

[HOMEPAGE]

For families of junior soldiers

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC:

The Trial of Jesus

MEMORY VERSE:

Luke 23:34a (NIV)

"Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them. They don't know what they are doing.'"

The memory verse for the week is included on each HOMEPAGE. Help your child review it during the week.

PARENT POINT:

Talk to your child about forgiveness: forgiveness from others, and forgiveness from Jesus. Encourage them to ask forgiveness from those they may have hurt, and to offer forgiveness to those who have hurt them.



TODAY IN JUNIOR SOLDIERS the children began a four-week study of the trials of Jesus and Stephen. The junior soldiers learned about the events surrounding Jesus' death on the cross.

Jesus was arrested after being betrayed by one of His disciples, Judas. He was taken to the Sanhedrin in the dark of night and put on trial: a practice that was illegal according to Jewish law. The accusations made against Jesus were false. The Jewish leaders found false witnesses to testify that Jesus spoke against the Temple of God, and that He discouraged people from paying their taxes to Caesar.

In the morning, Jesus was sent to Pilate, the governor of Rome. Pilate found no fault in Jesus. He sent Jesus to see Herod, since Jesus was from Galilee, and therefore under the jurisdiction of Herod. After mocking Jesus, Herod sent Him back to Pilate. Once again, Pilate told the people he found no fault with Jesus.

It was tradition to let one prisoner go free during the Passover festival. Pilate thought the people would rather let Jesus, a teacher, go free, than Barabbas, a murderer. The people in the crowd shouted, "Kill this man! Give Barabbas to us!" Pilate did what the people wanted. He let Barabbas go free, and he gave Jesus to them to be crucified.

Jesus could have commanded the angels to rescue Him during His trial, but then He wouldn't have fulfilled the will of God. Jesus knew that He had to die to follow the will of His Father. Because of Jesus' selflessness, we're able to ask for forgiveness for our sins, and live an eternal life with our Father in heaven.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOME

This lesson helped junior soldiers understand the events that led up to Jesus' crucifixion. They understand that Jesus suffered and died on the cross to save all people from their sins.