

Jesus' Encounters

Start by sharing the days highs & lows.

Discuss together the following questions:

- What groups of people in our world are judged because of their cultural background?
- What people groups do you avoid?

Turn to page 40 in the "Sketch Journal" and recreate the symbol on page 41.

Read together, "The Bible is Like" on page 42.

Have a parent read the following three scenes using expression as best you can. While reading other family members will jot down things that stand out to them in the story, what they saw, or whatever helps them take in the story. The confirmation student can use pages 44-45.

Give a moment to jot down any last things and then have the other parent read the following three scenes again. Once again others will jot down things that help them take in the story. The confirmation student can use pages 46-47.

Scene One: NICODEMUS

Throughout his life and ministry, Jesus tried to help the people he encountered understand God and God's kingdom.

Late one night, one of the Jewish religious leaders, named Nicodemus, visited Jesus. He was a wealthy and powerful man and also a sincere man of faith.

Nicodemus said to Jesus, "*It's obvious God has sent you to teach us. No one could do these amazing miracles if God weren't with them.*"

Jesus replied, "*The truth is...unless you experience a new birth, you'll never see God's kingdom.*"

Nicodemus said, "*Well, how can a grown man do this? I can't climb back into my mothers' womb and start over!*"

Jesus answered, "*Entering God's kingdom requires a different kind of birth – one of water and spirit. Don't be surprised by this – only God's Spirit can give new life in the kingdom.*"

"How can this be true?" Nicodemus asked.

Jesus replied, “You’re the most respected teacher in Israel, but you don’t know these simple truths? If you won’t believe me when I teach you about everyday things, how will you believe me about God’s kingdom?” [pause]

Jesus continued, “Out of great love God has sent me – God’s only son. I’m here to rescue people, not judge them. Many will still choose to live in darkness. But anyone who believes in me and follows my ways will find life that is complete and eternal.”

Scene Two: THE WOMAN AT THE WELL

Soon, Jesus and his disciples traveled through the region of Samaria. Because of centuries of deep ethnic hostility between Samaritans and Jews, most Jews chose to avoid this area and travel around it. But Jesus still chose to walk right through Samaria.

When Jesus’ disciples went to a nearby village to buy some food, Jesus – tired and thirsty under the hot midday sun – sat down on the edge of a well.

Before long, a Samaritan woman came alone to draw water from the well.

This was unusual – women typically traveled in groups and drew water early in the morning to avoid the heat.

As the woman approached, Jesus asked her, “*Would you give a drink?*”

At that time, Jewish men would never speak to – or even make eye contact with – a woman who was alone in public. Also, a Jew wouldn’t drink from a Samaritan’s bucket, as it would be considered unclean.

Surprised, the woman said, “*Why would you, a Jew, speak to me, a Samaritan woman...much less ask me for a drink?*”

Jesus replied, “*If you knew who I am, you would be asking me for a drink, and I’d give you fresh, living water.*”

“*But you don’t have a rope or a bucket – where will you get this ‘living water’?*” the Samaritan woman asked.

“*Anyone who drinks the water I give will never be thirsty again. It will be a fresh spring within them, giving them endless life,*” Jesus said.

“*Please, sir, give me this water!*” the woman exclaimed. “*Then I’ll never be thirsty and won’t have to come to this well again!*”

Then Jesus told her, “*Go and bring your husband here.*”

The woman replied, “*I don’t have a husband here.*”

"Well that's true," Jesus said. "You've had five, and you aren't married to the man you live with now."

"I see that you are a prophet," the woman said to Jesus. "So tell me why you Jews say that Jerusalem is the place to worship, while we Samaritans say that it's here at Mount Gerizim?"

"Believe me," Jesus said. "Soon people will not go to a mountain or to a city to worship God. The time has come for true worshipers to worship God in spirit and truth."

The woman replied, *"I know the messiah is coming and will reveal all of this to us."*

Then Jesus told her, *"I AM the messiah you speak of!"*

The woman left her water jar and ran back to the village, telling everyone, *"You must meet the man who told me everything I've ever done. Could he be the messiah?"*

The Samaritan villagers gathered around Jesus and begged him to stay with them. So Jesus spent two days teaching the Samaritans about God's kingdom, and many believed that Jesus was the true messiah.

Scene Three: DEFENDING A SINFUL WOMAN

Some time later, early in the morning, Jesus stood outside the Temple in Jerusalem. A crowd gathered, so Jesus sat down and began to teach them.

As Jesus was teaching, some Pharisees and religious leaders brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd for everybody to see.

"Teacher," they said to Jesus. "This woman was caught in the act of adultery. The laws given to Moses say that we should kill such women by stoning. What do you say about this?"

