

JESUS' ARREST

THE LIFE OF CHRIST WITH SAINT LUKE



PRAYING IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

Luke 22:39-46

After the Mystical Supper, Jesus walks to the nearby Mount of Olives to an area called the Garden of Gethsemane with His disciples. Tucked amongst the olive trees, Jesus seeks solitude to pray and asks His disciples to pray as well, but instead they were “sleeping from sorrow.”

Jesus knows what is coming next and prays to God, “Father, if it is Your will,

1

GOAL

Learn to read iconography through the Gospels

2

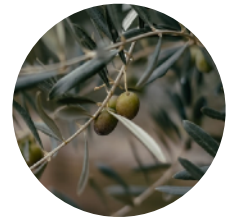
AT CHURCH

Holy Thursday
Services

3

AT HOME

We fast on Wednesdays in remembrance of Judas Iscariot's betrayal of Christ



Gethsemane:
means “oil press”



Betrayal:
the act of delivering someone to an enemy through treachery or disloyalty



Agony:
extreme and generally prolonged pain

take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.” There will be moments in our lives when we are facing something extremely difficult. Our choices, when it comes to dealing with these difficulties, will be extremely important. We should always seek to do the will of God in all things, just as Jesus did during this stressful moment before being arrested.

Jesus is a “stone’s throw” away from everyone else as He’s praying and an angel appears to Him, strengthening Him. “And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.” There is a genuine medical condition called hematohidrosis, where you can sweat blood due to extreme stress. Can you imagine the level of stress a person has to be under in order for your body to react in this manner? That’s a tremendous amount of pressure on the body!

Jesus comes back to the disciples and again implores them to pray, “lest you enter into temptation.” Even amongst the enormous amount of stress Christ was under in that moment, because He knew His death was forthcoming, He still had great concern and love for His disciples. Jesus is asking them to pray - because He knows what is about to happen and He didn’t want them to lose



faith or hope. He knew it was imperative for them to be spiritually strong over the coming days and all that it would bring. The same is true for us as well, we need to pray during particularly troublesome times in our lives because it’s important for us to come out on the other side with our faith intact. Life will have its difficult moments, but God is our enduring strength and peace.

JUDAS’ KISS & JESUS’ ARREST

Luke 22:47-53

Jesus is not even done encouraging His disciples to pray when - “behold!” - a large group of people are walking up to them, being led by Judas Iscariot. The time has come. Judas calmly kisses Jesus, which is both a gesture of respect and an

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The Crucifixion of the King of Glory by Eugenia Scarvelis Constantinou

The Gospel of Luke: Good News for the Poor by Fr. Lawrence Farley

The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Luke by Blessed Theophylact



indication of who the guards should arrest in the dimly lit moonlight of the night. They didn't want to make any mistakes of who should be taken to the high priest. The guards see the prearranged cue and immediately rush in to arrest Jesus.

The disciples are caught off guard! What is happening? Peter quickly reacts and attempts to protect Jesus by striking and cutting off the ear of the high priest's servant. Jesus then responds and tells His disciples to not fight and permit His arrest. Before Jesus willingly leaves with the guards, He heals the high priest servant's ear and then is led directly to the high priest's home to be questioned.

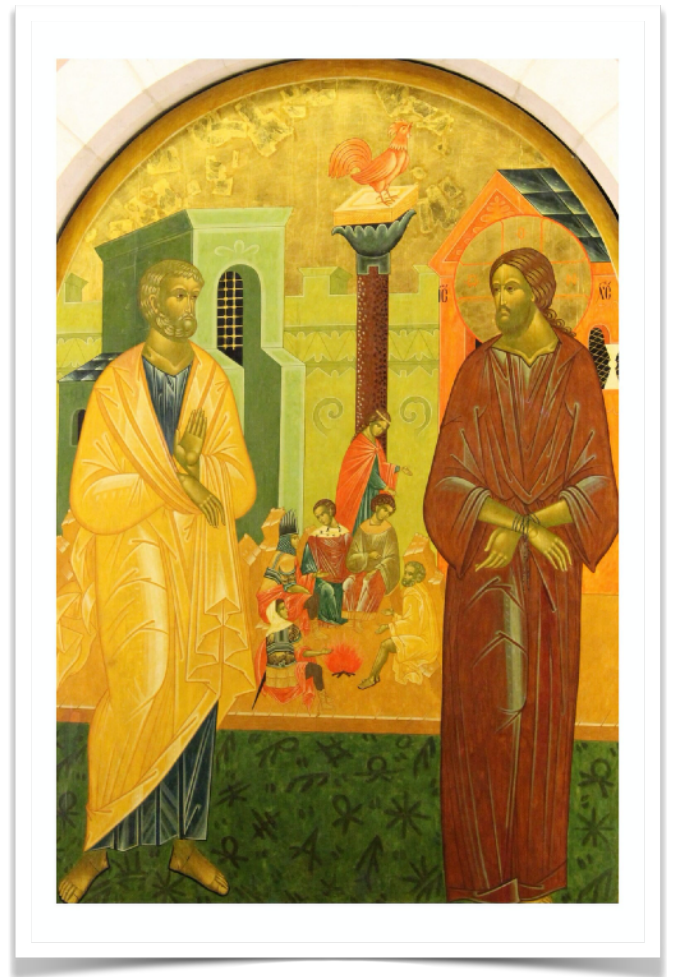
PETER'S DENIAL OF CHRIST

Luke 22:54-62

Peter followed behind at a distance from those who had arrested Jesus. Maybe there was *something* he could do if he just stayed as close as possible to Jesus.

