



Week of Dec 10 - a

Scripture: Mt 26:47-56

Main Idea: One of Jesus' apostles, Judas, comes leading a great crowd with weapons. Jesus' apostles are ready to fight, but his kingdom is not of this world (not physical). Jesus was betrayed and voluntarily went with the armed men. He could have called thousands of angels to his rescue. But he went, as prophesied, like a lamb to the slaughter. And as he told his apostles, they all fled.

Questions

Preschool: Do you think Jesus was sad as he went with the armed men?

Grade school: Would you have ran? Imagine you and your friends are in the garden, napping. Jesus is praying and all of a sudden, here's your friend Judas giving Jesus a kiss on the cheek and you are surrounded by soldiers with a lot of deadly weapons. The disciples were ready, one of them cut off someone's ear before Jesus told him to stop. At that point were they confused? Were they still thinking Jesus would rule in a physical kingdom on earth?

Teen: Jesus could have avoided the cross, but because of his great love for you he endured the agony of the cross. How does knowing this help you? Why is it important that the scriptures be fulfilled?

Adult: Judas, one of the twelve, betrays Jesus. That word betrayal conveys many ideas...treachery, broken trust, desertion, enemies. Do you think this was particularly hard for Jesus that someone who had been close to him for three years could betray him? Jesus knew what would happen, yet at the Passover supper, the apostles seemed not to know who would take that step. Could you work with someone every day knowing that at a point in the future they will take steps that would irreparably damage you? This gives additional insight to Jesus' nature that he apparently didn't treat Judas any differently.

PRAYER REQUESTS

December Memory Verse:

Romans 8:28 (NIV)
And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.



Week of Dec 10 - b

Scripture: Mt 26:57-75

Main Idea: Jesus is taken to the high priest and the council is gathered for a trial to begin. All the testimony was false, but Jesus kept silent. The high priest was amazed at this and commanded Jesus to answer if he was the Christ (Messiah). Jesus not only said yes, but that from then on, they would see him seated beside God and victorious. The leaders are now convinced Jesus is blaspheming and begin to spit on him, hit him, and mock him.

Questions

Preschool: If someone were telling lies about you, would you be able to stay silent?

Grade school: Jesus had upset the Jews for a long time, and there was nothing they could do. Now they have him in front of the highest Jewish leaders and can lie all they want. Jesus is doing nothing to defend himself. They get so worked up that they just go crazy and do all kinds of ugly things to Jesus. Have you ever got so mad or upset that you did or said things you really wish you could erase?

Teen: Could Jesus have stopped these men from mocking and abusing him? Why did he not defend himself?

Adult: If you've been falsely accused, how did you react? If you've never been falsely accused, how do you think you'd react if it happened? Would you be marshalling your arguments to show how the accusers are wrong? Would you become defensive? Could you stand silent while accuser after accuser came forward with what you know is false testimony? Why do you think Jesus was able to do so? Where do you think he drew the strength to take this stance?

PRAYER REQUESTS

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