

Bible Story 56: JESUS PRAYS AT GETHSEMANE; JESUS IS ARRESTED AND JUDGED

SCRIPTURE: Gethsemane: Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:39-46
Betrayal: Matthew 26:47-56; Mark 14:43-50; John 18:10-11
Trial: Matthew 26:57-75, 27:1-31; Mark 14:53-72, 15:1-20

MEMORY VERSE: Luke 22:42

BIBLE STORY:

THURSDAY (AROUND MIDNIGHT): JESUS PRAYS AT GETHSEMANE

After the Lord's Supper, Jesus took His disciples to Gethsemane, a garden on the Mount of Olives. Jesus told eight of His disciples to sit at the entrance to the garden. Then Jesus took Peter, James and John inside the garden with Him. Then He asked the three disciples to pray, but they were so tired that they went to sleep.

Alone, Jesus went a little distance and knelt down with His face to the ground. With sorrow He prayed three times, ***"My Father, take this cup from Me, but do Your will and not Mine."*** His sorrow was so great that His sweat was like drops of blood falling down His face.

FRIDAY (BEFORE DAWN): JESUS IS ARRESTED

After the third prayer, the disciple Judas Iscariot arrived with guards from the Temple and some Jewish religious leaders. Judas greeted Jesus with a kiss, showing the soldiers which person was the man they were searching for to arrest. So the soldiers arrested Jesus. To protect Jesus, Peter took his sword and cut off one of the ears of a priest's servant. Jesus told Peter to put his sword away, because He was going to fulfill God's will. Then Jesus healed the servant. When Jesus was tied and taken away, the disciples fled. Peter followed Jesus from a distance.

FRIDAY: JESUS IS JUDGED

Jesus was taken to the high priest, religious leaders and teachers to be judged. In the courtyard outside, Peter denied knowing Jesus three times. Then Peter left and wept bitterly.

The religious leaders wanted Jesus to be condemned to death. So early in the morning, they took Jesus to Pilate, the governor. Pilate asked, ***"Jesus, are you the King of the Jews?"***

Jesus replied, ***"Yes."***

During His judgment, Jesus was mocked, beaten and spit upon by the soldiers.

Pilate told the crowd that he did not find Jesus worthy of death. The chief priests and crowd shouted, ***"Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"***

So Pilate condemned Jesus to be crucified, to die on a cross. The soldiers led Jesus away to Golgotha to be crucified.

PART 1: PERSONAL QUESTIONS

1. What did you learn from the story?
2. How can you apply this story to your life?

PART 2: GENERIC QUESTIONS

1. What do you like about the story?
2. What is there in the story that you do not understand?
3. Who are the main people in the story?
4. What problems did the people face?
5. How did the people face their problems?
6. How have you faced similar problems?
7. Is there someone in the story who is similar to you or who is different from you?
8. What does the story tell about God?

PART 3: SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

1. After the Lord's Supper, Jesus and His disciples went to Gethsemane.
--- What happened to the eight disciples?
--- What happened to Peter, James and John?
--- What happened when Jesus prayed alone?
2. What is prayer? What are some of your needs and concerns? Pray about them.
3. After Jesus finished praying, who arrived?
--- What did Judas do?
--- What did Peter do?
--- What did Jesus do?
--- What did the soldiers do?
--- What did the disciples do?
4. When Jesus was tried before the high priests and religious leaders, what did Peter do outside in the courtyard?
5. What did Pilate ask Jesus when He was brought before him? What did Jesus reply?
6. Who do you say Jesus is?
7. Did Pilate think Jesus was worthy of death? What was Pilate's judgment to Jesus? Why?
8. Have you ever suffered for something you did not do? What happened?