



March 21, 2021 Jesus Before Pilate

**WATCH** this week's Bible Story Video on our website (Spring Week #9): [www.goodshepherdholmen.org](http://www.goodshepherdholmen.org)

**READ** this week's story: [The Story Bible page 389](#)

This week you can read our bible study in your Story Bible on page 389, you can view the video bible story by going to the link on the church website (Spring week #9 video) or you can use the following bible references to look it up in your bible at home.

Matthew 27:1,2,11-31; Mark 15:1-20; Luke 23:1-5,13-25; John 18:28-19:16

This week we are jumping into the story of Jesus before Pilate. We are in the season of Lent which helps us prepare for and reflect on Jesus sacrifice on the cross. When Jesus entered into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday, Jesus humbly rode on a donkey and the people greeted him as their King, placing cloaks and palm branches in his path. Our story today takes place shortly after that but the mood is completely different.

The Jewish leaders did not like what Jesus was teaching and doing and they wanted to get rid of Jesus but they didn't have the authority to sentence him to death. The Romans used crucifixion to put people to death and the Old Testament prophecies foretold that this is the way the Savior would die. To accomplish this, they took him before Pontius Pilate and accused him of crimes. Jesus was mostly silent but when pressed by Pilate to speak he said that he had come into the world to teach the truth. The truth was that he was God's son, who came to be our Savior from sin and to make us members of his kingdom. Even though Pilate could tell that Jesus was innocent, he attempted to appease the people by having Jesus beaten. His soldiers then mocked and ridiculed Jesus and even placed a crown of thorns on his head. To keep the Jewish leaders from causing trouble for him, Pilate finally ordered that Jesus be taken away and crucified.

So was it all Pilate's fault that Jesus was crucified? Pilate was an unfair judge who sentenced Jesus to death even though he knew he was innocent. It was also the fault of Judas, who betrayed Jesus; the Jewish leaders who rejected him; and the crowd who shouted "Crucify him!". Let us not forget that as the son of God, Jesus had the power to escape punishment. He let himself be crucified because it was the only way we could be saved from our sins. So it was our sins, along with the sins of all people that caused Jesus to be put to death.

Let's be thankful that Jesus loves us so much that he willingly suffered the punishment we deserve. Now our sins are forgiven- Jesus has taken them all away.

If you wish, you can use the materials provided or supplies from home to make a paper crown of thorns. Instructions are on the attached sheet. If you don't have a piece of brown paper, a brown paper grocery bag works. Give it a try!

***Want to share your artwork with us?***

Email a picture of your Sunday School craft to [office@gsholmen.org](mailto:office@gsholmen.org)

\*We will be showing pictures sent to us on the Church Screens during announcements