

Gift

Jesus GAVE His Life—It Was Not Taken

PREP

Supplies: A \$5-10 gift that a student might enjoy, wrapped nicely.

Place the gift somewhere in front of the class so that your students see it before class starts.

Mark a Bible to 1 John 3:16, Galatians 1:4, and Luke 23:46.

DEMONSTRATION

Call up a volunteer and hand them the gift. Have them open it and let them keep it.

OBJECT LESSON

Say, "Did (our volunteer) just steal the (object)?" *Let your class say, "no."*

No, you're right, it was a gift. They didn't come before class and take it. They just received the gift I offered. I gave it to them.

1 John 3:16 says, "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us."

Jesus willingly died for us. He knew what needed to happen for our sins to be forgiven and he knew that meant dying a painful and horrible death. And He did it because he loves us.

Galatians 1:4 says, "Jesus gave his life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world in which we live."

No one took Jesus' life, he willingly gave it. In the same way, no one took the gift from me, I gave it.

Luke 23:46 reminds us that it was Jesus' choice to die for even with his last breath he told God, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."

The fact that Jesus GAVE his life for us is important because it reminds us that Jesus is all powerful. No one could have done anything to Jesus without his permission.

It also shows how great his love for us is. Jesus knew what a huge sacrifice was needed to save us from our own sin and he didn't run away or change his mind. At any point he could have had a thousand angels at his side, but he endured all the pain and humiliation even though he didn't deserve any of it.

WRAP UP

Say, “No one could have taken Jesus’ life from him, but he chose to give his life freely so we could be forgiven and free for eternity.”