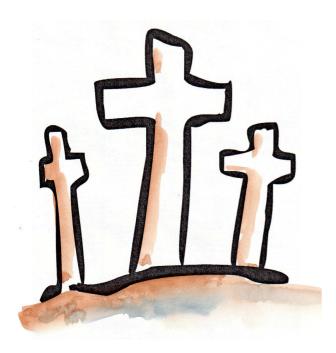
Vicki is saving up to buy a pet turtle. They are expensive, but she "loves" turtles so much, she happily cleans the manure out of the chicken pen when dad offers to pay. Matt asked the children, "Did you know that there are many people willing to go to prison or even die because of their love for Jesus? And many suffer in other ways too."





Talk to God!

Lord Jesus we know that everyone has sinned. We have all thought, said and done things which are wrong. Thank you for dying for our

sins. Teach us what it means to follow you.

Is it worth it?

Listen to God!

Mark 8:31-9:1



Jesus now told his disciples how he was going to suffer and be killed. He also told them that he would rise from the dead and come back to life again. He did this to take the punishment for our sins so that by trusting in him, we could be forgiven.

Why would Jesus do that for us? Look up 1 John 3:16 and complete the sentence:

We know what real love is

because

Jesus also told his disciples that following him, wouldn't always be easy, but it would be worth it. No amount of money, fun, popularity, or achievements in our life on earth can ever be as wonderful as having eternal life for our soul that God's love and forgiveness brings.

Delbert our dictionary says

Take up (carry) your cross:

prisoners carried the cross they would be executed on. They knew they were totally under the control of their rulers. Jesus didn't say his followers must necessarily suffer like that, but that we should let him, who knows what is best for us, be in control.