

Best Friends Forever  
Ages: 4 – Kindergarten  
Week #5  
Love Puts Others First  
(...is not selfish)

Criminal on the Cross: Luke 23:3-43 (ICB)

When Jesus went up on the cross, He wasn't alone. Two criminals were put on crosses next to Him, one on the left and one on the right. After Jesus was put on the cross, He prayed, "Father, forgive these people because they don't know what they are doing." The soldiers below began to gamble over who would get Jesus' clothes. The people stood and watched Jesus and the rulers make fun of Him. They said, "He could help others, why doesn't He save Himself, if He is really God." One of the criminals next to Jesus made fun of Him too. He said, "If you're really the Savior, then save yourself, and us too." But the criminal on the other side stopped the first one. He said, "we're being punished for all the bad things we've done, and we deserve it. But Jesus never did anything wrong." Then the criminal turned to Jesus and asked, "Jesus, please remember me when you enter the kingdom." Jesus answered him, "Listen, because this is the truth. Today you will be with Me in heaven."

MEMORY VERSE

If I do not have God's love, then I am only a  
noisy bell or a ringing cymbal.

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous, it does not brag.

Love is not rude. Love does not  
remember wrongs done against it.

Love is not happy with evil, but is happy with truth.

1 Corinthians 13:1-7 (paraphrase)

Application

How can we love like Jesus? Sometimes it seems like it would be easier to just worry about our needs and let everyone else take care of themselves. What does being unselfish mean? Unselfish means putting other people's needs before your own.

