

14. *Matthew 27:50*

JOSHUA and JESUS

You can write in the boxes or draw pictures.

Names	Joshua	Jesus
Who were they fighting?		
Where did they go? <i>(find three places for each-use the references to help you)</i>	<i>Joshua 6:2; Joshua 8:3; Joshua 10:7; Joshua 24:1</i>	<i>Luke 2:42; Luke 4:16; Luke 4:31; Luke 19:28; Matt. 4:18; Matt. 16:13; Mark 6:53</i>
How did they show courage? <i>(describe one event for each that showed their courage)</i>		

THE EASTER STORY

SEQUENCING CARDS

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Him to them.

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed.

And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him.

Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house.

And when the morning was come, all the chief priests...delivered Him to Pontius Pilate the governor.

Then Judas, His betrayer,...was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver...and went and hanged himself.

Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?"

When Pilate saw that ...a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands...saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person."

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus...and when they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head.

Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots.

And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him:
THIS IS JESUS
THE KING OF THE JEWS

And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split.

When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his new tomb...and rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb.

Now after the Sabbath...Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.

And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it.

The angel...said to the women,...“He is not here; for He is risen, as He said.”

So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.

Mark 14: 22

Mark 14: 10

Luke 22: 41

Mark 14: 26

Luke 22: 54

Luke 22: 47

Matthew 27: 3, 5

Matthew 27: 1

Matthew 27: 24

Matthew 27: 11

Matthew 27: 35

Matthew 27: 29

Matthew 27: 50

Matthew 27: 37

Matthew 27: 59, 60

Matthew 27: 51

Matthew 28: 1

Matthew 28: 2

Matthew 28: 8

Matthew 28: 5, 6

LESSON 33

EASTER LESSON

THE LORD IS THE HERO WHO FIGHTS EVIL

Stories from the Word read in this lesson: *John 18:28-38*

THEME

Festival Lessons (Lessons 32-34)

OVERVIEW OF THE STORY

The Lord's combats against the hells. The Lord's bravery. We can be brave too.

THE SPIRITUAL STORY

- ♦ The Lord took on a body through which the hells could attack. He fought against the universal hells, from His Divine Love, by means of the truths of His Word.
- ♦ He redeemed the human race—He brought back the ability to freely choose to follow the Lord, or not.
- ♦ All are redeemed, but not all are saved—those are saved who use this freedom to make the choice to follow the Lord.
- ♦ The Lord fights for us and conquers in our struggles (*Arcana Coelestia* 59:2, *True Christian Religion* 118, 119).
- ♦ The Lord is the perfect Hero, demonstrating strength, commitment, and courage.

IMPORTANT IDEAS FOR THE CHILD

- ♦ The Lord fought against the hells and conquered them.
- ♦ The Lord is brave against evil.
- ♦ The Lord fights for what is right.
- ♦ The Lord is the greatest Hero. By means of His example, He shows us how we can become heroes as well.

PREPARATION FOR THE READING FROM THE WORD

- ♦ What do you think it means to be brave?
- ♦ Can you remember any brave characters in the stories of Joshua and Judges? What did they do that was brave?
- ♦ Listen to the reading to hear how the Lord was brave.

READING FROM THE WORD: *John 18:28-38*

Listen to the lesson on the CD. Follow the reading in your copy of the Word.

DISCUSSION IDEAS

- ♦ Can you feel afraid and still be brave?
- ♦ Tell something that Joshua did that was brave. Tell something that the Lord did that was brave.
- ♦ The Lord was very brave for us. How can you be brave for the Lord?
- ♦ The Lord fought against all the evil spirits so we could be free to choose. What is this choice we have to make?

ACTIVITIES

1. **Learn the recitation** (*Psalm 27:1*)

*The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?*

2. **Draw a picture to show the Lord being brave against evil**
3. **A Chart about Joshua and Jesus**
4. **Make a diorama**
5. **Easter Story Sequencing Cards - In Project Materials envelope**

ANSWERS FOR **THE EASTER STORY**

<p>1.</p> <p>Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Him to them.</p> <p><i>Mark 14:10</i></p>	<p>2.</p> <p>And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.</p> <p><i>Mark 14: 22</i></p>
<p>3.</p> <p>And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.</p> <p><i>Mark 14: 26</i></p>	<p>4.</p> <p>And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed.</p> <p><i>Luke 22: 41</i></p>
<p>5.</p> <p>And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him.</p> <p><i>Luke 22: 47</i></p>	<p>6.</p> <p>Having arrested Him, they led Him and brought Him into the high priest's house.</p> <p><i>Luke 22: 54</i></p>
<p>7.</p> <p>And when the morning was come, all the chief priests...delivered Him to Pontius Pilate the governor.</p> <p><i>Matthew 27: 1</i></p>	<p>8.</p> <p>Then Judas, His betrayer, ...was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver...and went and hanged himself.</p> <p><i>Matthew 27: 3, 5</i></p>
<p>9.</p> <p>Now Jesus stood before the governor. And the governor asked Him, saying, "Are You the King of the Jews?"</p> <p><i>Matthew 27: 11</i></p>	<p>10.</p> <p>When Pilate saw that ...a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands...saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person."</p> <p><i>Matthew 27: 24</i></p>

<p>11.</p> <p>Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus...and when they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head.</p> <p><i>Matthew 27: 29</i></p>	<p>12.</p> <p>Then they crucified Him, and divided His garments, casting lots.</p> <p><i>Matthew 27: 35</i></p>
<p>13.</p> <p>And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS</p> <p><i>Matthew 27: 37</i></p>	<p>14.</p> <p>And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.</p> <p><i>Matthew 27:50</i></p>
<p>15.</p> <p>Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split.</p> <p><i>Matthew 27: 51</i></p>	<p>16.</p> <p>When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his new tomb...and rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb.</p> <p><i>Matthew 27: 59, 60</i></p>
<p>17.</p> <p>Now after the Sabbath...Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb.</p> <p><i>Matthew 28: 1</i></p>	<p>18.</p> <p>And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it.</p> <p><i>Matthew 28: 2</i></p>
<p>19.</p> <p>The angel...said to the women,...He is not here; for He is risen, as He said.”</p> <p><i>Matthew 28: 5, 6</i></p>	<p>20.</p> <p>So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.</p> <p><i>Matthew 28: 8</i></p>