**STORY**

8/5/03

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, His Betrayal and Arrest - Matthew 26:14-16, 36-56, Mark 14:10-11, 32-50, Luke 22:39-53, John 18:1-11

TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Father in heaven, I come to You now as Your Son came to You in the Garden on the night He was betrayed, humble and asking for Your help. I come on behalf of the children - Your little lambs - whom I am called to teach. Give me, I pray, wisdom and understanding that I might present to them Your words and Your will in all their truth and majesty. I pray that Your Holy Spirit might work through me to bring the power of Your Word to bear on their little hearts. Bless my instruction of these precious little ones. Let them see Your hand in their lives. This I ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

VOCABULARY

Legion - Although a full Roman legion had 6,000 men, this word could also refer to simply a great multitude. (cf. Mark 5:9)

OUTER AIM

Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, was betrayed by Judas and arrested.

INNER AIM

Jesus submitted to His Father's will to save mankind.

BACKGROUND

(Rupprecht Bible History References Vol. 2, pp. 346-360)

Jesus had just celebrated the Passover with His disciples and had instituted the Lord's Supper. Surely the disciples must have been confused by Jesus' words: "Take eat, this is My body which is broken for you." "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." They were soon to find out just what Jesus meant by those words. Jesus and the eleven traveled from the upper room where they celebrated the Passover to a place they had used many times - the Garden of Gethsemane. Judas went out from the upper room and went straight to the chief priests and elders, who assigned to him a "great multitude" of men charged with arresting Jesus.

v. 14-16

- ▶ Judas' act of betrayal was calculated and premeditated rather than spontaneous.
- ▶ We cannot say for certain exactly what his motives might have been.
- ▶ Certainly money played a role, but Judas was a complex character, and there could well have been other factors that prompted his decision.
- ▶ The infamous thirty pieces of silver were worth about 120 denarii. A denarius was generally considered to be equal to one day's wage.

v. 36-39

- ▶ Gethsemane was probably more like a small park than a garden.
- ▶ Once again Jesus left the majority of the disciples behind (perhaps at the outer edge of the park) and took only Peter, James, and John to be near Him.

- ▶ Jesus did this not only to have someone close to Him in this time of great anguish, but also so that there might be witnesses for future generations.
- ▶ Few (if any) men can say that they have known this kind of sorrow.
- ▶ Jesus was not so full of grief that He wanted to end His own life to escape.
- ▶ Jesus was to the point where the anguish itself could kill Him.
- ▶ Perhaps this is why an angel was sent to strengthen him (cf. Luke 22:43).
- ▶ Luke also records that "His sweat became like great drops of blood, falling to the ground." Many believe that Luke is here simply telling us that Jesus was sweating profusely. There is, however, a medical condition known as *hematidrosis* where under conditions of great stress or anguish blood can actually mix with sweat.
- ▶ Jesus here demonstrated for all mankind the model prayer.
- ▶ As a true man, Jesus was suffering as no other man has or will. He openly expressed His will to His Father, that "this cup might pass from Me."
- ▶ Yet note well His unwavering submission to His Father's will: "Nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

v. 40-41

- ▶ How Jesus, as true man, longed for the companionship and support of His closest men.
- ▶ They failed Him, as all men failed Him. Jesus was utterly alone when He carried our sins to the cross. "God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us."
- ▶ Even His heavenly Father forsook Him on the cross.
- ▶ With His words "Watch and pray" Jesus here advocates that which has been all but lost to our modern society: self-discipline and self-denial.
- ▶ We can sympathize with the disciples who were very tired after a long day and a big meal.
- ▶ Jesus tries to impress upon them the seriousness of the occasion and the critical importance that they "watch and pray." The flesh is indeed weak.

v. 42-46

- ▶ The fact that Jesus repeated the same prayer three times is telling.
- ▶ God wants us to be persistent when we pray, so long as we add the words Jesus added: "Your will be done."
- ▶ It is probably incorrect to imagine that Jesus went to the spot where He prayed (about a stone's throw from the three), spoke only the few words recorded in our text, and came right back.
- ▶ He may have repeated these words many times. He may have added others, which would explain the slightly different wording in the three accounts.
- ▶ The fact is His prayers must have taken some time, since not only had His men fallen asleep, they apparently slept for some time.
- ▶ Jesus seemed surprised to find that the disciples were still sleeping when He came back the third time: "Are you still sleeping and resting?"

v. 47-50

- ▶ The chief priests and elders were not about to take any chances.
- ▶ That is why they not only hired Judas, but they also sent "a great multitude" to arrest a gentle man like Jesus.
- ▶ John alone recorded the amazing spectacle of how this rough, tough, well-armed band of ruffians retreated and fell to the ground when Jesus told them who He was.
- ▶ The message here is clear. No matter how tough or well armed, these men had no power over Jesus. Jesus willingly placed Himself under their power.

