

# New Life in Jesus

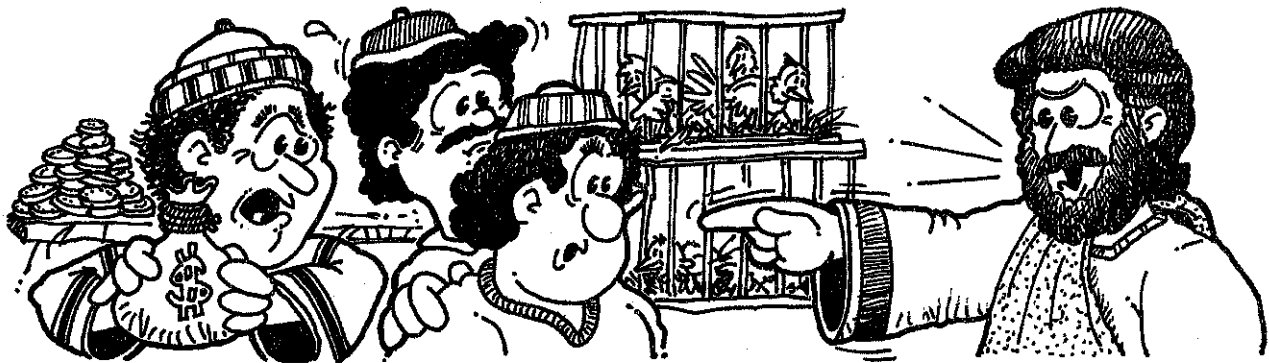
New life in Jesus begins with God's awesome love for us. God sent His only Son, Jesus, to show us His love. A sacrifice had to be made for all the sins of the world, and Jesus' life was that sacrifice. When all the sins were paid for, all sinners could be forgiven and have a new life. So, Jesus died to give us new life.

Jesus knew God's plan. He knew He would die in Jerusalem. But Jesus loves God with His whole heart and always chooses to obey God. So when God sent Jesus to Jerusalem, Jesus obeyed. He had already taught His disciples that He would suffer many things and not be accepted by the Jewish leaders. He had told them that He would be killed and would rise from the dead on the third day after He was killed (Mark 8:31).

Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem on the first day of the week. Crowds of people spread palm branches and coats on the road to honor Him. The people shouted "Praise God! God bless the One who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Mark 11:7-9)

The next day, Jesus went to the temple. This was a holy place where people came to worship God. But Jesus found men there who loved money more than they loved God. The men who exchanged foreign money for the temple money overcharged for their service. The men selling lambs and doves for sacrifices also cheated the people. When Jesus saw this, He became very angry. He said, "It is written in the Scriptures, 'My Temple will be a house where people from all nations will pray.' But you are changing God's house into a 'hideout for robbers.'" Jesus threw out the bad men and turned the animals loose (Mark 11:15-17). The Jewish leaders who made a lot of money from the money changers and animal sellers were furious! Not only had Jesus cost them money, but people were following Jesus and listening to Him instead of them! They decided that they had to get rid of Jesus.

On Thursday, Jesus and His disciples shared their last supper together. Jesus told them once again that He was going away, and He told them to





remember Him whenever they shared the wine and the bread together. After the meal, Jesus took a towel and large bowl of water and washed His disciples' feet. He did this to show His love for them and to teach them the importance of serving each other. One of the disciples, Judas, left the meal early to go tell the Jewish leaders where they could find Jesus. The leaders paid Judas thirty pieces of silver because he gave them this information (John 13:1-30).

Later that night, Jesus and the rest of His disciples walked to the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus wanted to spend time praying because He needed strength from His heavenly Father. Jesus knew that the men who wanted to kill Him would be coming soon. He knew the next hours would be very hard. His choice to obey His heavenly Father was a tough one. Yet, He chose to die to bring us new life. With tears, Jesus prayed for himself, the disciples, and for you! (John 17:20, 21)

When He finished praying, Jesus met the Roman soldiers as they entered the garden. Judas had brought them to Jesus. The soldiers arrested Jesus and took Him to the house of Caiaphas, the Jewish high priest. From there, He was sent to Herod, the Roman ruler of Galilee. Herod sent Jesus to Pilate, the Roman Governor. Pilate did not know what to do with Jesus. Pilate saw nothing wrong with Jesus, yet the Jewish leaders demanded that Jesus be punished (Mark 14:43—15:5).

A large crowd had gathered around Pilate's palace. Pilate asked the crowd what they wanted to happen to Jesus. They shouted, "Crucify Him!" Sadly, Pilate sent Jesus to the cross to die.

When Jesus was dead, friends buried Him in a tomb. Roman soldiers rolled a large stone over the doorway and stood guard to make sure that no one tried to take the body. But just as Jesus promised, on the third day after His death, He rose from the dead (Mark 15:6—16:1-7).

