

LIFE OF CHRIST  
from the gospel of  
Luke

Lesson 12

Journey to the Cross:  
Jesus Eats and Prays

Luke 22:7-20;  
39-46

# Life of Christ

## Jesus Eats and Prays

Luke 22:7-20; 39-46

### Younger Verse

*We want you to grow to know God better.*

*Colossians 1:10*

### Older Verse

*We pray that you will lead a life that is worthy of the Lord. We pray that you will please Him in every way. . . . We want you to grow to know God better.*

*Colossians 1:10*

### Bible Story



*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Last week, we learned that Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem. What did the people do when they saw Jesus? They laid coats and palm branches along His path. They worshipped Him by shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed be the One who comes in the name of the Lord!”

A few days later, Jesus wanted to share the Passover meal with His disciples. The Passover Meal was eaten once a year to remember what God did for the Israelites when He rescued them from Egypt. Part of the celebration included the killing of a lamb. Jesus knew that He was going to be killed in a few days. He is the Lamb of God, a sacrifice for the sins of all people.

The disciples asked Jesus, “Where do you want us to go prepare the meal?” Jesus picked two of them and gave them instructions. Jesus said, “Go into Jerusalem and look for a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him to the house he enters. Ask the owner of the house, ‘Where is the guest room, that the Teacher may eat a special dinner with His disciples?’ Once he shows you a large room upstairs, begin to prepare the meal.”

The two disciples went on ahead to Jerusalem. They followed Jesus’ instructions, and everything was just like Jesus told them it would be. Evening came, and Jesus and the other disciples arrived at the upper room. They were ready to have the special dinner. Jesus took the bread, thanked God for it, and broke it into pieces. He passed out a piece to each of His disciples. Jesus said, “Take this bread. It is my body.” Jesus used the bread as a symbol. He was reminding His disciples that His body would be broken when He died on the cross.

Then Jesus took the cup of grape juice, thanked God for it, and offered it to them. All of them drank some juice. Jesus said, “When you drink this, remember how my blood will be shed for many.” Jesus wanted them to remember all that He would go through so that they could be forgiven. After they had finished the meal, they left to go to a place called the Mount of Olives.

### Lesson Goals

- Learn that Jesus shared the last meal with His disciples
- Understand what He meant by the bread and juice
- Recognize that Jesus prayed for God’s will to be done

Jesus needed to spend some time in prayer. He told the disciples to pray for strength against temptation. Then He went by Himself to pray. He knelt down and prayed for God's will to be done. He didn't want to die, but He was willing to follow God's will. An angel came to Jesus and strengthened Him. Jesus continued to pray, and He was so full of pain and sadness that His sweat drops had blood in them.

When Jesus was finished praying, He returned to His disciples. Instead of praying, the disciples had fallen asleep. Jesus asked them why they were sleeping. He told them to get up and pray for strength against temptation. The disciples didn't really understand what was about to happen. It would not be until much later, after Jesus had died and risen again, that His disciples would really understand all He had tried to teach them.

Today, we can understand why Jesus died on the cross. He did it for us. He wanted us to be forgiven of our sins. When we believe in Him, we can be friends of God. Then we can learn how to pray and talk to God, like Jesus did. He is our example.

#### Review Questions

1. What holiday were the Jewish people celebrating? (Passover)
2. What city did Jesus and His disciples go to? (Jerusalem)
3. During the Passover meal, what did Jesus use to represent His body and blood? (Bread and juice)
4. Why was Jesus sad when He prayed? (He knew He was about to die on the cross.)

#### Life Application

Ask: What do you think Jesus meant when He told the disciples to pray for strength against temptation?

Jesus knows how hard it is when we are tempted. We REALLY want something, even though we know it is wrong or bad for us. The only way we can resist temptation is by praying to God for help. We can also say Bible verses. Jesus did this when He was tempted by Satan.

Ask: What are some things in our lives that we need to pray about? (Examples: school, friends, strength to do the right thing, more faith)

Planning for Lesson 13  
Jesus Arrested and On Trial  
Luke 22:31-34; 47-71

## Preschool Lesson for Jesus Eats and Prays

*(Teachers: You might want to bring a piece of unleavened bread and a cup of grape juice to use as a visual for the children.)*

Last week, we learned that Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem. What did the people do when they saw Jesus? They laid coats and palm branches along His path. They worshipped Him by shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed be the One who comes in the name of the Lord!”

A few days later, Jesus wanted to eat a special meal with His disciples. The disciples asked Jesus, “Where do you want us to go prepare the meal?” Jesus picked two of them and gave them directions. Jesus said, “Go into Jerusalem and look for a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him to the house he enters. Ask the owner of the house, ‘Where is the guest room, that the Teacher may eat a special dinner with His disciples?’ Once he shows you a large room upstairs, begin to prepare the meal.”

