



Objectives: To explain that:

- Jesus knew the time had come for him to suffer and die to take the consequences for all people's sins. He chose to go to the cross because he loved us enough to become our perfect sacrifice.
- Jesus is arrested, tried by Pilate and orders were given for him to be crucified on a cross.
- Jesus knew that through his death on the cross he would be the Forever King of a different kind of kingdom --God's kingdom--

"I Wonder" Questions:

(During the poster discussion, explain any difficult words in the story.)

What do you see in this picture? (Soldiers, Jesus, disciples)

I wonder where this is taking place.

I wonder why they are there at night.

I wonder what the soldiers are doing.

Let's find out more in our story....

Lesson Summary:

In today's Bible story you will learn about a garden where Jesus went to pray. The garden was called the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to suffer and die. Even though he knew how hard this would be, Jesus chose to do this, to obey his Father and to show his love to us. He asked his disciples to pray with him, but they were so tired that they fell asleep. It was in this garden that soldiers and men from the Temple came and arrested Jesus!

When Jesus was arrested, his disciples were afraid and ran away. Peter even told people that he didn't know "the man named Jesus." When Jesus was taken to the high priest's house, the leaders who were waiting there, slapped Jesus and hit him with their fists.

Then, Jesus was taken to the Roman ruler's palace. The Roman ruler, named Pilate, asked Jesus an important question. He asked Jesus if he was a king. Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world." Then the soldiers whipped him, put a crown of thorns on his head and laughed at him. The priests and people called out, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" It was a painful time but Jesus knew that he must do this to be the perfect sacrifice so that people's sins could be forgiven and God's Kingdom could begin.

Suggested Questions: What does this story tell us about Jesus? (Jesus knew the future and what was in the hearts of his disciples, he claimed that he was God, he taught and established a kingdom different from earthly kingdoms, he endured the pain because he loved us so much, he needed to pray) **What does this tell us about people?** (people are sinful, can be mean and afraid, need a Saviour)

- How did Jesus suffer in this story? (betrayed by a disciple, beaten and mocked) Could Jesus have stopped it all? (Yes)
- Why didn't he stop all this from happening? (it was his Father's plan for Jesus to be the perfect sacrifice and to establish God's Kingdom)
- What do you think God's Kingdom is like? (a place and time where God reigns in the hearts and lives of his people, love, joy, kindness, mercy, see Galatians 5:22)

Bible Memory Verse:

Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world." (John 18:36a--ESV)