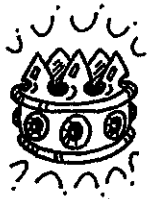
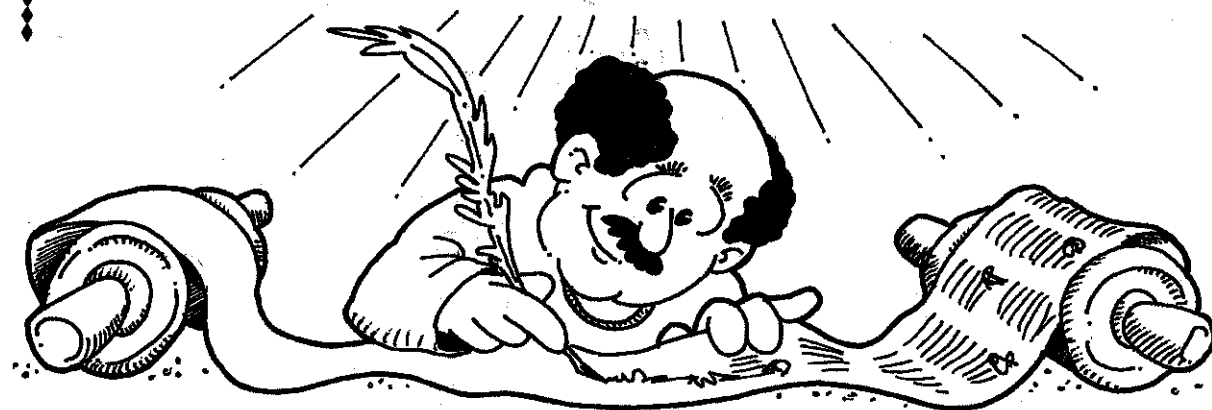
Not long after this, Jesus came to the disciples as they were fishing. Together they shared a breakfast of fish. Later, Jesus led the disciples to a mountainside. There, He told them to go and teach all people about Him and the new life they could receive through Him. Jesus promised that His spirit would always be with them. Then Jesus was carried up to Heaven. The disciples worshiped Jesus, and began to go all over the world to tell others the good news about new life in Jesus (John 21:1-14; Mark 16:14-19).

# Message Memory Match

More than 1000 years before Jesus was born, God's men were writing about Him. These special men of God are called prophets. God gives messages to His prophets, and they give God's message to His people. These messages from God are called prophecies. In this way, God lets His people know what is going to happen before it happens.

Most of the prophecies concerning Jesus—the Messiah—were written down in what came to be known as the Old Testament. Then, when the prophecies came true, those events were recorded in what we call the New Testament.

In this game, you will match the Old Testament prophecy about Jesus with the New Testament Scripture that tells about that prophecy being fulfilled. To play the game, cut out the cards. Read the cards, then place them face down on a flat surface. The first child will turn over two cards. If the two match, the child keeps the cards. If not, the cards are turned over again in the same place where they were and the next child takes a turn. The child with the most cards wins.



"The days are coming," says the Lord, "when I will raise up a good descendant in David's family. This descendant will be a king who will rule in a wise way. . . . In his time Judah will be saved."

Jeremiah 23:5, 6



This is the family history of Jesus Christ. He came from the family of David.

Matthew 1:1



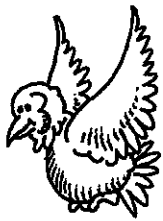
"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, are one of the smallest towns in Judah. But from you will come one who will rule Israel for me."

Micah 5:2



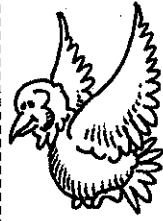
Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea during the time when Herod was king.

Matthew 2:1



The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon that king. The Spirit gives him wisdom, understanding, guidance and power.

Isaiah 11:2



The little child began to grow up. He became stronger and wiser, and God's blessings were with him.

Luke 2:40



Rejoice, people of Jerusalem. Shout for joy, people of Jerusalem. Your king is coming to you. He does what is right, and he saves. He is gentle and riding on a donkey.

Zechariah 9:9



They took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Jesus. They shouted, "Praise God! God bless the One who comes in the name of the Lord!" Jesus found a colt and sat on it.

John 12:13, 14



He was beaten down and punished. But he didn't say a word. He was like a lamb being led to be killed. . . . He never opened his mouth.

Isaiah 53:7



Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, "Aren't you going to answer? Don't you have something to say about their charges against you?" But Jesus said nothing.

Matthew 26:62



They divided my clothes among them, and they threw lots for my clothing.

Psalms 22:18



After the soldiers nailed Jesus to the cross, they took his clothes. They divided them into four parts. Each soldier got one part.

John 19:23



But the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be pregnant. She will have a son.

Isaiah 7:14



God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin who lived in Nazareth. . . . The angel said to her, "Listen! You will become pregnant. You will give birth to a son."

Luke 1:26-31



My best and truest friend ate at my table. Now even he has turned against me.

Psalms 41:9



One of the 12 followers, Judas Iscariot, went to talk to the leading priests. Judas offered to give Jesus to them.

Mark 14:10