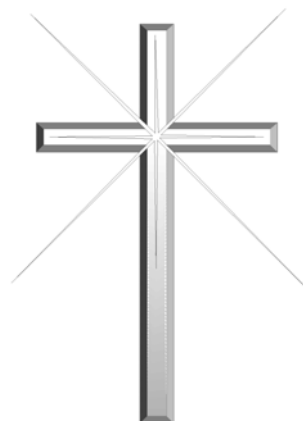


THE CHEMICAL CROSS INSTRUCTIONS

The Chemical Cross is an object lesson illustrating the Gospel. In the open air, a "number puzzle" or drama can be used to get the crowd before using the cross. At night, a bright portable lamp can be placed under the jar to make it more visible. More iodine and starch should be used when using a lamp.

Equipment Needed:

- * Cross
- * Quart or liter **jar** and a **cup** (clear glass or clear plastic);
- * **Sodium Thiosulfate** crystals (aka "Dychlor crystals")
- * **Iodine** (strongest possible) - 10% is typically the strongest commonly available
- * Liquid **starch**
(This causes the iodine to turn the water even darker than the iodine alone)
- * A **table**
 - * A tray screwed onto a camera tripod makes a good portable table
 - * If no table is used, be sure the jar and cup are held from the back so the crowd can see all the water. The jar should be washed thoroughly after each use to remove all trace of the chemical. The cross should also be washed to remove the chemical from inside the cross.
- * A plastic **spoon / stick** for stirring
- * Optional: A **light** for night presentations.



Preparation: Fill the large jar almost full with water. Mix 15 drops or so of starch into the water. Pour water from the jar into the cup, filling it to about 2/3 full. Put half a teaspoon of Sodium Thiosulfate crystals down the top of the cross. The cross can be laid on a table with the holes upwards and covered with a cloth. Place the jar, cup, and iodine also on the table.

IMPORTANT NOTE: MAKE SURE TO THOROUGHLY RINSE OUT THE CROSS AFTER EACH USE WITH WARM WATER TO AVOID CHEMICAL BUILD UP WHICH COULD EVENTULLY CLOG UP THE HOLES and/or CAUSE INTERNAL CORROSION.

Additional sources for Sodium Thiosulfate Crystals:

1. **Open Air Campaigners**, PO Box D, Nazareth, PA 18064
Phone: (610) 746-0508
Web site: www.oacusa.org
2. **The Chemistry Store.Com Inc**, 520 NE 26th Court, Pompano Beach, FL 33064
Phone: 800-224-1430 or 888-816-4441
Web site: www.chemistrystore.com (http://chemistrystore.com/sodium_tripolyphosphate.htm)
3. **Jonah's Aquarium**, PO Box 1231, Worthington, OH 43085
Email: jonah@mail.jonahsaquarium.com
Phone: 614.431.9862
Web site: www.jonahsaquarium.com

- * **Note:** If the reaction becomes slow, check that the holes in the cross are not blocked.

ADULT MEETING MESSAGE

(You may use your own words, and shorten if necessary)

I WANT THIS JAR OF CLEAR WATER TO REPRESENT the lives of the first man and woman ever to live on earth. Their lives were clean and pure like this water. Soon, however, they committed the first sin, and their lives became stained (put a few drops of iodine in the jar, and mix with the spoon). All of us, like our first parents, have also done things that are wrong, and have stained our lives (add a few more drops of iodine). Maybe we started by disobeying our parents (iodine). Later, we got in a fight (iodine). Then at school, maybe we didn't study for a test and then cheated (iodine). When we found money in a machine, or received too much change from the cashier, we probably just kept it. Or maybe it was a little shoplifting, saying the store wouldn't miss the items (iodine), or we took office supplies from work for personal use. Later, after we learned to drive, we also learned to brake quickly each time we saw a police car, but if we were caught for speeding, we lied about how fast we were going (iodine). And when we filled out our income tax return, we sort of forgot to include all our income (iodine). Then there were the times we called in sick at work when we were well. Also there were the TV programs and bad magazines we shouldn't have looked at (iodine). And then there's anger, losing our temper, yelling at the kids, husband, or wife, saying those things for which we are now ashamed. We have all been guilty of jealousy, envy, greed, gossiping, bitterness, and pride (more iodine). And when we found ourselves in a crisis, we said, "Oh my God, if you will get me out of this, I'll live for you." He did, and then we forgot all about Him, thus misusing the name of God (iodine). We have all broken the Ten Commandments in thought, word, or deed. So when we die, will we go to heaven? How can we go there with our lives so stained by sin? God says, 'Nothing unclean...shall ever come into it' (Rev. 21:27).

SO WE TRY TO CANCEL OUT OUR SINS by doing some good things. We give to charity (pour in a little clear water from the cup), and that's good, but still our sin remains. We go to a church, temple, or mosque (more water), but our sin still remains. We get baptized (water), but water doesn't wash away our sin. We go on a pilgrimage (water), pray (water), say we're sorry (water), turn over a new leaf (water), but none of these things will erase our past sins and their penalty. Deep within we know that there will be a Judgment Day when we will give an account to God. There will be no place to hide, no bribing the Judge, no clever lawyers, no changing the evidence, and no appealing the verdict. The wages of our sin is death, or eternal separation from God. How can we save ourselves from the penalty of our past sins? We can't!

