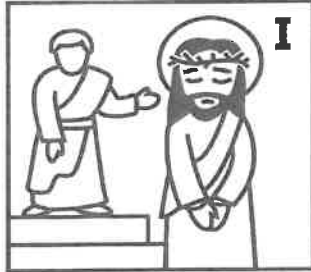


The way of the Cross
For children



By: Theresa Difato
Illustrated by Angie Kauffman



1st Station:
Jesus is condemned
to death.

Leader:

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All:

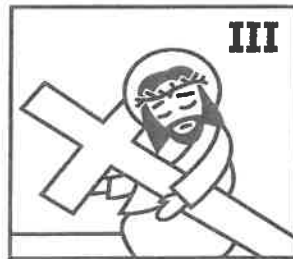
Because by your holy cross
You have redeemed the world.

Leader:

Jesus was accused of many crimes he did not
commit. He didn't defend himself. He knew he
needed to die for our sins.

All:

Jesus, I often get defensive when I know I did
something wrong. Help me be honest. I also don't
want to be a tattletale or accuse others of doing
wrong.



3rd Station:
Jesus falls the
first time.

Leader:

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All:

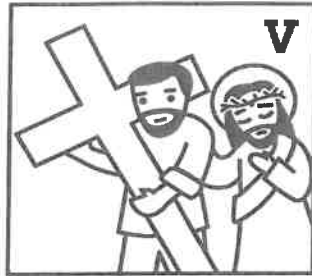
Because by your holy cross
You have redeemed the world.

Leader:

Jesus was already badly wounded when he fell for
the first time. It must have hurt very much. Jesus
got up and kept on going.

All:

When we don't succeed at school or we lose a
sports game, it can make us feel defeated. Jesus
was hurt but never defeated. Jesus, I want your
attitude of hope and victory even if I am not suc-
ceeding.



5th Station:
Simon of Cyrene
helps Jesus carry
his cross.

Leader:

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All:

Because by your holy cross
You have redeemed the world.

Leader:

Simon did not come to help Jesus but to see what was going on. Then he was ordered by the soldiers to carry the cross because Jesus was having such a hard time.

All:

Sometimes I don't want to help my friends or brothers and sisters or parents when I am told to. Jesus, help me to know that when I do help others, it is like helping you. I want to be kind and helpful.



7th Station:
Jesus falls the
second time.

Leader:

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All:

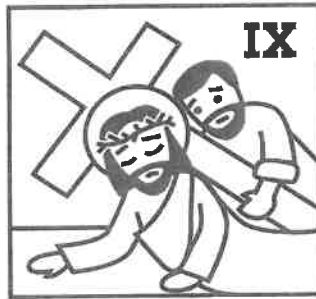
Because by your holy cross
You have redeemed the world.

Leader:

Jesus fell again because he was so weak and tired
from all his wounds. He still didn't give up. He
got back up and continued on.

All:

Think of something that makes you feel weak.
Jesus, please be with me and help me with this
difficult task. I am so tired and weak but know
that everything is possible with you.



9th Station:
Jesus falls a
third time.

Leader:

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All:

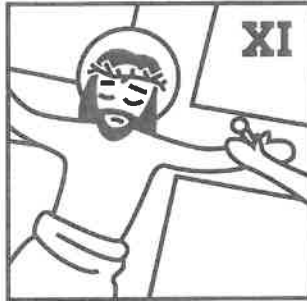
Because by your holy cross
You have redeemed the world.

Leader:

It is unbelievable that Jesus fell again and the soldiers did not help him. They only yelled louder for him to continue on. Jesus did not get upset or mad; he forgave them.

All:

Sometimes people say or do hurtful things to us or don't help us when we need them. Jesus, help me to forgive everyone like you did. Help me to not get angry or hold a grudge against someone who has hurt me.



11th Station:
Jesus is crucified.

Leader:

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All:

Because by your holy cross
You have redeemed the world.

Leader:

The soldiers drove nails through Jesus' hands and feet. They lifted up the cross and put it in place. Jesus was in a lot of pain.

All:

Many people suffer pain every day from being sick, hungry, poor and because of war and natural disaster. Jesus, please comfort everyone who is in pain today



13th Station:
The body of Jesus
is taken down from
the cross.

Leader:

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you.

All:

Because by your holy cross
You have redeemed the world.

Leader:

Joseph of Arimathea gave Jesus his own burial
cave because Jesus did not have a place to be
buried. Joseph was another one of Jesus' friends,
who took a risk to help him.

All:

Sometimes it is risky to step out and help people
who are in need. Jesus, I want to be a risk-taker
and help others. Give me love and courage.

Closing Prayer

God our Father, we will never forget our
love for Jesus.

Forgive us when we ignore Him by not
helping those in need.

Help us to see Jesus in our brothers and
sisters in need,
both here and in the rest of the world.

**In the name of the Father, the Son and
The Holy Spirit.**