- ▶ Judas identified Jesus with a kiss - not an uncommon greeting in those days. His brazen hypocrisy, however, is not lost on Jesus, who yet in love calls him "friend."

v. 51-54

- ▶ All twelve of the Apostles were together now.
- ▶ Peter, still emboldened by the Lord Jesus, who stood at his side, swung with a clumsy fisherman's hand at one of the guards, Malchus, and cut off his right ear.
- ▶ Healing the ear by the power of His touch, Jesus assures His men that He could have any number of angels at His disposal.
- ▶ Twelve legions, in Roman terms, was equal to 72,000 soldiers. One single angel would have been more than a match for even this great crowd.
- ▶ Jesus willingly gave His life for us sinners.

v. 55-56

- ▶ Jesus shamed the men who came out to arrest Him.
- ▶ He reminded them that He had been with them daily in the temple, but they hadn't the courage to arrest Him there, in the daylight.
- ▶ They were operating instead under the cover of darkness, the favorite time of evil men.
- ▶ This was very likely not a quiet, gentle arrest, though Jesus would certainly have gone with them without a struggle.
- ▶ The disciples, we are told, did not simply wander off. They fled for their lives.
- ▶ One of them (most believe it was Mark) was grabbed by the mob. In terror and shame he left his cloak and fled naked into the night. Jesus was alone, in the midst of the hostile crowd.

STUDENT PRAYER

Dear Jesus, I can't even imagine how much You suffered for me in the Garden of Gethsemane and on the cross of Calvary. I'm sorry that my many sins made it necessary for You to have to suffer as You did, but with all my heart I thank You for doing it. I could never have done what You did, and I surely did not deserve to have You suffer like that in my place. Thank You, dear Jesus, for suffering the punishment of hell for my sins. Amen.

PRESENTATION

If your students enjoy acting out the Bible stories, this lesson certainly lends itself to that. Otherwise it is best to tell this lesson in your own words since there are many interesting facts in the different accounts that should be included.

ACTIVITY ONE- Use the cover picture and the questions and directions below to help students review the lesson.

1. Draw a line under the people Jesus took with Him into the garden. What were their names? What did Jesus ask them to do while He prayed?
2. Draw an X on the picture of Jesus praying to His Father. What did He ask His Father to do for Him? How did He end His prayer? To whom do we pray for help? How should we end our prayer?
3. Draw a circle around the part of the picture that shows what Jesus found His disciples doing when He went back to them. How did Jesus feel?
4. Draw a box around the part of the picture that shows what made all the noise at the gate of the garden. Why did the crowd have swords and spears?

5. Make a red dot under the person who showed the enemies where to find Jesus. What was his name?
6. Jesus did not use His great power to escape. He did not let His disciples fight to rescue Him. Why was Jesus willing to be captured?

ACTIVITY TWO - The figures below may be cut out and used to dramatize the story. Figures may be glued to craft sticks to make puppets, or moved around on a flat surface, or they may be glued in place on a large sheet of paper, to recreate the story setting. If there is time in class, they could be used for review instead of the question/activity at the top of the page. If not, give each student an envelope so that the pieces may be taken home and used to retell the story with the child's family.

APPLICATIONS

1. Just as Jesus reached out to Judas, so also He calls out to us through His Word when we are in danger of falling into sin. If we deprive ourselves of a regular study of His Word, we cut ourselves off from His words of warning and encouragement. Many times we have to receive this strengthening before the temptation comes. The disciples trusted in their own strength and thought they could handle the temptation. They were wrong.
2. Picture for the children the extreme suffering of Jesus, together with why He had to suffer as He did. Note too that the suffering was mental, emotional, and physical. Illustrate by asking how they would feel if all their friends abandoned them when they were in trouble and needed help.
3. No matter how much we might want something in this life, we ought always to follow Jesus' example and pray, "Your will be done." Jesus knows what is best for our spiritual well-being. Ask your students to think of examples of things they might pray for and why God might say, "No." (ie. you might get injured if you had your own car or horse; you might skip church on Sundays if you had your own cabin, etc.)
4. We can never stress often enough or strongly enough the tremendous love Jesus had for us to endure what He did. Note also the power that was His. How tempting it would have been for us to strike back at anyone who tried to treat us as he treated Jesus.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

Mark 14:38 - Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation.

1 Tim. 1:15 - Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

Romans 4:24-25 - Jesus our Lord... was delivered up because of our offenses.

Middle any of the above and...

Matthew 26:41 - Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Luke 24:26 - Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?

Upper any of the above and...

