

EKids at home with your family: Sunday 28th March

The King's Cup - Mark 14:32-50

The Big Idea: The night before he suffers, Jesus prays to follow his Father's will rather than trying to escape judgement on the cross.

Aim to see: that God's judgement of our sin is so serious that Jesus longed to avoid taking it, but he humbly took it.

Read the story: Mark 14: 32 - 50

They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." 33 He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. 34 "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death," he said to them. "Stay here and keep watch."

35 Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. 36 "Abba,[a] Father," he said, "everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

37 Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Simon," he said to Peter, "are you asleep? Couldn't you keep watch for one hour? 38 Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

39 Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. 40 When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him.

41 Returning the third time, he said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. 42 Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Jesus Arrested

43 Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders.

44 Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." 45 Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. 46 The men seized Jesus and arrested him. 47 Then one of those standing near drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

48 "Am I leading a rebellion," said Jesus, "that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? 49 Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled." 50 Then everyone deserted him and fled.

PEBBLES AND ROCKS

Retelling the story and explaining it:

Today we are going to hear about something very difficult that Jesus didn't want to do, but did anyway.

Discuss with your child/ren certain things they might get told off for throughout the day and what a "suitable" punishment might be.

Just after Jesus had his last meal with his disciples Jesus went to a garden and started to pray. He knew that his Father, God wanted him to go to the cross and die.

Remind the children of some of the things they mentioned that they would get 'told off' for doing. Explain that God is also angry when we do those things, but he asked Jesus to take all the punishment for all those things that we do wrong.

- How do they think Jesus felt about this?
- Why was Jesus praying that God would not punish him for all the bad things we have done?

Even though Jesus knew that it would be awful he tells his Father that he will obey him.

After Jesus stopped praying, men come to take him away to die on the cross.

Ask your child what they think Jesus might do?

Help them to understand that Jesus knew that he would have to die and that it was going to hurt very much, but he did it because he wanted to obey God. If he didn't take our punishment then we would have to be punished. Jesus went willingly with the men

Applying and Praying:

Remind the children that Jesus chose to take the punishment for their sin (the naughty things they do, think and say).

What would the children want to say to Jesus? Pray about these things.

Activities:

Praying Jesus

Worksheet

BOULDERS AND RIPRAP

Today we are going to think about something very difficult that Jesus didn't want to do, but did anyway.

- Have a think about things that you know you do wrong throughout the course of a week, or crimes that other people might commit; what are suitable punishments for these things?

Read the first part of the story again: Mark 14: 32 - 40

- What was Jesus asking God to do? Could God have said 'yes' to Jesus? Where would we be if God did grant Jesus' request?
- Why must there be a 'cup of God's anger'? What would life be like if there was no 'cup'?

Jesus knew that going to the cross would be awful and yet he was willing to go, to obey his Father. God requires a price to be paid for sin. The truth is that we would all feel it were unfair if God did not punish sin – especially sin against ourselves.

Read the second part of the story again: Mark 33 - 52

- By not fighting, what was Jesus choosing to do instead?
- Can you imagine *choosing* to take any one of those punishments you thought about at the beginning for someone else's wrong-doing?
- Can you imagine taking all of that punishment all at once?

Jesus struggled to take God's judgement, but he did choose to. He willingly went with the soldiers.

Have a think:

- Think again about those punishments for your wrong choices, or crimes other people commit. Should God also punish those sins?
- How would you feel if Jesus had walked away from the cross that night and only looked after himself?
- How do you feel about Jesus being willing to take your punishment?

Pray:

Think about the fact that Jesus willingly chose to take the punishment for the things you have done, thought and said that you shouldn't have. What might you want to say to Jesus?

Activities:

“Praying Jesus”

Worksheet