

Jesus' Arrest and Trial

**Matt. 26-27; Mark 14-15;
Luke 22-23; John 18**

What did Jesus do to save us?

Jesus lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead.

If God is for us, who can be against us? He would not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all.
-Romans 8:31b-32a

Story Point:

Even though Jesus is perfect, He was betrayed and arrested.



PREPARE HEARTS

- ☐ Welcome - Coin Search
- ☐ Starter Activity - Heads or Tails



ACTIVATE HEARTS

- ☐ 9:20 - Bible Lesson in LG2
- ☐ Review and discuss the Bible Story
- ☐ Reflection and Prayer
- ☐ Questions from Kids Video



ENGAGE HEARTS

- ☐ Key Passage Activity - Balloon Toss
- ☐ Group Activity - Heads, Shoulders, Knees, CUP!
- ☐ Group Activity - Garden Prayer Cup

SHEPHERD GUIDE

Humanity's story began with God in the garden of Eden. In this week's session, we'll read about another garden, the garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus brought His disciples to commune with the Father. Though the first man's sinfulness in the garden of Eden separated all of humanity from God, the sinless Son of Man approached the garden of Gethsemane on His way to the cross where He would give up His life to restore our relationship with the Father.

Jesus was "deeply grieved to the point of death" (Matthew 26:38), aware of the physical and spiritual anguish He would soon face alone. In this agony, He prayed to His Father and asked if there was any way to avoid the cross. "Yet," He said, "not as I will, but as You will." Jesus knew what was about to happen yet humbly trusted His Father.

Jesus was so grieved in the garden that Scripture says His sweat became like drops of blood falling to the ground. However, we know from other passages that it was "for the joy that lay before Him" that Jesus "endured the cross, despising the shame" (Hebrews 12:2). Jesus knew His sacrifice would ensure salvation for all who would turn to Him in faith. While His opposition arrived to the garden with swords, Jesus stood before them unarmed—fulfilling the Old Testament's prophecy of a silent lamb led to the slaughter (Isaiah 53:7). Jesus even told Peter to put his sword away because the battle at hand was not against flesh and blood.

That night in the garden, Jesus knew His disciples—exhausted by grief and overcome with temptation—weren't strong enough to withstand the difficulties ahead. That's why Jesus came to them—and to us: because we aren't strong enough to save ourselves. He is truly the friend of sinners, even to the point of death on a cross.

This week, lead kids to see that Jesus followed God's plan out of love for us, so we could be united with Him today and for eternity. Though we deserve God's wrath, Christ took our place, so we can experience the everlasting love of our Creator.

REMINDER: Our VIP meeting is from 8:30-8:40 in C1. Your supply bin will be in your classroom.

MAIN TAKEAWAYS: We want our kids to:

- *KNOW that Jesus is the perfect Son of God. He willingly followed God's plan and took the punishment for our sins.
- *Trust God and follow Him, even when it's hard.
- *Pray to God and obey what He says.

As children arrive - Welcome them by name and invite them to play with you and the other children.

Use this time to get to know your kids - ask them about their week, about their likes and dislikes and about their school, family and friends.

Ways to connect - Play a game from the closet, color or draw together, build with legos/blocks, etc.

When most kids have arrived for first service (by 9:05ish), ask them to clean up the toys and find a seat at one of the tables to begin the class.

**Pen Pal Kit!!*



PREPARE HEARTS

WELCOME

Coin Search

- Activity page
- Markers
- Pencils

OPENING QUESTIONS:

What is something you didn't want to do this week, but did anyway because it was the right thing to do?

Invite kids to complete the "Coin Search" activity page.

You did a great job sorting through the coins to complete the story point! Today we'll hear how Jesus was betrayed and let down by a close friend. But Jesus still walked in perfect obedience to God's plan.



STARTER

Heads or Tails

- Coin

Pair the kids up in groups of two.

Designate one kid in each pair as heads and the other as tails.

Instruct the pairs to line up on one side of the room. Explain that you are going to call out different commands: hop like a bunny, crawl slow like a turtle, etc.