1 John 3:1 - Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

Hebrews 2:18 - For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

HYMN CHOICES

"Go to Dark Gethsemane" (TLH #159:1,4)

"Christ, the Life of All the Living" (TLH #151:1-2,7)

"Glory Be to Jesus" (TLH 1#58:1-4)

"Abide with Us, the Day is Waning" (TLH #194:1,3)

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

His Betrayal and Arrest

Matthew 26:14-16, 36-56; Mark 14:10-11, 32-50;
Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-11

The Story

Parents: Review this lesson with your child.

As Jesus and the disciples were finishing the Lord's Supper, Judas went to see Jesus' enemies. Since Judas loved money, he asked the high priest for a reward then Judas would lead the enemies to Jesus. They agreed on thirty pieces of silver.

It was late at night when Jesus and the disciples left the upper room. They went to the Garden of Gethsemane, which was like a park. At the gate of the garden, Jesus left most of the disciples, saying, "Sit here while I go to pray." He took Peter, James and John farther into the garden with Him. As they walked, Jesus said to the three disciples, "My soul is filled with sadness. Stay here and watch while I pray."

Jesus went a little ways from the disciples and prayed, "Oh, My Father, if it is possible, let all this suffering be taken away from Me. But if I must suffer and die for the sins of the people, Your will be done." Jesus went back and found Peter, James and John sleeping. "Couldn't you watch with me one hour? Watch and pray so you don't fall into sin." Then Jesus went back to pray two more times as the disciples slept.

There was a noise at the gate. Judas and a crowd came with swords and torches. Judas came forward and said, "Greetings, Master," and kissed Jesus. Now the enemies knew which man to arrest.

When the disciples saw the

soldiers take hold of Jesus, they asked if they should fight. Peter grabbed his sword and cut off a servant's ear. Jesus told him, "Put away your sword. I could call on My Father and He would send 70,000 angels to help Me. But all this must be done as My Father wants." Then Jesus healed the servant's ear.

As the enemies took Jesus away, the disciples became afraid. All of them left Jesus and ran.

Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, was betrayed and arrested. We also pray to our heavenly Father.

Passage

Matthew 26:41 – Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation.

Hymn - TLH 158 v.1, 6

Glory be to Jesus, Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood from His sacred veins!

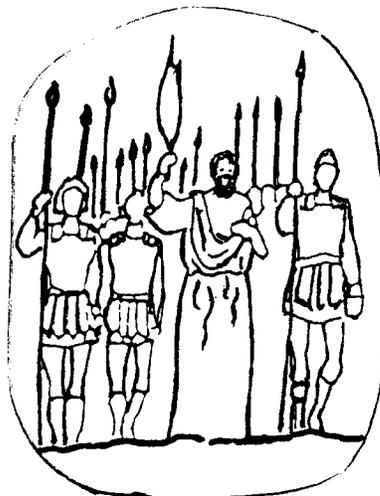
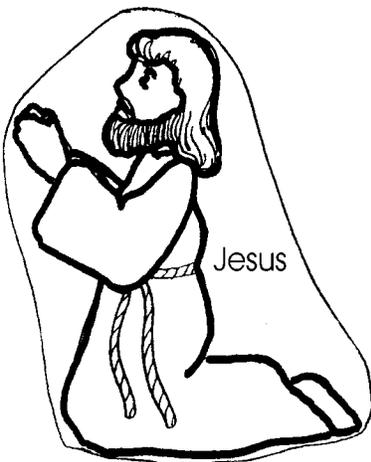
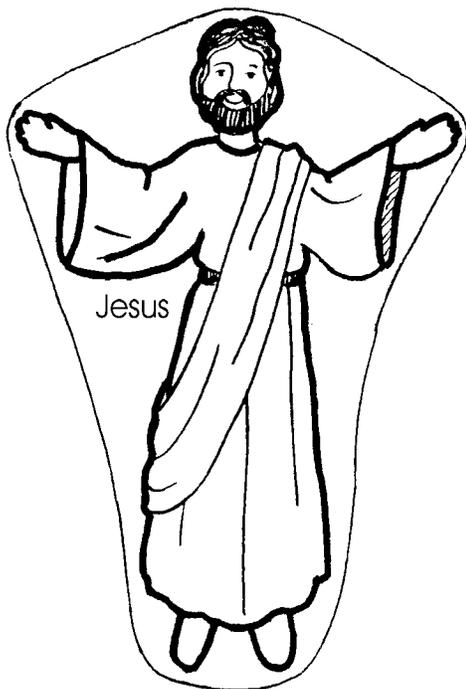
Lift we, then, our voices, swell the mighty flood,
Louder still and louder praise the precious blood!

Prayer

Dear Jesus, Thank You for suffering for me at the Garden of Gethsemane. Keep me always in the true faith. In Jesus' name. Amen.

