



Online Plan: Day Four

Secret Agents Holiday Club

Dying as a criminal. Luke 23:32-49

Big idea: Jesus died, although he had done nothing wrong. He died in our place to allow us to be with him forever.

Aim: To understand that Jesus died for me. I have a certain future.

Time	Activity	Notes
2 mins	Welcome to Secret Agents Holiday Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (RECORD) • Big high energy for the first 30 seconds. List coming highlights of the day and reasons to stay tuned for Day 4 of Holiday Club. • Live the theme (wear a secret agent costume and have a gadget). • As Secret Agents in training we are investigating a new truth about Jesus. • Big Question of the Day: Why did Jesus die? • LINK to video: Here's a big hello from some of the Secret Agents. • Request 'hello' videos be sent in to show in the Sunday Holiday Club service. Ask children to tell you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Why they loved Holiday Club → A big truth they learnt about Jesus
2 mins	Hello videos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (RECORD) • Insert videos that have been sent in. <i>Keep Secret Agent secret message videos for the end of the session.</i> • (Increase the length of this time as the week goes on and you receive more material.)
3-4 mins	Starter activity/recap quiz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (RECORD) • Show the leader board and give a shout out to people who are on it. • Activity – Star Jump Challenge. • Record a leader doing star jumps for a minute. How many did they do? • The challenge today is to do as many star jumps as you can in a minute? Will you do more than the leader? Set a timer. Go! Play fun music. • The twist at the end – if you didn't beat the leader, you get 5 bonus points for the leader board. • LINK: In today's challenge, people who lost against the leader got the bonus points – they got something they didn't deserve. Today we are going to hear a Bible story about someone who got what they didn't deserve. • Recap Quiz: <p>Insert a slide of questions about yesterday's Bible story. Read them out one by one. Pause after each one for children to think of their answer before saying it – keep it fast paced.</p> • Quiz questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remember Zacchaeus? What was his job? 2. Why were the crowd so angry that Jesus chose to go to his house? 3. <i>This is a hard one:</i> Jesus said that he came to seek and to save the lost, like Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus didn't seem lost. He knew where he was. He knew how to get home. In what way was Zacchaeus lost? • 1 point for every right answer. Keep score and send it in to go on the leader board – top 3 places on the board will be announced on Sunday. • LINK to next video: Our Secret Agent is on the case of Jesus this week. Let's see what he is going to investigate today...

Time	Activity	Notes
2 mins	Sketch 1 video	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sketch Video (Part 1) • SUMMARISE: The secret agent knows Jesus is the King but now he's been arrested. Is he a criminal or is he a rescuer?
3-4 mins	Song	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LINK: Today we're hearing about Jesus' death on the cross. It sounds like bad news but really it was good news. Listen carefully to the song to hear the good news. • Are you ready to do the actions? • (INSERT SONG / RECORD your musicians playing the song and RECORD leaders doing actions) • Jesus when you died (Awesome Cutlery) You can download a lyric video from their website
1 min	Link to Bible story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (RECORD) • Today's Bible story is from the book of Luke. • Watch carefully so you can spot these 3 facts: • (Put up a slide with the questions and read them out) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many people were on crosses? 2. What did the first criminal want Jesus to do for him? 3. What did the second criminal want Jesus to do for him?
4 mins	Bible drama video	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (INSERT VIDEO) Insert your own video or purchase a video like this
5-7mins	Talk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (RECORD) • Use the Day 4 Short Talk script. • LINK: It looked like Jesus had been beaten when he was on the cross. But Jesus always wins. He died so we can be saved. • Are you ready to do the actions?
3-4 mins	Song	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (INSERT SONG / RECORD your musicians playing the song and RECORD leaders doing actions - use the same recording you used for this song on Day 2) • Jesus Wins (Michael J Tinker) Check out his songs on his website
3 mins	Challenge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (RECORD) • Secret Agent Training Challenge #4: Spider Web. • Record a leader climbing through a spider's web made from string taped to the walls of a hallway (or tie string between chairs / under a table). • Secret agents must be flexible. Today's challenge is to create a spider's web to test your flexibility and agility. Challenge - climb through the web without touching the string! • Take a photo or a video and send it in so we can show it during the Sunday Holiday Club service.
2 mins	Sketch video 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sketch Video (Part 2) • SUMMARISE: The secret agent has uncovered some truth - he's discovered Jesus died to save us - wow!

