

DON'T TAKE IT PERSONALLY

Bring it on.

MONDAY

A.M.

NOON

P.M.

EVE

Grow up.

TUESDAY

A.M.

NOON

P.M.

EVE

Be ...

kind

So, here's the story ...

When they had crucified Jesus, they divided his clothes, casting lots, to see who would get what. It was the third hour when they crucified Him. The inscription of His accusation was written over Him, "The king of the Jews." With Him, two thieves were also crucified, and the scripture was fulfilled, which said, "He was numbered with the lawless." Those who passed by blasphemed him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You razing the temple and building it in three days, save yourself and come down off the cross!" Also the chief priests were mocking with the scribes and said to one another, "He saved others, but He cannot save Himself! Let Christ the King of Israel now come down from the cross, so we may see and believe." And the two thieves being crucified with Him insulted Him.

Read it for yourself in Mark 15:24-32

And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." And parting his clothing, they cast lots. And the people stood watching. Also the rulers with them, scoffing, saying, "He saved others, let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ, the chosen of God." And coming near, the soldiers also mocked Him, and offering Him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the king of the Jews, save Yourself." The inscription also was written over Him in Greek and Latin and Hebrew: This is the King of the Jews.

Read it for yourself in Luke 23:34-38

Take it to God

Jesus completely understands what it feels like to be rejected. Share your hurting heart with Him and let Him comfort you. He's been through worse than anyone else — ever.

FRIDAY

Finale

Rejection isn't fun, but Jesus had it worse



WEEKEND

Wood Hood!

A.M.

Sat.

NOON

SUN

P.M.

Eve

Rejection can be as painful as betrayal. It doesn't feel good to know that someone doesn't want you or like you.

No one understands that better than Jesus. He came as the Savior to the world, but most people hated and despised Him. They wanted nothing to do with Him. In fact, their hate got so bad they wouldn't stop until they saw Him dead.

God knew things would be that way, but it had to have broken His heart to make such a sacrifice — giving up everything — for the good of His people, even though most rejected Him.

God allowed His most beloved Son, Jesus, to be treated shamefully on earth — and die a sinner's death. It was the only way to bring about a new promise with His people, so they (and we) could have a relationship with Him without sin standing in the way.

And Jesus didn't choose to make that sacrifice just for His friends or God's favorite people — He did

it for the whole human race — back then, now, and in the future. Even for those who spit in His face, or those who claim He didn't do what He did, or those who can't stand God at all.

That day, God poured out all His wrath against sin once and for all. Jesus chose to pay that price for us, knowing that He would have to feel the ultimate rejection for a time — during those horrible moments that God was forced to completely turn His back on Jesus as sin was being wiped (cleansed) away.

Surely that must have been the hardest part for Jesus to endure — total separation from the goodness of God.

In Matthew 27:46, just before He died, Jesus cried out, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?"

Thankfully, that wasn't a permanent situation. On the third day, Jesus was resurrected (restored to life) and now sits on a throne at the right hand of God in Heaven.

Did you know?

Jesus is the only way to Heaven. "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." — John 14:6

So, let's wrap it up



Vicky's
VIEW

Let's talk about rejection. Maybe you missed out on being on some ball team or in some club. ... Maybe somebody said you weren't a friend anymore. How about if someone you really look up to decided you weren't worth the time? Whatever the case, the world will keep spinning long after you've forgotten about this tragedy. I'm not trying to make it seem like it's no big deal, but after these heavy discussions about what Jesus went through, well, there's not much that can be considered very serious compared to that, is there? I've said it before and I'll say it again ... life is hard. There's a lot to deal with and we can't let every little thing wear us down.

