



# The Trial of Jesus

Key Verse:

**“A voice from the clouds said, ‘This is my Son, whom I love, with Him I am well pleased.’”**

Matthew 17:5

Extra: What do you think about Jesus’ trial?

Level 4 lesson 10

**Read Matthew 26:36-56, John 19:1-16 and Isaiah 53:3-7**

Imagine if you were very upset about some bad news or terrible circumstances, but your friends were too tired to listen! Well, sadly, that’s what happened to Jesus!

Having read the passages for this week, you will recall how Jesus took His disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane, which is at the foot of the Mount of Olives. There, he asked them to stay and watch with Him while He prayed. You see, Jesus is truly God and He knew exactly what lay before Him in the future hours.

Imagine how terrible it would be, to know the very hour you were going to die, and the terrible suffering you would have to endure! Yes, Jesus knew all that and always had. Even so, Philippians 2:5-11 reminds us, that He was willing to come to earth and die on a cross for us. He was willing to experience the agony of crucifixion and even worse - to be separated from His Father, as He took the sin of the world upon Himself, so as to obey His Father’s will.

So, as Jesus thought about all these things that lay ahead of Him, humanly speaking, the anticipation was almost unbearable. We cannot begin to understand Jesus’ mental anguish at this time. He said to His disciples, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death.” In Luke 22 we read that His sweat was like drops of blood and God sent an angel to strengthen Him.

Yet even at such a time, He still prayed to His Father, “Not my will, but yours be done!” This should be the attitude of our lives as Christians too. Like Jesus, we too can always depend on our Heavenly Father for comfort and strength. Yet as Jesus prayed, the disciples grew tired and fell asleep, because of how late it was!

Even as Jesus confirmed His total submission to His Father’s will, the stillness of the garden was suddenly broken by a crowd of people and soldiers approaching! Leading them was Judas. He stepped forward to greet Jesus with a kiss, which was his way of identifying Jesus to the soldiers. “Why do you come out against me with sticks and spears, as though I was a thief?” Jesus asked. However, He didn’t try to fight or escape: this was the appointed time and He let Himself be arrested and led away for trial.

Even though it was very early in the morning, the Chief Priests took Jesus to Pilate, the Roman ruler. “What charge do you bring against this man?” he asked them. They answered, “If He wasn’t an evil-doer we wouldn’t have brought Him to you.” Pilate, thinking it was some relatively trivial matter and not wanting to get involved, said, “Take Him away and judge Him according to your own law.”

This however, was not what the Jewish leaders wanted. They wanted Jesus dead, and they were willing to do or say anything to see it happen. “We’re not allowed to execute anyone, and that’s why we’ve brought Him to you,” they said. “This man deserves to die. He has been teaching lies, telling people not to pay taxes to Caesar, and saying that He is the Christ, a King.” Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the King of the Jews? The chief priests and rulers of your own people have brought you to me. What have you done?” Of course, nothing Jesus said convinced Pilate of His guilt; quite the opposite in fact. “I can find no fault in this just man!” Pilate proclaimed to the crowd.

Pilate then continued, “It is your custom at this time of year, that I release a prisoner to you. Shall I release to you the King of the Jews?” “No!” the people cried out, “Not this man! Give us Barabbas!” (Barabbas was a robber awaiting execution). “What shall I do with this man Jesus?” Pilate then asked. The crowd shouted loudly, “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. Why did Jesus go to Gethsemane?	.....
2. What was His final prayer to His Father before He was arrested?	.....
3. Who was Jesus taken to? Why was He taken to this man?	.....
4. After talking to Jesus, what did the Roman ruler say to the crowd about Him? 1=a, 2=b, 3=c	9 6 9 14 4 14 15 6 1 21 12 20 9 14 20 8 9 19 13 1 14
5. What do you think was the most important question Pilate asked the crowd? Why?	.....



# Christ, the Risen Saviour!

Key Verse:

**“I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will go in.”**

Revelation 3:20

Level 4 lesson 12

Extra: How can we have our sins forgiven?

## Read Luke 24:1-27 and 1 Corinthians 15

We have studied together some of the many things that took place during that first ‘Easter weekend.’ We will never fully appreciate the suffering, sorrow and shame that the Lord Jesus endured for us during those dark hours. But we know that He endured it all so that we might be saved, forgiven all our sin, and made fit to go to Heaven.

We have seen the different ways in which people treated Him. Judas betrayed Him. Peter denied that he even knew Him. The other disciples were also so scared and frightened for their own lives they ran away and left Him. The soldiers mocked and taunted Him, pressing a cruel crown of thorns onto His head, and beating Him horribly. And then Pilate, too weak-minded and afraid to stand up for the truth, denied Him justice, even though he knew that Jesus was innocent of any charges laid against Him.

However, there were those who loved Jesus, and who followed Him through all those terrible hours with faithful, sorrowing hearts. The thief on the cross realised Jesus was the Son of God and that He was dying for the sins of others, so the thief trusted in Christ as his Saviour. Then when he died that day, he went straight to Heaven because Jesus had forgiven all his past sins.

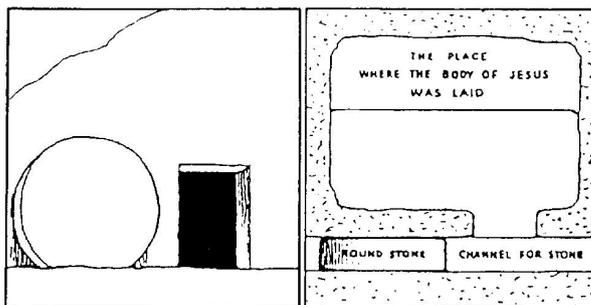
Dear students, what will you do with Jesus TODAY? Those who hated Him, crucified Him. However, God raised Him from the dead on the third day and today He is a LIVING SAVIOUR. He is able to forgive

all sin; able to give power over sin, day by day; able to fill our lives with joy and gladness; and able to strengthen us throughout our lives. In our reading today, we find two men walking along the road to Emmaus, discussing all the happenings of the first Easter weekend. They were troubled and saddened by Jesus’ death; they did not yet know that He had risen from the dead. Suddenly, “Jesus Himself came near, and went with them, but they did not know Him.” He asked why they were sad and after they answered, He began to explain to them how all the Scriptures (the Old Testament of course, since the New Testament had not been written then) foretold that Christ must come and suffer all these things. So they walked along together and their hearts were thrilled as Jesus taught them many things concerning Himself.

As they neared their home, Jesus acted like He would walk on, but they invited him to come in to stay the night. So Jesus did, and later when He gave thanks for the meal, “their eyes were opened” and they happily realised it was Jesus Himself!

Today the Lord Jesus stands at your heart’s door and says: “May I come in?” He wants us to respond from our hearts and ask Him to come in and change us. He would never have gone into the home of the two in our story if he had not been asked. Neither will He come into your life unless He is asked. Asking Jesus to come in to our lives also involves telling Him you are sorry for your sins and asking Him to forgive and save you, and then to help you to live your life in a right way that pleases Him. Will you ask Him today?

The Empty Grave.



The left picture shows the stone rolled away from the entrance to the grave.

The right picture shows a plan (i.e. looking from above) of the tomb.

### QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. Why did Pilate deny Jesus justice?

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2. Because the Lord Jesus is a risen and living Saviour today, what is he able to do for us?

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3. What happened when Jesus and the two men reached Emmaus?

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4. What else is involved with asking the Lord Jesus into your life? Have you done this?

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5. If you have a question about becoming a Christian, do add them here. We’re glad to help!

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