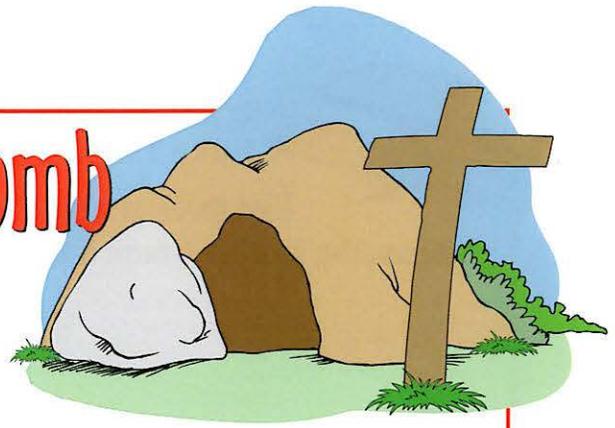


The Cross & the Empty Tomb



Lesson 9

Jesus' Trials

Theme: Obedience — Being obedient to God just as Jesus was

Memory Verses

“Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’”

Matthew 28:18-20

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday	Luke 22:63-71
Friday	Luke 23:1-5
Saturday	Luke 23:6-17
Monday	John 18:28-40
Tuesday	John 19:1-10, 14-16

When Jesus was on trial before the Roman governor, He did not receive justice. It was clear that Jesus had done nothing wrong, but He was sentenced to die anyway.

Jesus Before the Jews

The Jewish Council was made up of chief priests and scribes who were supposed to be good men who knew God’s will and followed it. When Jesus appeared before the Council, it was clear that the men were not really concerned with doing what was right. They just wanted to find a way to have Jesus put to death. The men tried to find people who would bring serious charges against Jesus. They didn’t care if the charges were true or false.

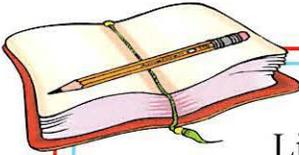
The Jewish leaders charged Jesus with blaspheming, or speaking against God, because



Luke 22:63-71

The men of the Jewish Council asked Jesus if He was:

a thief a king
the Son of God



Luke 23:1-5

List three charges against Jesus the Jewish Council made up:

He said He was God's Son. Members of the Council said Jesus deserved to die. While Jesus was in hearings and before the Council, soldiers spit in His face and beat Him with their fists.

Jesus Before the Roman Governor

Pilate was the governor in Judah at the time of Jesus' trial. Pilate was an official of the Roman government that controlled Palestine. The Romans would not allow the Jews to pass the death sentence. For Jesus to be put to death, the Jews had to bring Him to trial before Pilate.

The Jews first told Pilate only that Jesus had done some things wrong. They argued that they would not have brought Jesus before Pilate for nothing. Pilate began to see the Jews didn't have much of a case. He told them to go judge Jesus themselves.

The Jews said Jesus was lying to people, refusing to pay taxes, and telling people He was a king. These charges got Pilate's attention, and he asked Jesus about them. Jesus said He was a king, but He explained that His kingdom was not of this world. Jesus was not trying to take over the government. After hearing the evidence, Pilate reported to the Jews, "I find no guilt in this man."

The Jews were upset. They wanted Jesus put to death, but they needed Pilate's agreement to do it. They went back to Pilate and told him Jesus was stirring up people by His teaching. Pilate learned Jesus was from Galilee, so he sent Him to Herod who was an official in Galilee who happened to be in Jerusalem. Herod found nothing in Jesus that deserved death. Herod and his soldiers made fun of Jesus. They mocked and beat Jesus, then sent Him back to Pilate.

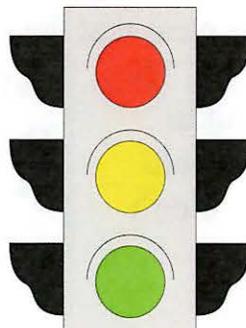
One more time Pilate reported to the Jews that he had examined Jesus and found Him innocent. Pilate offered to honor a custom of releasing a prisoner by releasing

Luke 23:6-17

After learning Jesus was from Galilee, to whom did Pilate send Jesus?



