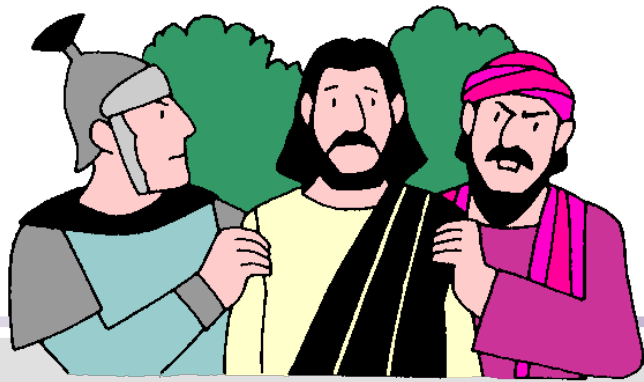




DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Who betrayed Jesus? How was He betrayed?
- What was Jesus doing when He was arrested? What was He praying about?
- Why did the religious leaders find men that would tell lies about Jesus?
- How does it make you feel when people tell lies about you? How do you think Jesus felt?
- Why do you think Jesus remained silent during most of the trial?
- What question did Jesus answer when the religious leaders asked?
- Why did the religious leaders take Jesus to the governor?
- What did Jesus tell the governor about why He came into the world?
- What did the governor have his soldiers do to Jesus?
- When the governor told the crowds that Jesus was innocent, how did the people respond?
- Why did the governor give Jesus to the people to be killed?
- How do you think Jesus felt when God's people wanted to kill Him?

(Point out that Jesus did not deny His identity or try to save Himself. Discuss with your children the reasons for Jesus' actions.)

SUGGESTED PARENT/CHILD ACTIVITIES

As you discuss today's story with your children, ask them to think about different qualities and attributes of Jesus that they appreciate. Ask them to explain why those are important to them.

Talk about some positive ways that your children can react when someone treats them badly.

Take some time to pray with your children, thanking Jesus for His actions.



Dear Parents:

This page lets you know what your child learned today at church. Included are suggested discussion questions and possible activities that you may use to reinforce the Bible story at home. Please ask your child to share today's story with you. You may be surprised at how much he or she remembers!

TODAY'S STORY: JESUS' ARREST AND TRIAL

Jesus is betrayed and accused, and He fulfils Scripture by being unjustly tried and convicted without saying anything. However, it becomes obvious that He is a King ... of a different sort.

Today your child learned about how Jesus was arrested and falsely accused. Judas – one of Jesus' followers – hands Jesus over to soldiers who arrest Him and take Him to the religious leaders. The religious leaders arranged for men to lie about Jesus, and He remains silent when presented with charges. However, Jesus admits to being the Promised King when asked. Then Jesus is taken to the government officials, and He explains more about His Kingdom. Even though the governor cannot find a reason to have Jesus killed, he has Jesus beaten and mocked. The crowds (God's people!) convince the governor to allow them to have Jesus killed.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

John 18:1-11; Matthew 26:57-67; 27:1-2

Luke 23:2; John 18:33-38; 19:1-3, 8, 10-16

FOCUS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN:

"Jesus is the Promised King that died for me."

NEXT WEEK'S STORY: JESUS' DEATH

(Luke 23:32-56; John 19:30, 40; Mark 15:46)

PRAYER:

Thank you, Jesus, for coming to teach me Truth. Help me choose You even when it seems difficult.

PRAYER REMINDERS

"Then Jesus went with His followers to a place called Gethsemane. He said to them, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray' ... and He began to be very sad and troubled. ... After walking a little farther away from them, Jesus fell to the ground and prayed ... 'My Father, if it is not possible for this painful thing to be taken from Me, and if I must do it, I pray that what You want will be done.'" ~ Matthew 26:36-37, 39, 42

Jesus was upset, because He already knew that something terrible was about to happen. So He went to the only One who could really help – God. As you complete some of the below activities, talk with your children about ways that God can give them courage to follow His commands ... even when it is difficult.

Prayer Chains

What you'll need:

- ~ Coloured paper
- ~ Stapler (and staples)
- ~ Markers or crayons
- ~ Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut the paper into small rectangular strips.
2. Write a specific prayer request on each slip of paper.
3. Staple the ends of the papers together to form links of a chain. Be sure to connect each link to the previous one before stapling.
4. Have your child hang this in his/her room as a reminder of things he/she should pray for.

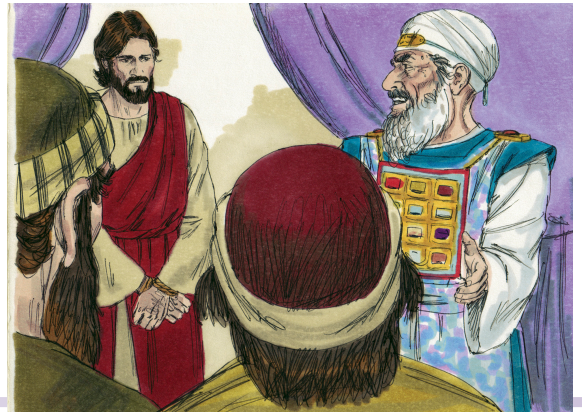
Garden Prayer Jar

What you'll need:

- ~ Glass Jar
- ~ Coloured paints
- ~ Paintbrushes
- ~ Notecards & pen

Instructions:

1. Paint a garden scene on the outside of the jar. You can add flowers, trees, animals, etc. While painting, discuss how Jesus went to the garden to find a quiet place to pray. Encourage your child to follow Jesus' example.
2. Write a few prayer requests on the notecards and put them in the jar. You can add prayers or pull them out as they are answered.



CROWN OF THORNS

"The soldiers made a crown from some thorny branches and put it on Jesus' head and put a purple robe around Him. Then they came to Him many times and said, 'Hail, King of the Jews!' and hit Him in the face.'" ~ Matthew 26:2-3

Let your children practice retelling today's story as you help them make an edible "Crown of Thorns." Eat this as a snack or serve it with a meal as your family takes time to remember what Jesus endured and why He did this for you.



What you'll need:

- ~ Bread dough
- ~ One egg
- ~ Pretzel sticks
- ~ Baking tray

Instructions:

1. Make your favourite bread dough recipe.
2. Separate the dough into three equal pieces and roll each into a rope.
3. Braid the dough and shape it into a circle. Pinch at the end. (It doesn't have to be perfect!)
4. Beat one egg, and brush it across the top of the bread.
5. Bake according to the dough instructions.
6. Once baked, place pretzel sticks in the bread to represent the "thorns." This is most easily done while the bread is still warm.