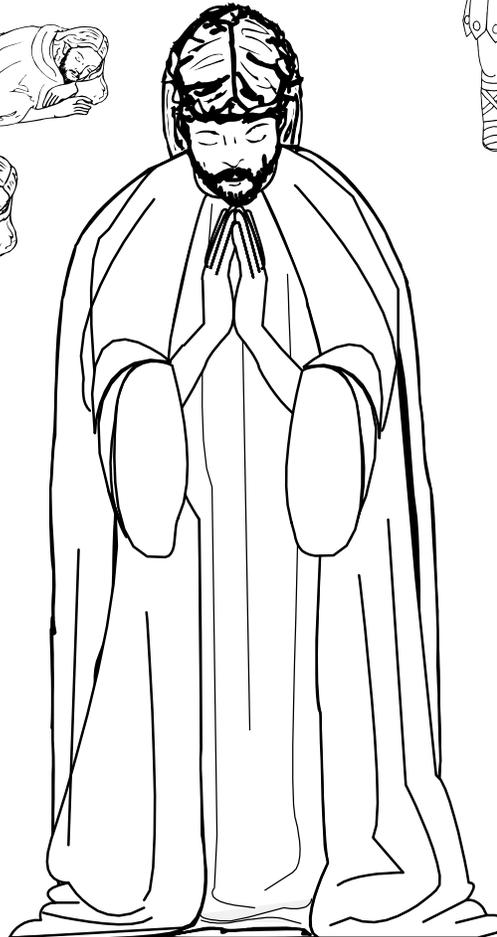


Classroom Activity - The figures below may be cut out and used to dramatize the story. Figures may be glued to craft sticks to make puppets, or moved around on a flat surface, or they may be glued in place on a large sheet of paper, to recreate the story setting. If there is time in class, they could be used for review.



Classroom Art Activity - Teacher: Use the picture, questions and directions below to help students review the lesson.

1. Draw a line under the people Jesus took with Him into the garden. What were their names? What did Jesus ask them to do while He prayed? What did they do instead?
2. Color Jesus praying to His Father. What did He ask His Father to do for Him? Make your arms go wide apart. That's how much Jesus loves us.
3. Draw a box around the part of the picture that shows what made all the noise at the gate of the garden. Why did the crowd have swords and spears?
4. Make an X on the person who showed the enemies where to find Jesus. What was his name?



Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

His Betrayal and Arrest

Matthew 26:14-16, 36-56; Mark 14:10-11, 32-50;
Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-11



The Story

As Jesus and the disciples were finishing the Lord's Supper, Judas went to see Jesus' enemies. Since Judas loved money, he asked the high priest for a reward for giving them Jesus. They agreed on thirty pieces of silver.

It was late at night when Jesus and the disciples left the upper room. They went to the Garden of Gethsemane, which was like a park. At the gate of the garden, Jesus left most of the disciples, saying, "Sit here while I go to pray." He took Peter, James and John farther into the garden with Him. As they walked, Jesus said to the three disciples, "My soul is filled with sadness. Stay here and watch while I pray."

Jesus went a little ways from the disciples and prayed, "Oh, My Father, if it is possible, let all this suffering be taken away from Me. But if I must suffer and die for the sins of the people, Your will be done."

Jesus went back and found Peter, James and John sleeping. "Couldn't you watch with me one hour? Watch and pray so you don't fall into sin." Then Jesus went back to pray two more times as the disciples slept.

There was a noise at the gate. Judas and a crowd came with swords and torches. Judas came forward and said, "Greetings, Master," and kissed Jesus. Now the enemies knew which man to arrest.

When the disciples saw the soldiers take hold of Jesus, they asked if they should fight. Peter grabbed his sword and cut off a servant's ear. Jesus told him, "Put away your sword. I could call on My Father and He would send 70,000 angels to help Me. But all this must be done as My Father wants." Then Jesus healed the servant's ear.

As the enemies took Jesus away, the disciples became afraid. All of them left Jesus and ran.