SO GOD HAS MADE A WAY of forgiveness for us. It's the greatest story of love ever told. We date our time from this event, when a special person came and walked on this earth on a mission of mercy. His life was perfect. No one ever spoke like this man. He never sinned. His life was pure and perfect. He did miracles, proving he was the Son of God. But His purpose for coming was to die for our sins (take the cross, and hold it up from the bottom, with the holes towards you), Isa. 53:5-6, John 14:6, 3:16. He died, was buried, and three days later, rose from the dead. Now (place the cross above the large jar) He offers forgiveness and eternal life to all who will repent and believe. But it's more than just knowing about him (place the cross in the jar and rest it on the bottom without stirring). We must be willing to turn from our way to God's way, and to allow Christ to enter our lives and take control. Many know about Christ, but it's knowing Him personally that brings salvation (stir the cross around and around, slowly raising it to the top of the water until it clears). This can happen in your life (leave the cross in the water that is now clear). The Bible says, 'Though your sins are as scarlet, they will be white as snow' (Is. 1:18), and 'the blood of Jesus Christ... cleanses us from all sin' (1 Jn.1:7). I did this with chemicals, but God does it with the blood of His Son. You can receive God's gift of forgiveness and eternal life through Christ today (Rom. 6:23).

BUT WHAT HAPPENS IF WE SHOULD SIN AGAIN once we have put our faith in Christ (take the dropper and mix a few drops of iodine into the cup, which should have some water left in it, and pour it slowly into the jar)? Of course, we should not deliberately sin, but if we do sin, we should immediately confess it to God through Christ, and He has promised to forgive us (1 John 1:9). When Christ died for our sins, He paid the penalty for our past, present, and future sins. He promises those who truly believe and follow Him that they will "never perish" (John 10:27-28). "As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us" (Ps. 103:12). You can receive this priceless gift of salvation today, and know for sure that you will go to heaven, if you will put all your trust in Christ as your Savior.

CHILDRENS' MEETING MESSAGE

I WANT THIS JAR OF CLEAR WATER to represent the lives of the first man and woman ever to live on earth. Their lives were clean and pure like this water. Soon, however, they committed the first sin, and their lives became dirty (put in a few drops of iodine, and mix with the spoon). All of us, like our first parents, have also done things that are wrong, and have stained our lives (add a few more drops of iodine). Maybe we started by disobeying our parents (iodine). Later, we got in a fight (iodine). Then at school, maybe we didn't study for a test and then cheated (iodine). When we found money in a machine, or received too much change from the cashier, we probably just kept it. Or maybe it was a little shoplifting, saying the store wouldn't miss the items (iodine). Also there were the TV programs and bad magazines we shouldn't have looked at (iodine). And then there's anger, losing our temper, yelling, and saying those things of which we are now ashamed. We have all broken the Ten Commandments in thought, word, or actions. So when we die, will we go to heaven? How can we go there with our lives so stained by sin? God says, 'Nothing unclean ... shall ever come into it' (Rev. 21 :27).

SO WE TRY TO WASH AWAY OUR SINS by doing some good things. We give money to help the poor (pour in a little clear water from the cup), and that's good, but still our sin remains. We go to a church, temple, or mosque (more water), but our sin still remains. We get baptized (water), but water doesn't wash away our sin. We say we're sorry (water), turn over a new leaf (water), but none of these things will wash away our past sins. Deep within we know that there will be a Judgment Day when we will give an account to God. The wages of our sin is death, or eternal separation from God. How can we save ourselves from the penalty of our past sins? We can't!

SO GOD HAS MADE A WAY of forgiveness for us. It's the greatest story of love ever told. We date our time from this event, when a special person came and walked on this earth on a mission of mercy. His life was perfect. No one ever spoke like this man. He never sinned. His life was pure and perfect. He did miracles, proving he was the Son of God. But His purpose for coming was to die for our sins (take the cross, and hold it up from the bottom, with the holes towards you, and use verses like Isa. 53:5-6, John 14:6, 3:16). He died, was buried, and three days later, rose from the dead. Now (place the cross above the large jar) He offers forgiveness and eternal life to all who will repent and believe. But it's more than just knowing about him (place the cross in the beaker and rest it on the bottom without stirring). We must be willing to turn from our way to God's way, and to allow Christ to enter our lives and take control. Many know about Christ, but it's knowing Him personally that brings salvation (stir the cross around and around from side to side, slowly raising it to the top of the water until it clears). This can happen in your life (leave the cross in the water that is now clear). The Bible says, 'Though your sins are as scarlet, they will be white as snow' (Is. 1:18), and 'the blood of Jesus Christ ... cleanses us from all sin' (1 John 1:7). I did this with chemicals, but God does it with the blood of His Son. You can receive God's gift of forgiveness and eternal life by trusting in Christ today (Rom. 6:23).

BUT WHAT HAPPENS IF WE SHOULD SIN AGAIN once we have put our faith in Christ (take the dropper and mix a few drops of iodine into the cup, which should have some water left in it, and pour it all into the jar)? Of course, we should not deliberately sin, but if we do, we can confess it to God through Christ, and it's all forgiven (1 John 1:9). When Christ died for our sins, He paid the penalty for our past, present, and future sins. He promises those who truly believe and follow Him that they will 'never perish' (John 10:27-28). 'As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us' (Ps. 103: 12). You can receive this priceless gift of salvation today, and know for sure that you will go to heaven, if you will put all your trust in Christ as your Savior."

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***** Spanish Edition of these instructions available for free download on our website *****