Once you give the command, you will flip the coin. Whichever side the coin lands on, heads or tails, that partner from each group must do the command all the way to the other side of the room and back. The last kid back each round, along with his or her partner, is out.

SAY :The game we just played relied on chance; there was a possibility you might have to take a turn, but it wasn't certain. God's plan is not up to chance. He is always in control, and He knows what will happen. In today's story, one of Jesus's disciples led the soldiers to arrest Jesus. We will learn that even though Jesus is perfect, He was betrayed and arrested.



ACTIVE MINDS

Taught by the Bible Teacher:

INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

(Quick 1 minute review!)

9:20 – 9:35

K – 3rd Grade in LG2

BIBLE STORY:

Jesus' Arrest and Trial

Bibles, Powerpoint slides

Quick Review of where we are in the Big Story of the Bible and Big Picture Question:

What did Jesus do to save us? *Jesus lived a sinless life, died on the cross, and rose from the dead.*

Open your Bible to Matthew 26-27; Mark 14-15; Luke 22-23; John 18.

STORYTELLING OPTIONS / TIPS:

Recreate the Scene: Help the kids visualize the story by setting out some small plants and rocks throughout the room like a garden. Consider providing small mats for the kids to sit on as you read.

Stay Silent: Each time you Say “Jesus” in the story, prompt the kids to say, “Shh!” and hold their finger to their mouth. Remind the kids that Jesus stayed silent before His accusers.

After the last supper, Jesus and His disciples went to a garden called Gethsemane. Jesus said, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” Jesus was very sad and troubled. He knew He was going to suffer and die for people’s sins. Jesus prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.” When He went back to the disciples, they were asleep. Jesus told them to get up.

Suddenly, a crowd came to the garden, led by Judas—one of Jesus’s disciples. Judas showed the religious leaders which man was Jesus by greeting Him with a kiss, and they arrested Jesus.

Jesus did not fight back. He told the soldiers, “Have you come out with swords and clubs, as if I were a criminal?” Jesus allowed Himself to be taken away because He had come to do God’s will.

Jesus was taken to the religious leaders, who were looking for a reason to put Jesus to death, but they could not find any. They asked Jesus many questions, but Jesus stayed silent. When the high priest asked if Jesus was the Son of God, Jesus said, “Yes, I am.”

The leaders didn’t like His answer. They said Jesus was lying and wanted Him punished. The people shouted, “Crucify Him!”

The next morning, Jesus was sent to Pilate, the Roman governor. Pilate questioned Jesus and said, “Aren’t you going to answer? Look how many things they are accusing you of!” But Jesus still did not answer, and so Pilate was amazed.

Pilate didn’t want to punish Jesus because Pilate didn’t find Jesus guilty of doing anything wrong. But the crowd kept yelling for Jesus to be crucified. Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released a criminal named Barabbas to them; and after having Jesus flogged, Pilate handed Jesus over to be crucified.

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus followed God's plan because He loves us. Jesus took the punishment for our sins even though He did nothing wrong. Jesus died on the cross and rose again so that everyone who trusts Him can be forgiven and have new life forever with God.



REVIEW AND DISCUSS

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Allow time to have the children think and process - however this works best for your class. We want our kids to feel known and heard!

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Blank paper, Bible Story coloring page, colored pencils/crayons

In small groups (or as a large group), use the coloring page (on the other side of the worksheet) and have children color while you talk through these questions.

Why was Jesus sad and troubled as He prayed in the garden? [Allow responses.] Jesus knew that His death was near. But in His time of temptation and need, Jesus chose to go to God the Father in prayer. Jesus prayed for God's will to be done no matter what. God wants us to come to Him at all times, especially when we are sad and in need, because He cares for us.

Judas, a disciple of Jesus, turned Jesus over to the religious leaders to be arrested.

Why did Jesus not fight back against the soldiers? [Allow responses.] Jesus's arrest didn't catch Him by surprise. He knew everything was happening just as God had planned, so Jesus allowed the soldiers to take Him away. Jesus showed His great love for us by following God's plan, even in suffering and death.