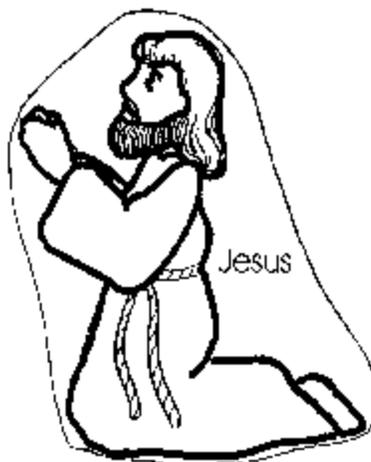
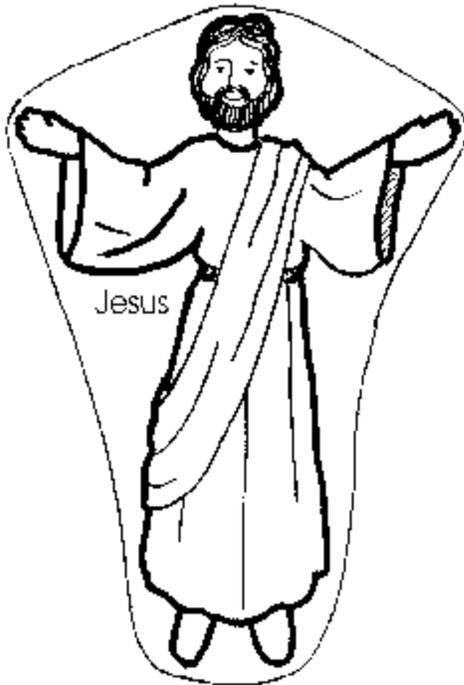
Activity One - Look at the picture on the first page. Follow the directions below. Listen to the questions your teacher asks. Use them to talk about the story.

1. Draw a line under the people Jesus took with Him into the garden.
2. Draw an **X** on the picture of Jesus praying to His Father.
3. Draw a *circle* around the part of the picture that shows what Jesus found His disciples doing when He went back to them.
4. Draw a **box** around the part of the picture that shows what made all the noise at the gate of the garden.
5. Make a red dot under the person who showed the enemies where to find Jesus.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, I am sorry my  caused you to be so  and to suffer in the garden. I am so  that you suffered in my place and died on the cross for my . Thank you, Jesus. Amen.

Activity Two - Color the pictures below. Cut them out. Glue them to sticks. You can use them to tell the story from today's Bible lesson. There are more suggestions for your teacher in the Teacher's Notes.



Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

His Betrayal and Arrest

Matthew 26:14-16, 36-56; Mark 14:10-11, 32-50;
Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-11



Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, was betrayed and arrested.



The Story

As Jesus and the disciples were finishing the Lord's Supper, Judas went to see Jesus' enemies. Since Judas loved money, he asked the high priest for a reward for giving them Jesus. They agreed on thirty pieces of silver.

It was late at night when Jesus and the disciples left the upper room. They went to the Garden of Gethsemane, which was like a park. At the gate of the garden, Jesus left most of the disciples, saying, "Sit here while I go to pray." He took Peter, James and John farther into the garden with Him. As they walked, Jesus said to the three disciples, "My soul is filled with sadness. Stay here and watch while I pray."

Jesus went a little ways from the disciples and prayed, "Oh, My Father, if it is possible, let all this suffering be taken away from Me. But if I must suffer and die for the sins of the people, Your will be done." Jesus went back and found Peter,

James and John sleeping. "Couldn't you watch with me one hour? Watch and pray so you don't fall into sin." Then Jesus went back to pray two more times as the disciples slept.

There was a noise at the gate. Judas and a crowd came with swords and torches. Judas came forward and said, "Greetings, Master," and kissed Jesus. Now the enemies knew which man to arrest.

When the disciples saw the soldiers take hold of Jesus, they asked if they should fight. Peter grabbed his sword and cut off a servant's ear. Jesus told him, "Put away your sword. I could call on My Father and He would send 70,000 angels to help Me. But all this must be done as My Father wants." Then Jesus healed the servant's ear.

As the enemies took Jesus away, the disciples became afraid. All of them left Jesus and ran.

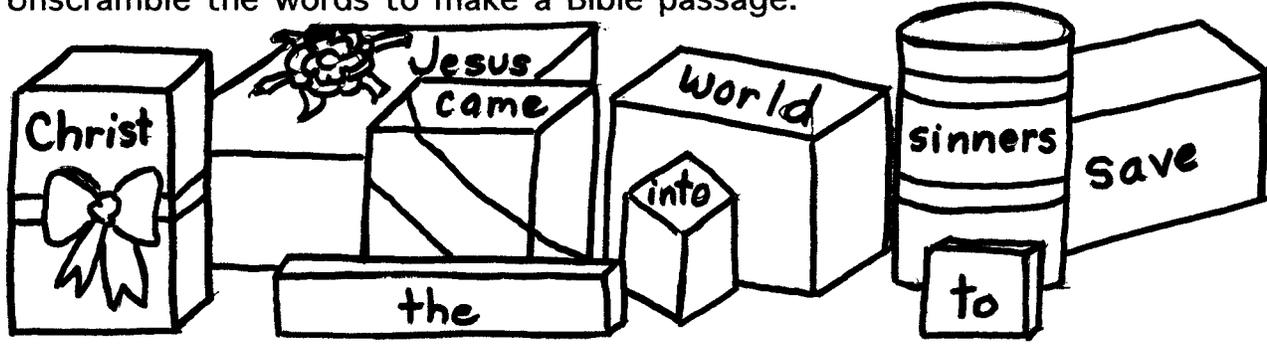
Prayer

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for suffering for me at the Garden of Gethsemane. Keep me always in the true faith. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Passage - Unscramble the words to make a Bible passage.