Jesus had foretold that Peter he would soon deny knowing Him. Peter could not even fathom such a thing, but he also didn't realize the impending circumstances of Jesus' arrest.

As Peter entered the courtyard of the high priest and stayed close to a fire to stay warm, there were people in the courtyard who recognized him. When they asked or pointed out that they knew Peter was a follower of Jesus, he denied ever knowing Him. Three times he denied having any knowledge of knowing Jesus under the stress of everything that had seemingly come out of nowhere. Then a rooster crowed loudly. The realization of what Peter had just done slammed down on him and "the Lord turned and looked at Peter" in that moment. Their eyes locked and



Peter ran out of the courtyard as he wept bitterly for what he had just done.

ICONS

- While reading the gospel passages, show the students the relating icons. St. Luke will help to teach our children how to read them as they listen.
- **Garden of Gethsemane** - This icon shows a series of events. We know this because we see Jesus four times in the icon. Starting at the *bottom center*, we see Jesus asking His disciples to pray. At the *top left*, we see Jesus kneeling down and praying "a stone's throw away." At the *top middle*, Jesus continues praying, "Father, if it is Your will..." Then at the *top right*, "being in agony, He prayed more earnestly."

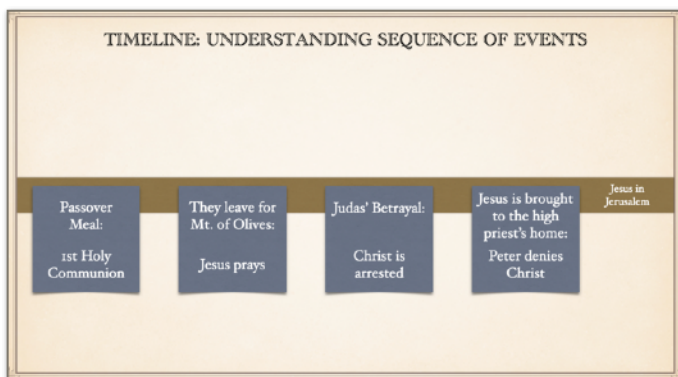
- **Judas' Betrayal & Jesus' Arrest** - This icon depicts the intensity of the moment: Judas leans in to kiss Jesus, the "multitude" rush in to arrest Him as they hold weapons, the disciples are caught off guard, and Peter (John 18:10) reacts in an attempt to protect Jesus by striking and cutting off the ear of the high priest's servant.
- **Peter's Denial of Jesus** - This particular icon zooms in on that moment when Peter and Jesus momentarily lock eyes just after Peter had denied Christ three times. The realization slams down on Peter and he leaves the high priest's courtyard weeping bitterly with remorse.

4. Review - Split the class into 3 groups and give them one of the icons from today's lesson, provide them with either post-it notes or their dry erase boards, then ask each group to write down as many details about the icons as possible. Each group will share what they have written down with the class.

ACTIVITIES

Options:

1. Label post-it notes and place the sequence of events on your classroom timeline



2. Find Jerusalem and the Mt. Of Olives on your map; Then let everyone take a look at the up-close map of Jerusalem
3. Review - Draw and label a storyboard for the sequence of events in today's lesson

Scene:	Scene:	Scene:



- This is a sequence of events
- Garden of Gethsemane
- Jesus is praying



- Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss
- Jesus is arrested by a large group



- Peter denied Jesus 3 times in the high priest's courtyard
- Close up on Peter and Jesus

JESUS' ARREST

AT HOME

FOR PARENTS

Behold, then and see the pattern of your conduct depicted for you in Christ the Savior of all. And let us also observe the manner of his prayer. 'Father,' He says 'if You are willing, remove this cup from me...' And if, therefore it happens that we also at any time fall into

unexpected troubles, and have to endure any mental conflict, let us beseech God, not so much that it may end according to our will, but rather let us ask that whatever He knows to be fit and expedient for the benefit of our souls may be brought to pass.

St. Cyril of Alexandria
via Dr. Constantinou in
The Crucifixion of the King of Glory

HOME ACTIVITY #20

Virtual Field Trip to the Garden of Gethsemane: <https://youtu.be/bJXS-Ee0tsc?si=bSgQzZ1QpVhuVKvr>

This week, we learned about the events that occurred in Luke 22. Please illustrate / sketch and then label the events you learned about in class today on the storyboard below.

Scene:		Scene:		Scene:	
Scene:		Scene:		Scene:	