Time	Activity	Notes
2-3 mins	Conclusion and previous day challenge photos/videos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (RECORD and INSERT VIDEO) • Conclude with a summary of the Big Question of the Day and the answer. • REMINDER: Send in videos of why you loved Holiday Club/a big truth you learnt about Jesus and photos/videos of today's challenge to be shown in the Sunday service. • VIDEO: Make a montage of the photos/videos of children and their secret messages from yesterday's challenge to be shown in this slot.
5 mins	Questions/discussion time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (RECORD VOICEOVER reading the questions out and INSERT SLIDE of questions) • Questions for different age groups. • Younger – Who was on a cross in the story? A swap happened on the cross. What was swapped? The criminal made the best choice when he gave his sin to Jesus. Why was that the best choice? • Middle – Who were the 3 people on crosses? How were the criminals different from each other? What did Jesus do for the second criminal? How could someone like the criminal be allowed into Heaven? • Older – What can you know about Jesus from this story? What promise did Jesus make to the second criminal? How could the criminal be allowed into Heaven? What would you say to a friend who said, 'I'm not good enough for Heaven'? What choice have you made about your sin? • Leave slide up for 5 mins to allow time to answer the questions.

Additional

Supply a craft idea or worksheets via the daily email you send to parents or upload to your website / Facebook page. Organise a Zoom meet up for group discussion time and to give the children a chance to interact with each other.

Request video content for Sunday in the daily email

Ask parents to record their children doing the 'What's in the box/Dead or Alive' challenge and to send in the videos. Set up 2 boxes with the front open so the audience can see inside the box. Place objects (e.g. a stuffed toy, a bowl of baked beans, the family pet, a human hand/foot/head) in the boxes so they cannot be seen by the child/adult who will have to feel them. Blindfold 2 children/adults before getting them to feel what is in the box. If you are placing a human hand/foot/head in the box, then you will need to place it over a gap/hole for the person to stick their hand/foot/head through from below. Or, once the child is blindfolded, another person can place their hand/foot/head in the box from the front opening. When the child is feeling the object, they must guess if it's dead or alive.

Craft suggestion – Cross art

Stained-glass window: Tape a clear sandwich/freezer/food bag to a table to keep it secure. Draw a cross in the centre of the bag with a thick black permanent marker. Colour around it with coloured permanent markers until the bag is covered. Remove the bag from the table and tape it to a window to look like a stained-glass window.

A similar effect can be achieved by using coloured tissue paper instead of markers. Make a paper frame. Stick a sheet of white tissue paper to the frame so the inside is covered. Stick a dark paper/card cross to the centre of the paper. Stick small pieces of coloured tissue paper around the cross. Stick the completed picture to a window.

Cross collage: Tear magazine pages into small squares. Sort the squares into matching colours. Use a piece of paper/card or a paper plate as the backing. Stick down squares to make a cross shape in the centre and add colours in different patterns around it.

Adult supervised craft: Hammer 4 nails into a piece of wood. Place the nails so they are the 4 points of a cross. Wrap string between the nails to make a cross.

If you are preparing an activity pack for children, include some party items (e.g. balloon, sweets, party blower/horn) for an 'end of Holiday Club' party. If they are having a Zoom meeting, then they can have a party in their breakout groups.

Activity suggestion

Play a rescue game (e.g. stuck in the mud). Talk about the greatest rescue that happened on the cross.

Worksheets

These are included in the full Holiday Club package.

Zoom meet up

Plan half an hour for a 'tea break' after the above session has finished. Then meet on Zoom so you can break up into smaller groups to chat and enjoy seeing each other. 2 leaders per breakout group. Meet in the same groups each day. Day 4 - have a party together. Share Holiday Club highlights. Encourage everyone to watch the special Holiday Club Sunday service.



Online Talk: Dying as a criminal

LUKE 23:32-49

Secret Agents Holiday Club

Big Idea: Jesus died, although he had done nothing wrong. He died in our place to allow us to be with him forever.

Aim: To understand that Jesus died for me. I have a certain future.

Needed: sweets, chocolate, a football, swimming costume or goggles, bag of salted crisps, bag of cheese and onion crisps, 5 toy figures, 3 lolly stick crosses, string, playdough or Blu Tack, Post-it notes, thick marker pen, photo of smiling friends, a toy family e.g. Sylvanian family

From talks 1 and 2: toy figures used for paralysed man, widow's son, angry religious leader and Jesus.

Practice with props before recording.

I am going to show you a series of choices. For each one you get to choose which you prefer. Point to the one you like best! Ready?

- Sweets or chocolate? (*hold sweets and chocolate, one in each hand*)
- Football or swimming? (*hold swimming costume/goggles and football, one in each hand*)
- Ready salted crisps or cheese and onion? (*hold crisp packets, one in each hand*)

Each day we have choices to make (*hold up 2 of the food items*). But most aren't important. Today, we're going to see that we all have one very important choice to make.

In today's true Bible story, three people were put up on crosses to die (*place 3 toy figures, including Jesus, tied to lolly stick crosses in the scene - stick them into balls of playdough or Blu Tack to keep them upright*). Two of them were criminals (*point to the figures on the left and right*). To be sent to the cross, they must have been some of the very worst

criminals. Their hearts looked like this - messy and full of sin (*draw and write on two Post-it notes to create a mess and stick one to each of the criminals*).