The leaders were trying to trap Jesus. If he went against Moses' law, he would be discredited as a teacher. If he said *"kill her,"* he would be arrested by the Romans, who didn't allow Jews to execute someone.

As the Pharisees and the crowd looked on, Jesus stooped down to the ground and began writing in the dust with his finger. The pharisees became impatient and demanded that Jesus give them an answer.

So Jesus stood up and said, *"All right, put her to death. The person who has never sinned can throw the first stone."*

Then, Jesus stooped down and continued writing in the dirt.

Everyone stood silent. One by one, the woman's accusers walked away, from oldest to youngest. Only Jesus and the woman were left there, surrounded by the crowd.

Then Jesus stood up again and asked the woman, “Where are they? Did no one step forward to judge you?”

“No one, sir,” she said.

“I don’t judge you either,” Jesus said. “Go – and live in God’s better way.”

Do the “Remix” activities on pages 58-61 (parents should do so on their own paper). When everyone is done share what you’ve created with one another.

Here are some questions to now discuss this story (you don’t need to discuss every question, there are more here than you need, but do take a good 10-15 minutes to process the story):

- What stood out to you from this story?
- What did this story make you wonder about?
- In the Nicodemus scene
 - Why do you think Nicodemus arranged to meet Jesus at night?
 - How might God’s Spirit give people new life (as Jesus described)?
- In the scene about the woman at the well
 - What might Jesus have been risking by talking to her – especially alone? Why would Jesus take this risk?
 - What do you think Jesus meant when he told the Samaritan woman that he had “living water”?
 - How do you think the woman convinced everyone from her village to come meet Jesus?
 - How would you describe Jesus in this scene? (Say the first thing that comes to mind.)
 - What do you think this scene shows us about God?
- In the scene about the woman caught in adultery
 - What do you think it was like for the woman to be in the center of the crowd?
 - How do you think the Pharisees expected Jesus to react to the woman caught in adultery? Why do you think Jesus’ response was so disarming?
 - How would you describe Jesus in this scene? (Say the first thing that comes to mind.)
 - What do you think this scene shows us about God?

Everybody answers:

- What do you think story says about US? (What does this story say about, or to, our human nature?)
- What does this story say about YOU? (How is this story speaking to you as an individual?)

Rising Tension

Start by sharing the days highs & lows.

Review the Story from last time (JESUS ENCOUNTERS).

Discuss together the following questions:

- what injustices in the world today do you think make Jesus angry? Why?

Turn to page 56 in the "Sketch Journal" and recreate the symbol on page 57.

Read together, "The Bible is Like" on page 58.

Have a parent read the following three scenes using expression as best you can. While reading other family members will jot down things that stand out to them in the story, what they saw, or whatever helps them take in the story. The confirmation student can use pages 60-61.

Give a moment to jot down any last things and then have the other parent read the following three scenes again (it is important to have a different person read it the second time because they will read it a little differently causing us to hear the story a little differently). Once again others will jot down things that help them take in the story. The confirmation student can use pages 62-63.

Prologue: A GROWING THREAT

Jesus had been traveling throughout Israel for almost three years, healing people and teaching about God's kingdom.

Some of the Pharisees and other Jewish leaders were angered by his actions. The Pharisees believed that Jesus was breaking God's laws and misleading people. Other Jewish leaders feared that Jesus was stirring a revolt that would cause the Romans to remove them from their positions of power. Because of this, a group of Jewish leaders gathered to try and stop Jesus.

Scene One: DINNER WITH THE PHARISEES

Despite the rising tension, Jesus continued to meet with the Pharisees and even dined in their homes. At one of the meals, Jesus reclined at the table without performing the hand-washing ceremony required by Jewish custom before a meal.

The Pharisee hosting the dinner was shocked to see Jesus do this. So Jesus said to those around the table, "*You Pharisees are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but the inside is still filthy. Your lives are just like that – so clean when people are watching, but inside you're full of hate, greed, and pride. You love to sit in seats of honor and power. If you want to be clean, stop ignoring justice and the love of God. Give to the poor.*"

The Pharisees and religious leaders were extremely offended by Jesus' words.

But Jesus continued, "*you're worse than your ancestors in Israel; you have great knowledge about the things of God, but you don't live in the ways of God's kingdom. In fact, you keep other people from living in them!*"

After he said this, Jesus got up to leave. As he walked out, the Pharisees and leaders became hostile, questioning Jesus and trying to get him to say something they could use against him.

Scene Two: TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

When it came time for the annual Passover festival, Jesus and his disciples, and Jews from all over the land traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate.

As they journeyed, Jesus told two of his disciples, "*Go into the village ahead. As you enter, you'll find a young donkey tied up that no one's ever ridden. Bring it to me.*"

The two disciples found the donkey just as Jesus said and brought it back to him. They spread their clothes over the donkey's back for Jesus to ride on.