I get angry when I am blamed for something I didn't do.



Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red — always

Yellow — sometimes

Green — rarely

Jesus. The Jews would not accept this. They shouted again and again, “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”

Pilate was a coward. He knew Jesus was innocent, yet he turned Him over to the Jews to be put to death. Pilate washed his hands in front of the Jews and said, “I am innocent of this man’s blood.” After this, Pilate had Jesus beaten and handed Him over to the crowd to crucify Him on a cross.



John 18:28-40

True or False? The Jews would not go inside the place where Jesus was on trial.

What did Jesus say about His kingdom?

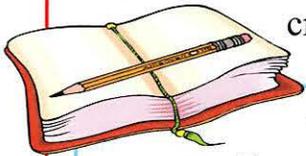
it is big it is Israel
it is not of this world

Jesus in the Soldiers' Hands

Pilate’s soldiers saw a way they could have some fun and please the Jews at the same time. They stripped off Jesus’ clothes and put a purple robe on Him. Jesus had said he was a king, so they made Him look like a king. The soldiers also twisted together a crown of thorns and pressed it down on Jesus’ head. They knelt down before Jesus and said, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spit on Him, slapped Him in the face, and beat Him on the head with sticks.

When the soldiers finished their fun, they took off the robe and put Jesus’ own clothes back on Him. Pilate paraded Jesus out before the Jews and said, “Behold, your king.” This made the Jews angrier than ever, and they shouted again for Jesus to be crucified. The soldiers then led Jesus out of the governor’s house to the

place where He would be put to death. They made Jesus carry His own cross. Jesus carried it for a while, but must have stumbled and fallen. The soldiers forced a man named Simon to carry Jesus’ cross the rest of the way. Though He had broken no law nor done any wrong, Jesus was going to die.



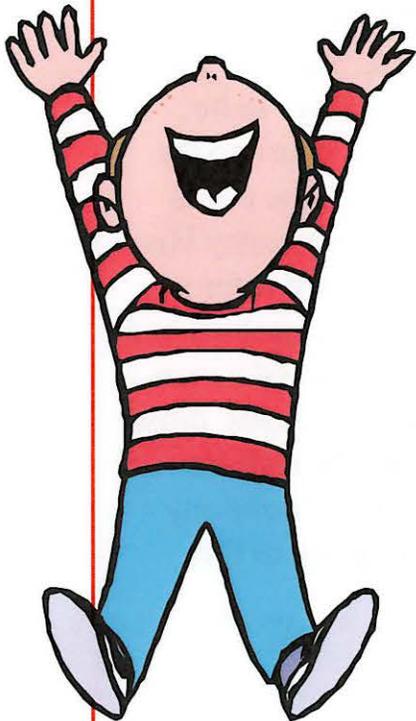
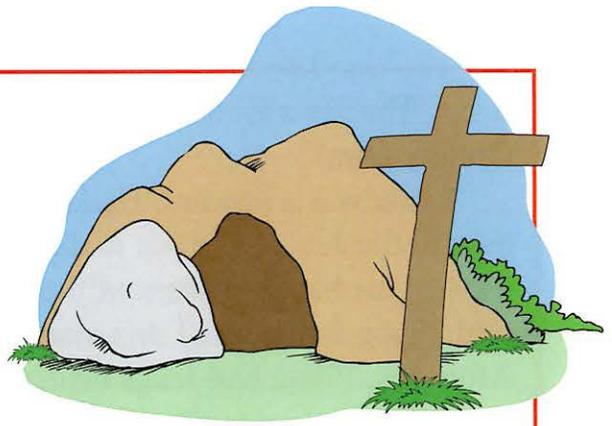
John 19:1-10, 14-16

From these verses, name four unkind things people did to Jesus before they crucified Him.

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

Think About It...

Your little brother has asked you what it means to let Jesus be your king. What will you tell him?



I Know My Bible Facts!

Which books in the New Testament are about a church with questions and problems?

Right now, in your Bible find the book of Isaiah without using the table of contents or index tabs. Now find Romans, and then Titus.

On a map inside the back cover, find the major bodies of water; including the Jordan River, Dead Sea, Sea of Galilee, and Mediterranean Sea.