Unscramble the words to make a Bible passage.



1 Timothy 1:15

Activity 1 - Choose the correct answer or answers. Circle the letter (s).

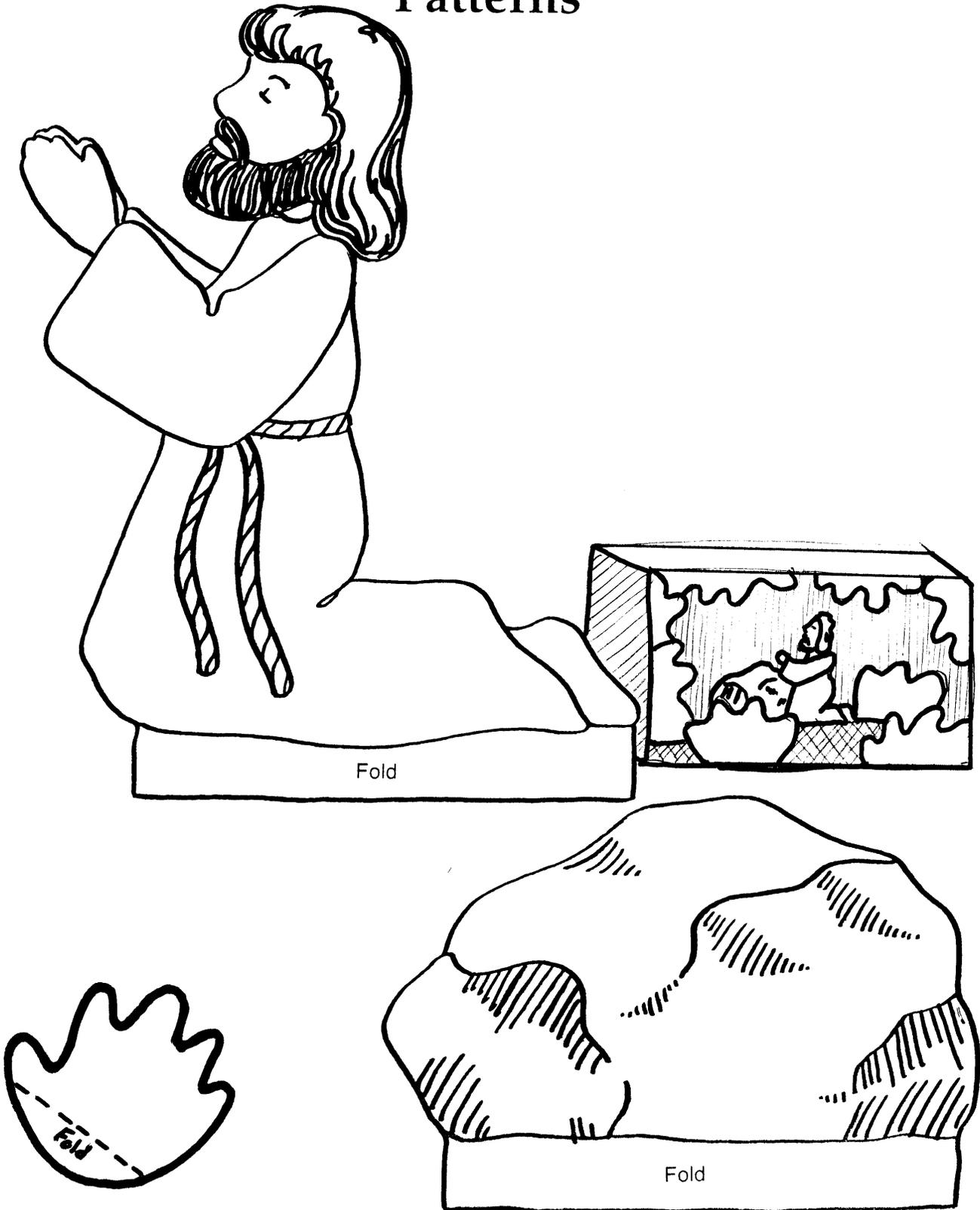
- Judas was a disciple.
 - Judas loved money.
 - Judas showed his love for Jesus by kissing Him.
- Jesus and the disciples went to the Garden of Eden.
 - Jesus and the disciples went to the temple.
 - Jesus and the disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane.
- When Jesus prayed He asked the disciples not to look at Him.
 - Jesus asked the disciples to watch and pray.
 - Jesus asked that the Father's will be done.
- The enemies of Jesus had a hard time capturing Him.
 - Jesus went willingly with the enemies.
 - The disciples also were captured.