A good habit to get into is taking every thing we go through to God in prayer. We can unload all our hurts and pain to Him, and let Him calm our minds — kind of like a reset button. When we do that, it makes us better prepared for the next thing coming down the road. God wants to be included in that constant cycle of communication. As you learn to go to Him for things, you can practice listening for His responses. He will find ways to remind you of how much He cares. That's an especially important thing to remember when you aren't feeling very good about yourself. God won't ever reject you. It doesn't matter what you've done, how long

you've been doing it or how bad it was. He doesn't expect us to be perfect before we come to Him. He knows our struggles. He also knows we can't do it all on our own — that's why Jesus had to come rescue us in the first place. If we could've managed everything by ourselves, we wouldn't have needed help — and Jesus never would've gone through all the stuff He did. If it makes you feel any better, remember how Jesus was perfect (and still is), but even He got rejected. There are going to be times when someone else doesn't realize what you're worth, or you're going to miss out on some thing you wanted to be part of. Whether it's

purposefully leaving you out, or bad timing, or for no good reason at all, getting rejected is something you can get over. God is always there to help you and guide you through anything. You are enough. You are worth it. Don't let circumstances convince you otherwise. Read your Bible. It is full of encouragement from God to let you know how much you mean to Him. You may have been dealt a low blow by someone else but God doesn't work that way. He created you for something special — and that's a big deal. Don't ever forget that.

Ponder this:

**Do you feel like you were rejected this week?
Was it legit or were you being overly sensitive?**

Time to take charge of your life:

(Fill in the blank)

**_____ has been bugging me lately, bringing me down.
What can I do to change that? Do I need help
from someone else? Who?**

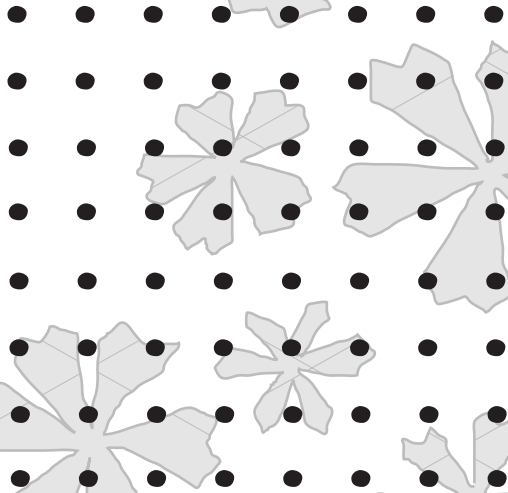
*Something good that
happened this week was:*

Let's read:

Mark 15:24-32

Claiming the promised land

To play, connect two adjacent (next to each other) dots. Take turns with your opponent. If you complete a square, you get another turn. The one with the most squares at the end of the game wins.

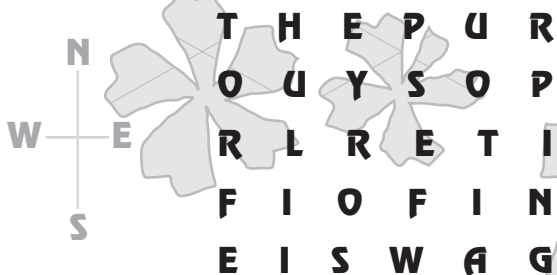


You are ...

strong

Wandering the wilderness

Make your way along the words to make a sentence. Your journey will form one single path. You can only go north, south, east, or west and the path must never cross over itself. Start at the northwest corner and finish at the southeast corner.



answer on page 331

Matthew 7:7

answer on page 315

J	S	K	G	F	D	I	V	I	D	E	D
E	U	C	A	R	T	H	C	F	E	M	E
V	S	O	R	E	T	D	R	O	V	A	I
E	E	M	M	A	R	E	O	R	A	T	F
I	J	P	E	T	O	L	S	S	S	H	I
L	L	D	N	U	B	I	S	A	I	O	C
E	L	O	T	S	E	V	O	K	W	R	U
B	L	A	S	P	H	E	M	E	D	N	R
P	R	I	E	S	T	R	C	N	I	S	C

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------|
| DIVIDED | JESUS | MOCK |
| GARMENTS | BLASPHEMED | SAVED |
| THORNS | CROSS | REVELED |
| ROBE | FORSAKEN | TEMPLE |
| LOTS | SIN | PRIEST |
| CRUCIFIED | DEATH | BELIEVE |

Doodle Box

Write down an experience where you were rejected or you rejected someone else. What happened? Could you have handled it differently?

Lined writing area for student response.