

Life of Jesus Series: Part #4: His Death and Return to Life

1. When the Jewish religious leaders began planning to kill Jesus, they began talking against Him among the people. Then one night, Judas, one of Jesus' disciples, betrayed Him and led the religious leaders, to a garden where Jesus was praying. They took Jesus and brought Him to trial.



2. They tried to find witnesses that would tell lies about Jesus but their stories did not agree. Two witnesses with the same story were needed before they could sentence Jesus to death. So the religious leaders led a large crowd of people to cry out, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him." The Jewish people were under Roman government rule and hanging someone on a cross was the method they used to put criminals to death.

3. Jesus silently listened to the false witnesses. Someone asked Him if He was the Son of God. Jesus answered, "yes" to that question. Because He claimed He was God's Son, the people in the crowd spat in His face and hit Him with their fists. The Jewish religious leaders took Him before two Roman leaders. One of them wanted to let Jesus go free because he knew that the crowd wanted to kill Him because they were jealous. But he was afraid of the crowd, so he agreed to put Jesus to death. Roman soldiers made fun of Jesus. They beat Him and led Him off to the place where they crucified Him.

4. Jesus died a slow and painful death on the cross between two criminals. After hanging on the cross and suffering for several hours, He prayed to God, "Father, I entrust My spirit into Your hands!" He died immediately. When the captain of the Roman soldiers who nailed Jesus to the cross saw what had happened he said, "Yes, this man was innocent." Several other people said the same thing. Many people in the crowd went home with deep sorrow in their hearts after they had seen Jesus die.



5. Two of Jesus' followers buried Jesus' body. But three days later, just as He had told His disciples, He came back to life by the power of God. He appeared to His disciples and taught them throughout the next 40 days.

Then one day, while His disciples and true followers were talking with Him, Jesus went up into the clouds and returned to Heaven. Immediately two angels told Jesus' followers that someday He would come back in the clouds. He would then take those who have believed in Him to Heaven.



6. Jesus came into this world and lived a sinless life. He came to die for all mankind. Everyone in the world is a sinner. Everyone has turned away from God who made them. Jesus the sinless man and Son of God, died to bring each person in the world back to a right relationship with God, their Creator. We can know forgiveness of sin and freedom from sin's power in our lives, because He died and rose again from the dead.

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Questions:

- A. 1. What did the religious leaders do when they wanted to kill Jesus?
2. Who helped them take Jesus?
3. Where was Jesus when they took Him and what was He doing?
4. What did they do to Jesus? Why?
- B. 1. What did the religious leaders want the witnesses to do?
2. Were they successful?
3. What was needed before Jesus could be sentenced to death?
4. What did the religious leaders and the crowd do next?
5. What does the word, "crucify" mean?
- C. 1. What was Jesus' response when He heard the false witnesses?
2. What question did they ask Jesus that led to His death?
3. Who else besides the Jewish religious leaders, decided to kill Jesus?
4. What did one of the rulers want to do with Jesus?
5. Why did he not stand up for Jesus and not let him be killed?
6. How did the Roman soldiers treat Jesus?
- D. 1. What words describe Jesus' death?
2. Who else died the day Jesus died?
3. What were Jesus' last words before He died?
4. Who was near Jesus when He died, and what did he say?
5. Many people saw Jesus die. How did His death make them feel?
- E. 1. Who buried Jesus' body?
2. What happened three days later?
3. How did this happen?
4. What did Jesus do during the next 40 days?
5. Then what happened?
6. What message did the angels give Jesus' followers?



Something to think about and English conversation Practice:

1. Why do you think Jesus suffered and died like a criminal when He could have used His power and escaped from those who were trying to kill Him?
2. What help from God can mankind know because Jesus' died and returned to life?
3. Why do you think some of the people said Jesus was innocent (not guilty)?

Matthew 26-28, Mark 14:43-16:20, Luke 22-24, John 18-21:25