Activity 2 - Choose True + or False O.

- ____ 1. Jesus wants even the worst sinners in heaven.
- ____ 2. If we study enough we will be strong when temptations come.
- ____ 3. If you pray hard God will give you what you want.
- ____ 4. When we are treated badly, we have a taste of Jesus' suffering.
- ____ 5. Jesus loves us because He is gracious.

Activity Three - Diorama - Trace hand prints on different colors of green construction paper. Glue hand prints around box and in box to give depth as shown.

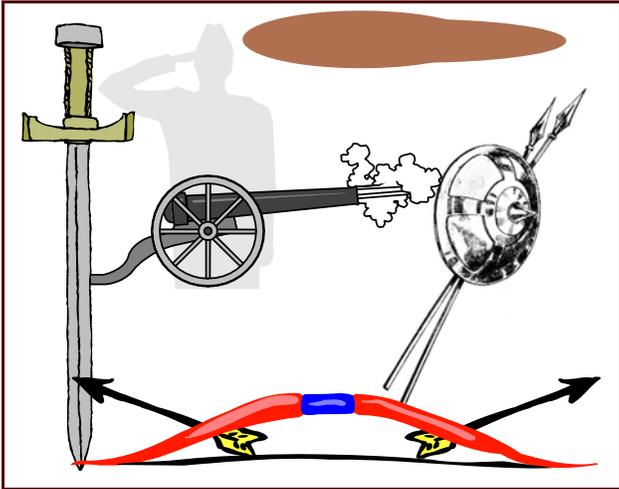
Patterns



Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

His Betrayal and Arrest

Matthew 26:14-16, 36-56; Mark 14:10-11, 32-50;
Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-11



What are these objects (sword, cannon, club, spear, arrows) used for?

Were any of these things used when Jesus was arrested?

Were they necessary?

Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father,
Your Son submitted to Your will by coming to earth to suffer and die for our sins. As we study Your word today, help us to remember Your will for us in our lives as well. May we never forget the words of our Savior, "YOUR will be done." Amen.

The Story - Gospel Harmony

Now Judas had arranged with the chief priests to betray Jesus for the price of thirty pieces of silver.

After the Passover meal, Jesus and His disciples went over the Brook Kidron to a place called Gethsemane. "Sit here while I go and pray over there," Jesus told the group. He took Peter, James, and John with Him. Jesus began to be sorrowful and deeply

distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me."

He went a little farther and fell on the ground and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." An angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. He was in such agony that the sweat from



His face became like drops of blood falling down to the ground. When He rose up from prayer, He went to where the three disciples were and found them sleeping. "What? Could you not watch with Me one hour?" Jesus asked, "Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from me unless I drink it, Your will be done." He came again and found them asleep, for their eyes were heavy. So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. Again when He returned, He found them asleep. Jesus said, "Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."

Judas came with a large group of soldiers and the officers of the chief priests and Pharisees, carrying lanterns, torches, and weapons. He had arranged a signal beforehand, saying, "The one that I kiss, He is the One; seize Him." Jesus knew what was in Judas' heart, so He came forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?"

They said, "Jesus of Nazareth."

Jesus answered, "I am He."

Immediately they drew back and fell to the ground. Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" They said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am He. If you are looking for Me, let these others go their way."

Then Judas went up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed Him. But Jesus said to him, "Friend, why have you come?" The soldiers came and grabbed Jesus to take Him away. Peter drew his sword and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his ear. His name was Malchus. So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword away. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?" Then He touched Malchus's ear and healed him.

Jesus spoke to the crowd, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you, teaching in the temple, and you did not seize Me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness. But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled."

The soldiers and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and tied Him tightly. All the disciples ran away.

Outer Aim - Jesus prayed in the garden, was betrayed by Judas and arrested.

Recalling Details - Fill in the blanks with answers from the story.

1. Jesus and His disciples went to the Garden of _____.
2. While Jesus prayed to His Heavenly Father, an _____ came to strengthen Him.
3. _____ came with soldiers and the chief priests to arrest Jesus.
4. He betrayed Jesus with a _____, saying "Greetings, Rabbi!"
5. Jesus healed the ear of _____.
6. When the soldiers arrested Jesus, all the _____ ran away.

Discussion Questions

1. How is Jesus' prayer in the garden a good example for us?
2. The disciples had promised to be faithful to Jesus. Name two ways they failed in this lesson.
3. Jesus' words, "Watch and pray," are important warnings to us, as well. What are some ways we could be "fast asleep" as Christians?
4. How can we guard against this?

Inner Aim - Jesus submitted to His Father's will to save mankind.