The two disciples went on ahead to Jerusalem. They followed Jesus’ instructions, and everything was just like Jesus told them it would be. Evening came, and Jesus and the other disciples arrived at the upper room. They were ready to have the special dinner. Jesus took the bread, thanked God for it, and broke it into pieces. He passed out a piece to each of His disciples. Jesus said, “Take this bread. It is my body.” Jesus used the bread as a symbol—that is like a picture. He was reminding His disciples that His body would be broken when He died on the cross.

Then Jesus took the cup of grape juice, thanked God for it, and offered it to them. All of them drank some juice. Jesus said, “When you drink this, remember how my blood will be shed for many.” Jesus wanted them to remember all that He would go through so that they could be forgiven. After they had finished the meal, they left to go to a place called the Mount of Olives.

Jesus needed to spend some time in prayer. He told the disciples to pray, too. Then He went by Himself to pray. He knelt down and prayed for God’s will to be done. That means He wanted to follow His Father’s plan for Him. An angel came to Jesus and strengthened Him.

When Jesus was finished praying, He returned to His disciples. Instead of praying, the disciples had fallen asleep! *(Make snoring sounds.)* Jesus asked them why they were sleeping. He told them to get up and pray.

Jesus knew how important it is to pray. When we pray, it helps us get closer to God. Then we are able to do what He wants us to do. Let’s pray now.



**Hands-on Activities  
for  
Jesus Eats and Prays**

Bring Resurrection Eggs. This is a good time to start emphasizing the Easter story. The first few eggs go over scenes from today's lesson: the donkey when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the cup from the Last Supper, and the praying hands when Jesus prayed in the garden.

Emphasize the importance of prayer. Make up a Scavenger Hunt. Give children clues like "Go to the place where we sing songs to God." When they get there, they will hunt for a plastic egg. Inside the egg is a prayer request. Stop and pray for that request and then lead them to another place in the church to find another clue.

Cut out garden/park pictures from magazines. Let children glue these pictures onto a piece of construction paper. Write or glue the Bible verse onto the paper. Take time to show them how to pray and pray with them.

Bring a bag and fill it with objects from the lesson: towel, grapes (possibly imitation ones), crackers or matzo, etc. Let each child take one item out of the bag. Let them share what it has to do with the lesson today.

Bring pita bread and grape juice to share. Explain why this meal is so important for us to remember how much Jesus loved us. (Several years ago, one teacher even cooked lamb so that the kids could try it!!)

