

Jesus Is Alive!

Lesson 13

Luke 22:47—24:10

Memory verse

“Don’t be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus. He is not here. He has risen from death as He said He would. Matthew 28:5-6

Opener

Remember last week we learned that Jesus was praying in a garden. While He was there, He was arrested even though He had not done anything wrong! The men who arrested Jesus took Him to be judged. Jesus’ friend, Peter, was afraid. He followed Jesus, but did not get close to Him. Peter stayed out in the courtyard while Jesus was inside. The judge asked Jesus if He was the Son of God. Jesus told him that He was. This angered the judge. The people decided that Jesus must die because they thought He was telling a lie.

Scripture

Luke 22:54-60

Then seizing him, they led him away and took him into the house of the high priest. Peter followed at a distance. But when they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter sat down with them. A servant girl saw him seated there in the firelight. She looked closely at him and said, "This man was with him." But he denied it. "Woman, I don't know him," he said. A little later someone else saw him and said, "You also are one of them." "Man, I am not!" Peter replied. About an hour later another asserted, "Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean." Peter replied, "Man, I don't know what you're talking about!" Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed.

Ask: What did Peter answer when asked if he was a follower of Jesus?

Outside, Peter, one of Jesus’ friends, was getting restless. A servant girl noticed him and asked if he was with Jesus. Peter was afraid of being killed, so he lied and said that he never knew Jesus. Later another girl saw Peter and told others that he was with Jesus. Peter again denied everything. Finally some people told Peter that they knew he was with Jesus because he had the same accent. Peter again swore that he did not know Jesus. Just after he said this, a rooster crowed.

Ask: What was significant about the rooster crowing?

Peter went outside and cried painfully because he remembered that Jesus told him that he would deny knowing Jesus three times. Jesus was right!

Luke 23:1-4

Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying, "We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment Then the whole assembly rose and led him off to Pilate. And they began to accuse

him, saying, "We have found this man subverting our nation. He opposes payment of taxes to Caesar and claims to be Christ, a king."

So Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

"Yes, it is as you say," Jesus replied.

Then Pilate announced to the chief priests and the crowd, "I find no basis for a charge against this man."

Early Friday morning, all the leaders took Jesus to the governor named Pilate. He asked Jesus several questions. Jesus told him that he was the King of the Jews and would not answer any other questions. This surprised Pilate.

Luke 23:6-12

On hearing this, Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

When Herod saw Jesus, he was greatly pleased, because for a long time he had been wanting to see him. From what he had heard about him, he hoped to see him perform some miracle. He plied him with many questions, but Jesus gave him no answer. The chief priests and the teachers of the law were standing there, vehemently accusing him. Then Herod and his soldiers ridiculed and mocked him. Dressing him in an elegant robe, they sent him back to Pilate. That day Herod and Pilate became friends—before this they had been enemies.

Discussion

Ask: What did the soldiers do?

The soldiers made a crown out of thorny branches and shoved it on Jesus' head. They spit on Him, beat Him with a whip, and made fun of Him. After this, they led Him away to be killed.

Luke 23:13-21

Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against him. Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us; as you can see, he has done nothing to deserve death. Therefore, I will punish him and then release him."

With one voice they cried out, "Away with this man! Release Barabbas to us!" (Barabbas had been thrown into prison for an insurrection in the city, and for murder.)

Wanting to release Jesus, Pilate appealed to them again. But they kept shouting, "Crucify him! Crucify him!"

Ask: What did the people ask?

Each year they freed one prisoner because of a special holiday. Pilate asked the people who they should free; Barabbas—a thief, or Jesus, who is called the Christ.

They were very frightened and said, "He really was the Son of God!"

Luke 23:24-25

So Pilate decided to grant their demand. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, the one they asked for, and surrendered Jesus to their will.

Ask: What did Pilate do?

So Pilate asked what to do with Jesus. The crowd yelled for Jesus to be killed on a cross. Can you believe it!

Luke 23:26, 33

As they led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus. ... When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left.

Ask: What did the soldiers do?

Outside the city, the soldiers nailed Jesus to a cross. They put a sign above Jesus' head which said, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Two robbers were nailed to crosses beside Jesus, one on the right and the other on the left. After the soldiers nailed Him to the cross, they rolled dice to see who would get His clothes.

Luke 23:44-47

It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man."

Finally after much pain and suffering, Jesus died. When one soldier saw that Jesus was dead, he pierced His side with a spear. Blood and water flowed out of Jesus' body.

(John 19:34) The army officer and soldiers guarding Jesus saw everything that happened. They were very frightened and said, "He really was the Son of God!"

Luke 23:50-54

Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea and he was waiting for the kingdom of God. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body. Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid. It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

That night a rich man asked to bury Jesus. He wrapped Jesus' body in a long linen cloth. They took His body and placed it in a cave that was cut out of a wall of rock. They placed a rock over the entrance and sealed it.

Pilate gave orders for the grave to be guarded. Several soldiers stayed by the grave to make sure no one would steal Jesus' body.

Luke 24:1-3

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Ask: What did the women find when they went to the tomb?

At dawn on Sunday, some women went to the tomb. They were surprised to see the stone rolled away from the entrance. They went in, but did not find Jesus' body.

Luke 24:4

While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

Ask: What did the women see when they went to the tomb?

Two angels appeared to them.

Luke 24:5-8

In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " Then they remembered His words.

Ask: What did the angels say to women when they went to the tomb?

The angels asked the women why they were looking for Jesus among the dead. They asked them if they remembered the words Jesus had spoken to them. Then the angels told them good news! They said that Jesus was alive!

John 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Ask: What should we do?

God wants us to know that He is a God of love and that He sent His son to die on the cross so that we could have a relationship with Him.

Luke 24:9

When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.

Ask: What did the women do when they left the tomb?

The women ran back to tell the others that Jesus was alive. They understood He had risen!

Ask: What should we do?

Jesus tells us that He is the only way to Heaven. Jesus died for our sins.

Ask: Would you like to invite Jesus to be a part of your life?

Romans 10:9-10

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 tell us that we need to do two things. First, we have to confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord. Second, we have to believe in our heart that God has raised Him from the dead. Then we will be saved and we will have a new life.

Application