Passages

Matthew 26:41 – Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

1 John 3:1 – Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

Hymn - TLH 151 v. 1, 2, 7

Christ, the Life of all the living,
Christ, the Death of death, our foe,
Who, Thyself for me once giving
To the darkest depths of woe, —
Thro, Thy suff'rings, death, and merit
I eternal life inherit:
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Thou, ah! Thou, hast taken on Thee
Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;
Pain and scorn were heaped upon Thee,
O Thou sinless Son of God!
Thus didst Thou my soul deliver
From the bonds of sin forever.
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,
Dearest Jesus, unto Thee.

Then, for all that wrought my pardon,
For Thy sorrows deep and sore,
For Thine anguish in the Garden,
I will thank Thee evermore,
Thank Thee for Thy groaning, sighing,
For Thy bleeding and Thy dying,
For that last triumphant cry,
And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

What did Jesus win by coming to earth? What did we win by His death?

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

I can't even imagine how much You suffered for me in the Garden of Gethsemane and on the cross of Calvary. I'm sorry that my many sins made it necessary for You to have to suffer as You did, but with all my heart I thank You for doing it. I could never have done what You did, and You surely did not deserve to suffer like that in my place. Thank You, dear Jesus, for suffering the punishment of hell for my sins. Amen.

Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

His Betrayal and Arrest

Matthew 26:14-16, 36-56; Mark 14:10-11, 32-50;
Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-11

The cross and heart have a very important part in today's story.

What do you think they symbolize?

The Story - Gospel Harmony

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Him to them. And when they heard *it*, they were glad, and promised to give him 30 pieces of silver. So he sought how he might conveniently betray Him.

Then Jesus went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "*Sit here while I go and pray over there.*" And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "*My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.*"

He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "*O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.*" Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed

more earnestly. Then

His sweat became

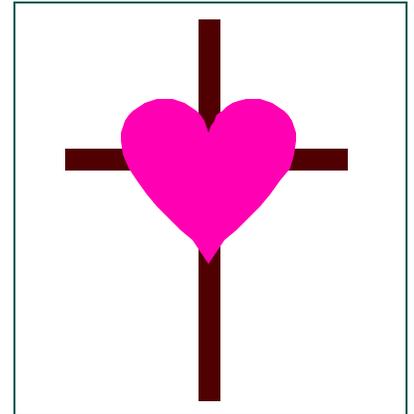
like great drops of

blood falling down to the ground. When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow, and said to Peter, "*What? Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.*"

Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "*O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.*" And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy. So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "*Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand.*"

Then Judas, having received a detachment *of troops*, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with



lanterns, torches, and weapons. Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him." Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way," that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none."

Then Judas went up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed Him.

But Jesus said to him, "Friend, why have you come?" They came and

laid hands on Jesus to take Him. Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me? Permit even this." He touched Malchus's ear and healed him. Then He said, "Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?"

Jesus said to the multitudes, "Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs to take Me? I sat daily with you, teaching in the temple, and you did not seize Me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness. But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled."

The detachment *of troops* and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. All the disciples forsook Him and fled.

Story Details

1. Jesus prayed to God the Father in the garden. What did He ask of His Father?
2. After finding His disciples asleep, Jesus asked them to watch with Him. How many times did Jesus return to find His disciples asleep?
3. Judas led a troop of Roman soldiers into the garden. What did Jesus do when He saw them?
4. How did Judas indicate which of the men in the garden was Jesus?
5. Peter comes to the rescue with his sword. What was Jesus response to Peter's quick actions?
6. Which of the disciples remained with Jesus when He was arrested in the garden?

How Does This Apply To Us

Jesus taught us about prayer with the Lord's Prayer. In today's story Jesus again teaches us about prayer. What are the lessons on prayer this story teaches?

Jesus also taught us about His mission here on earth with His prayer and with the way He greeted the Roman soldiers. From the words Jesus said to Peter, why do you think Jesus did not fight for His own life?

Inner Aim - Jesus submitted to His Father's will to save mankind.

What God Says To Us - Look up the following passages and use them for discussion.

1 Peter 5:6-7

John 5:14

Romans 8:27-32

1 John 3:1

How do these passages fit today's story?

For what part of the story does each passage apply?

What new meaning does the cross and heart have after this lesson?

Prayer

What love Jesus had for us to willingly suffer the humiliation, the pain, and to die for us. This story begins Jesus' long journey to the cross. A journey He would take alone. This He did in obedience to God and in love for us. We pray...

Dear Jesus,

I can't even imagine how much You suffered for me in the Garden of Gethsemane and on the cross of Calvary. I'm sorry that my many sins made it necessary for You to have to suffer as You did, but with all my heart I thank You for doing it. I could never have done what You did, and You surely did not deserve to suffer in my place. Thank You, dear Jesus, for suffering the punishment of hell for my sins. Amen.