Having a heart with any sin in it is a big problem (*point to the messy Post-it notes*). This week we've found out that we all have a sin problem (*stick a messy Post-it note to yourself*). God is perfect, pure and good so he can't ignore sin. You can't be in God's family and spend forever in heaven with a heart like this (*point to messy Post-it notes*). It doesn't matter how much we try, we can't get rid of our sin ourselves. None of us can.

Jesus was also on a cross but he hadn't done anything wrong - ever (*hold up unmarked Post-it note*). He is the only person who ever lived, who never did anything wrong. No disobedience. No lies. He only ever spoke to help and encourage. He was only ever kind and loving. His heart looked like this - pure (*stick unmarked Post-it note to Jesus figure*). Perfect. Without a stain. Because he is God.

All this week, we've heard about the amazing things Jesus did. He forgave sin, he fixed legs that didn't work (*hold up paralysed man toy figure*) and he brought a dead man back to life (*hold up widow's son toy figure*). He did those things because he is God. But lots of people didn't believe him (*hold up angry religious leader toy figure*). They saw the miracles but they didn't want to believe he was God. It made them so angry that they had Jesus put up on a cross to die. They thought they were finally in control and that they'd got their way by getting rid of Jesus. But what they didn't know was that Jesus' death was always part of God's rescue plan.

While they were on the cross, people made fun of Jesus (*add 3 toy figures to the scene and hold one up*). They shouted out, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself!' They thought that if he was God then he should use his power to get down from the cross.

(*Hold up the criminal toy figure, on his cross*) One of the criminals joined in saying, 'Aren't you the Christ? Then save yourself! And save us too!' He didn't care who Jesus was, he just didn't want to die that day. But this criminal was being punished for the things he did (*point to messy Post-it note*). It wouldn't

be fair to be let off. He was getting what he deserved.

(Hold up the other criminal toy figure, on his cross) But the other criminal stopped him. He said, 'You should fear God! You are getting the same punishment as he is. We are punished fairly; we should die. But this man has done nothing wrong!'

He understood that he was being punished for what he had done against God *(point to messy Post-it note)*. It wasn't nice, but it was fair. And he understood that Jesus hadn't done anything wrong. Then he said to Jesus, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom!' He was saying, 'Please let me be in your family, in Heaven, now and forever. Let me be with you after I die.'

(Hold up the Jesus toy figure on his cross) Jesus replied, 'Listen! What I say is true: Today you will be with me in paradise!'

This criminal chose to trust Jesus. He knew he couldn't do anything to save himself, but he believed that Jesus could. And Jesus did, because on the cross he was punished for the sin of other people. Jesus took the criminal's sin away from him. And – even more amazing – Jesus gave him his perfect life *(swap the Post-it notes of Jesus and the criminal)*. The criminal wasn't saved from the cross that day, but he was saved for Heaven with Jesus forever. Heaven is a real place. A bit like this, ground under your feet, sky above your head, trees and people. But it is perfect; full of good things without being ruined by the brokenness of sin. Chocolate without feeling sick *(hold up chocolate)*. Friendships without fighting *(hold up a photo of smiling friends)*. Families without breakups *(hold up a toy family e.g. Sylvanian family)*. No more sin. Forever with Jesus.

That day, the criminal made the best choice of his life. He gave Jesus his sin and he got Jesus' perfect life *(point to the swapped Post-it notes)*. We have to make the same choice. This week we've seen that

Jesus can forgive sin and he is God's promised forever King. His death on the cross shows us how he is able to forgive us. It's where he paid the price for our sin. But we have to choose to trust him. We have to ask him to be king of our lives.

(Hold up the criminal toy figure.) This criminal chose to hold onto his own sin. He didn't trust Jesus with it. He made a bad choice. He never got to be part of God's family.

(Hold up the other criminal toy figure.) But this criminal, he chose to give his sin to Jesus. And what he got from Jesus was more than he deserved and better than he could ever imagine.

Jesus wants to do the same for us. He wants us to give him our sin *(remove your messy Post-it note and replace it with an unmarked/clean one)*, he wants to be king of our lives and he wants to welcome us into God's forever family. This is what it means to be a Christian. If you are a Christian, then your sin has been forgiven and Jesus is now your king.

If you are not a Christian, you can choose to become one by trusting Jesus. He loves you and wants you in his family.

What will you choose?

Let's pray.

(You can decide if it would be appropriate in your setting to explain how to become a Christian)

To become a Christian you can pray 3 simple things: Sorry, Thank you, Please.

Dear Father,

Sorry – for my sin and the way I've treated you.

Thanks – for Jesus and that he died to swap places with me.

Please – let me live with Jesus as my king. Forever.

Amen.