As Jesus got closer to Jerusalem, crowds lined the streets to see him. People spread their coats on the ground in front of Jesus to honor him. They waved palm branches as a symbol of victory – many hoped that Jesus was their new king, who'd overthrow the Roman Empire and reestablish Israel's kingdom.

But Jesus was riding on a donkey – a symbol of humility and peace. This was much different form the way Roman generals and kings entered Jerusalem. They rode in on mighty horses in a military procession. [pause]

When Jesus' followers began to sing and shout, "*Glory and blessings to God's new king!*" some of the Pharisees in the crowd demanded that Jesus tell them to stop singing and praising him.

Jesus answered, "*If the people are quiet, then the stones along the road will start cheering!*" [pause]

When Jesus saw the city of Jerusalem up ahead, he started to weep.

As he looked toward the city, Jesus said, "*If only you had recognized the way to true peace. But now it's too late. Peace is hidden from you. Before long, your enemies will crush you... all because you didn't see God's messenger right in front of you.*"

Scene Three: JESUS CLEARS THE TEMPLE

In Jerusalem, Jesus entered the Temple courts and saw merchants selling animals for sacrifice and dealers exchanging foreign money.

So Jesus made a whip with some rope and chased the merchants and their animals out of the Temple. Then, he flipped over the moneychangers' tables, scattering their coins all over the ground!

"Get these things out of here!" Jesus said. "Stop turning God's house into a marketplace!"

Seeing this, his disciples remembered how passionate Jesus was about the Temple being a place where people were consumed with a love of God, not just keeping rituals.

But some Jewish leaders who were watching demanded, *"What right do you have to do this? Prove that God has given you authority by showing us a miracle!"*

"All right," Jesus said to them. "Tear down this Temple. Then, I will raise it back up again in three days."

"What?" the leaders yelled. "It took forty-six years to build this Temple, and you can rebuild it in three days?"

It was only later that disciples of Jesus realized that he wasn't talking about the Temple building, but about himself. [pause]

While in Jerusalem, Jesus taught outside the Temple each day. This made some of the religious leaders very upset, so they began to plan ways to stop him.

But the crowds continued to be captivated by Jesus' teaching.

Do the "Remix" activities on pages 64-67 (parents should do so on their own paper). When everyone is done share what you've created with one another.

Here are some questions to now discuss this story (you don't need to discuss every question, there are more here than you need, but do take a good 10-15 minutes to process the story):

- What stood out to you from this story?
- What did this story make you wonder about?
- In the first scene
 - What would it have been like to be a dinner guest at this meal?
 - Why do you think Jesus was so confrontational with the Pharisees?
 - What do you think the disciples were thinking when they heard their teacher offend the religious leaders like this?
 - How would you describe Jesus in this scene? What do you think this shows us about God?
- In the scene about coming into Jerusalem on a donkey
 - What do you think it would have been like to be in the crowd as Jesus entered Jerusalem?
 - Would you have stood and shouted? Found a place to take it all in? Or stayed away to avoid the crowd?
 - Why do you think people were so excited to see Jesus?
 - When Jesus saw Jerusalem he began to weep. Why do you think it brought him to tears?
 - How would you describe Jesus in this scene? (Say the first thing that comes to mind.) What do you think this scene shows us about God?
- In the scene about Jesus in the Temple Courtyard
 - Why did Jesus become so angry when he entered the Temple court?
 - How would you describe Jesus in this scene? (Say the first thing that comes to mind.) What do you think this scene shows us about God?
 - In your own words, why do you think Jesus was at the center of so much rising tension among the Pharisees and religious leaders?

Everybody answers:

- What do you think story says about US? (What does this story say about, or to, our human nature?)
- What does this story say about YOU? (How is this story speaking to you as an individual?)

New Promise

Start by sharing the days highs & lows.

Review the Story from last time (RISING TENSION).

Discuss together the following questions:

- what do hosts do to welcome others into their home in our culture? What things do you do? What does the church do to try and welcome people to worship on Sunday?

Turn to page 72 in the "Sketch Journal" and recreate the symbol on page 73.

Read together, "The Bible is Like" on page 74.

Have a parent read the following three scenes using expression as best you can. While reading other family members will jot down things that stand out to them in the story, what they saw, or whatever helps them take in the story. The confirmation student can use pages 76-77.

Give a moment to jot down any last things and then have the other parent read the following three scenes again (it is important to have a different person read it the second time because they will read it a little differently causing us to hear the story a little differently). Once again others will jot down things that help them take in the story. The confirmation student can use pages 78-79.