**We want you to  
grow to know  
God better.  
Colossians 1:10**

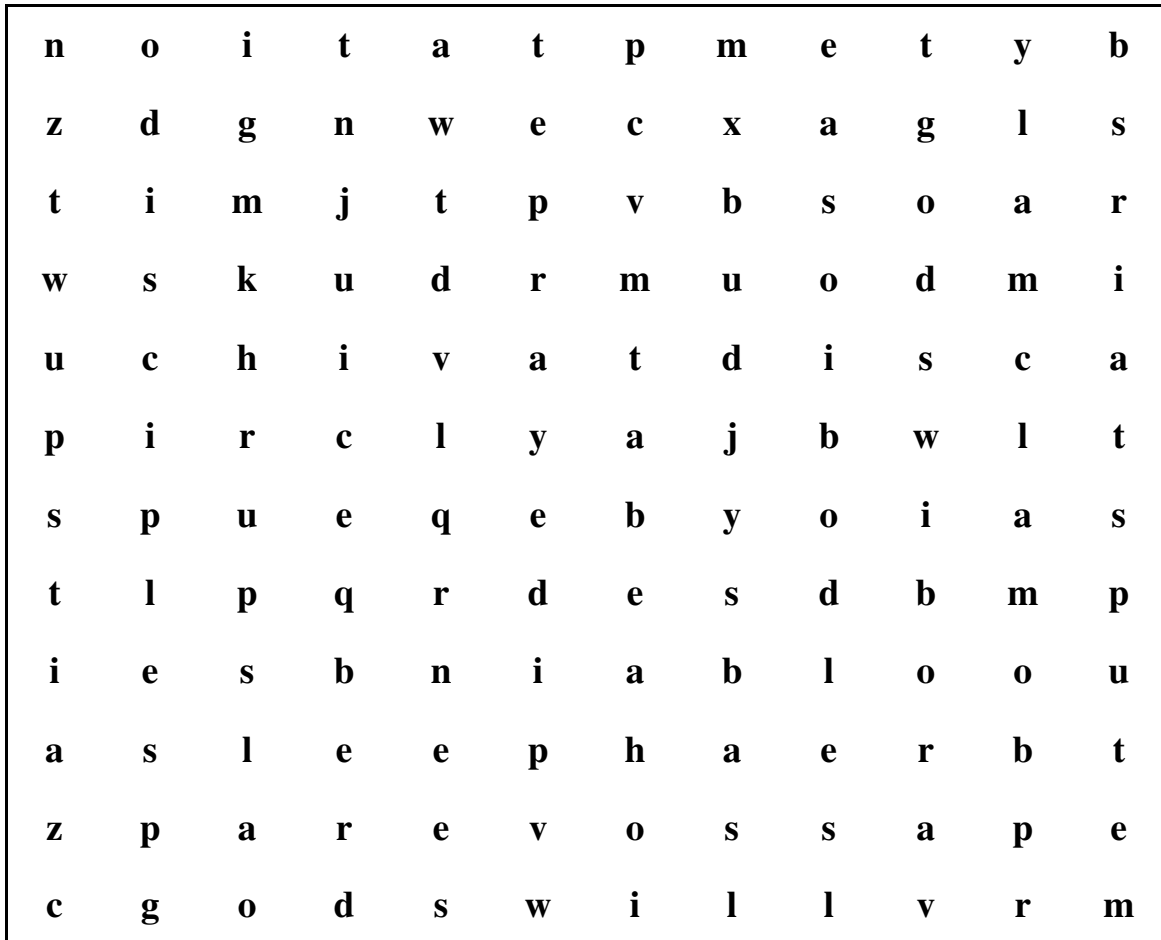


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# Word Search

## Jesus Eats and Prays

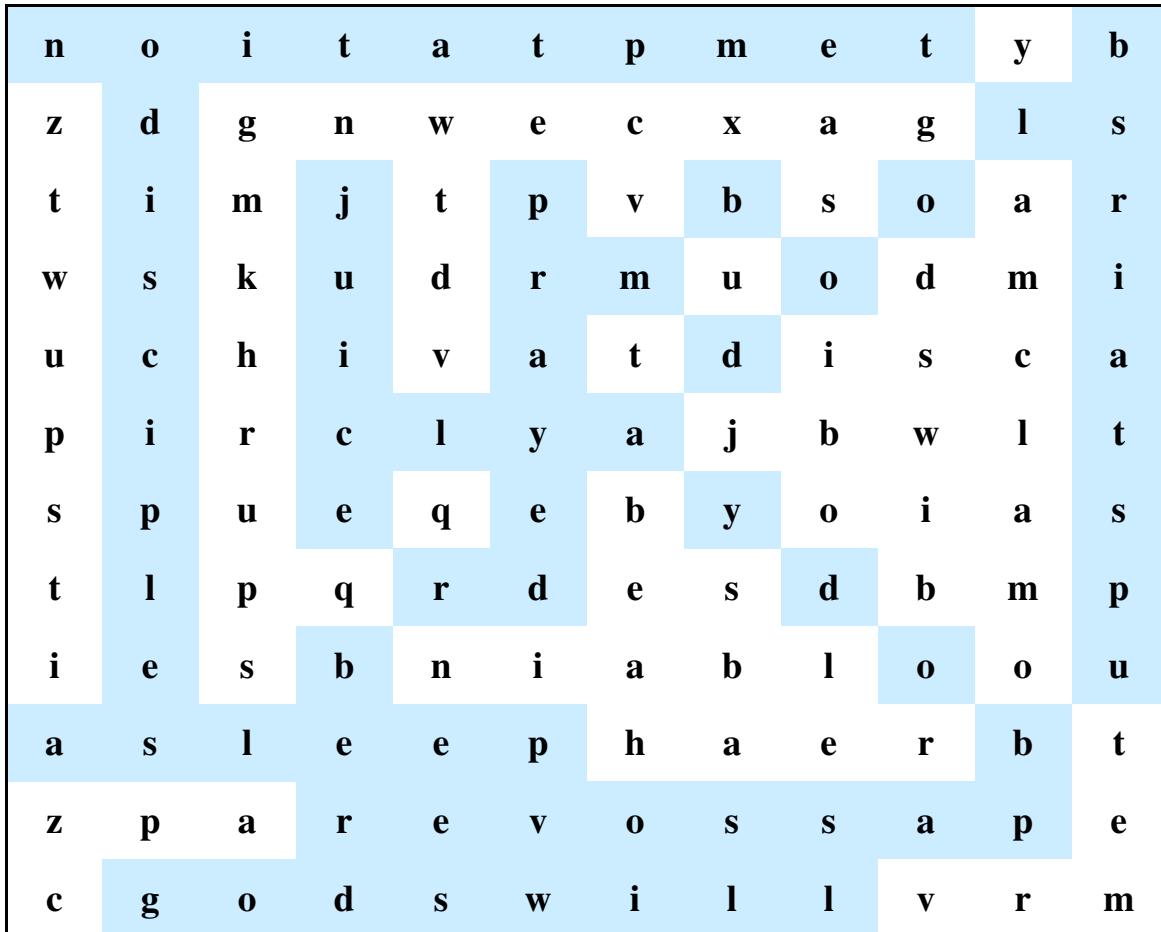


<b>Passover</b>	<b>disciples</b>	<b>lamb</b>
<b>upstairs</b>	<b>bread</b>	<b>juice</b>
<b>body</b>	<b>blood</b>	<b>prayed</b>
<b>God's will</b>	<b>temptation</b>	<b>asleep</b>



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