Was Jesus lying when He called Himself the Son of God? [Allow responses.] The religious leaders felt that Jesus's claim to be the Son of God was disrespecting God. But Jesus was not lying; He truly is the Son of God. But the religious leaders' hearts were hardened to the truth. **Did Pilate find Jesus guilty?** [Allow responses.] Pilate did not find any evidence that showed Jesus to be guilty. Unlike Jesus who is perfect, we all stand guilty before God because of our sin. We are deserving of death. But Jesus obediently died to fulfill God's plan to offer us salvation.

Jesus followed God's plan because He loves us. Jesus took the punishment for our sins even though He did nothing wrong. Jesus died on the cross and rose again so that everyone who trusts Him can be forgiven and have new life forever with God.



Reflection and Prayer

Have children use their journal page as you answer the following questions. Or, just talk about it together.

What does this story teach me about God?

God is loving—Jesus willingly suffered because He loves us. God is in control—Jesus wasn't caught by surprise; everything happened according to God's plan. God is patient and gentle—Jesus showed kindness even to those who arrested Him.

What does this story teach me about myself?

I can follow God too - by listening and obeying His commands. I can trust God because He is in control of all things.

Pray together: *Father, thank You that we can talk to you at any time throughout our day. You see us, you hear us and you love us! Help us trust You completely. Amen.*



Questions from Kids Video

USB on TV

Show the “Unit 28, Session 1” Questions from Kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

- Why did Jesus pray to God for another way to save us, if Jesus knows everything?
- What is something you are praying about this week?



ENGAGE HEARTS

Show the key passage poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Romans 8:31b-32a.

Key Passage Activity:

SAY: Jesus showed God's love for us by obeying God's plan for salvation. Let's learn more about Jesus's obedience through our new key passage!

Lead kids to form a circle.

Explain that they will hit a balloon around the circle and each say a word from the key passage when they hit the balloon.

Challenge kids to say the entire key passage without letting the balloon hit the floor.

Tell kids that if the balloon hits the floor, they must start over. Repeat as time allows.

Balloon Toss

- Balloon



Heads, Shoulders, Knees..... CUP!

- Plastic Cups

Guide kids to find a partner and stand facing each other.

Place one cup in between each pair of kids. Remind kids that Jesus was following God's direction and instruction when Jesus was betrayed and arrested.

Explain that when you say head, kids must place their hands on their head. When you call out shoulders, they'll place their hands on their shoulders, and when you call out knees, they'll place their hands on their knees.

Mix up the combinations and increase speed as the game continues.

When you say cup, the kids will try to grab the cup before their partner. The partner who grabs the cup first stays in the game and finds a new partner, while the other one is now out until the end of the game.

SAY: Following directions can be hard! Jesus was following God's plan to save us from sin even when it was hard. God calls us to follow Him, too! Jesus forgives us when we repent of our sin and follow Him as Lord.



Garden Prayer Cup

- Foam cups
- Craft sticks
- Markers
- Foam flower stickers
- Scotch Tape
- Small pieces of paper

Give each child a foam cup, craft sticks, markers, and foam flower stickers. Have kids choose a few stickers and place them on the ends of their craft sticks to make flowers or plants.

Next, have the children decorate their foam cup using markers so it looks like a flowerpot or garden planter. Help each child write "Garden Prayer Cup" on the cup.

With help from a shepherd, tape the other end of each craft stick to the inside of the cup. Make sure the sticker "flowers" stick up above the top of the cup.

Give each child small pieces of paper. Have them write a few things they want to pray about. If they aren't writing yet, have them draw a picture of what they want to pray about. They can also tell you their prayer and you can write the words for them. Then fold the prayers and place them inside their Garden Prayer Cup.

SAY: "Your Garden Prayer Cup can help you remember to talk to God! When God answers one of your prayers, or when what you want to pray about changes, take that prayer out and replace it with a new one. Remember, God always hears and answers our prayers, but His answer may not always be what we expect.

"In today's Bible story, we will learn about a time when Jesus prayed to God and asked Him for something. Jesus knew that following God's plan would be hard and would mean suffering, but He still wanted to obey God's plan."