Scene One: A NEW COMMANDMENT

While Jesus and his disciples were in Jerusalem, they gathered for a meal before the Passover celebration. Jesus knew that his time on earth was coming to an end, and that his disciple, Judas, would soon betray him.

Jesus felt a deep love for his disciples. Before the meal began, Jesus got up from the table, tied a towel around his waist, and poured some water into a bowl. Then he went to each of his disciples and washed their feet, wiping them with the towel.

This shocked the disciples – only hired servants were supposed to wash guests' feet! They wondered why he was doing this.

As Jesus approached, the disciple named Peter said, "*Teacher, you must not wash my feet!*"

Jesus replied, "*Unless I wash your feet, you won't belong to me.*"

So Peter said, "*Then wash my feet and my hands ... and head, too!*"

After washing his disciples' feet, Jesus sat down and asked, "Do you understand why I did this? Since I've washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I've given you an example to follow."

"Now I am giving you a new commandment: Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for each other will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

Scene Two: CONNECTED TO THE VINE

As Jesus and his disciples sat around the table, Jesus continued to share from his heart. He said, "If you love me, live out my teachings each day. Soon I will be leaving. But don't worry or be afraid. You'll never be alone – God's Spirit is with you and will live inside of you, guiding you into all truth and reminding you how to live."

Jesus continued, "I will remain in you. Remain connected to me! Like branches that grow from a tree, I will be your source of life and strength. Remain in my love and follow my ways, and your life will produce lasting fruit. This will bring great joy to you and to God!"

Jesus finished with these words: "There is no greater love than to lay down your life for your friends. You are my friends. I choose you. I have called you to go and produce lasting fruit."

Scene Three: A NEW COVENANT

During the Passover, Jesus and his disciples celebrated a meal together. Jesus' disciples prepared the dinner in a large guest room in Jerusalem.

As Jesus and his disciples were eating the Passover meal, Jesus said to them, "I've been so eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. I won't eat this meal with you again until its meaning is fulfilled in God's kingdom."

During the dinner, Jesus picked up some bread, thanked God for it, and broke it into pieces. Giving it to his disciple, he said, "Take this and eat it; this is my body given for you. From now on, do this in remembrance of me."

After dinner, Jesus picked up a cup of wine and said, "This cup is a new promise – a new covenant between God and God's people – an agreement guaranteed by my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you." [pause]

As they continued to gather around the table, the disciples began to argue about who was the greatest among them. Jesus interrupted them and said, "Kings and rulers strive for power and control over people. You should be different. The greatest among you will be the one who serves the others. The first will be last. In God's kingdom the one who serves is the leader. Follow my example."

Later that night, when it was dark, Jesus and his disciples went to an olive grove to pray. Jesus felt troubled in his heart ... he knew that soon he would be betrayed and arrested.

Do the "Remix" activities on pages 80-83 (parents should do so on their own paper). When everyone is done share what you've created with one another.

Here are some questions to now discuss this story (you don't need to discuss every question, there are more here than you need, but do take a good 10-15 minutes to process the story):

- What stood out to you from this story?
- What did this story make you wonder about?
- In the first scene where Jesus washed the disciples feet
 - If you were one of the disciples, how would you have reacted when Jesus washed your feet?
 - Why do you think Jesus chose to this?
 - Why do you think Peter refused to let Jesus wash his feet at first?
 - Why do you think Peter then asked Jesus to wash his head and his hands along with his feet?
 - What do you think is the most challenging part of Jesus' commandment: "Just as I have loved you, you should love each other"?
 - How would you describe Jesus in this scene? What do you think this shows us about God?
- In the scene where Jesus talked about being connected to his disciples like a vine
 - How might we remain connected to Jesus, like a branch connected to a vine?
 - What do you think it means for your life to "bear fruit" (as Jesus described)?
 - How does it make you feel to hear Jesus say, "You are my friends. I choose you"?
 - How would you describe Jesus in this scene? (Say the first thing that comes to mind.) What do you think this scene shows us about God?
- In the scene about Jesus' final meal with his disciples
 - Why do you think Jesus said the bread and wine represent his body and blood?
 - How would you describe Jesus in this scene? (Say the first thing that comes to mind.) What do you think this scene shows us about God?

Everybody answers:

- What do you think story says about US? (What does this story say about, or to, our human nature?)
- What does this story say about YOU? (How is this story speaking to you as an individual?)

Death-to-Life

Start by sharing the days highs & lows.

Review the Story from last time (NEW PROMISE).

Discuss together the following questions:

- what kinds of people do you find threatening or intimidating? Why?
- Who do you think Jesus felt most threatened by? Why?

Turn to page 88 in the "Sketch Journal" and recreate the symbol on page 89.

Read together, "The Bible is Like" on page 90.

Have a parent read the following three scenes using expression as best you can. While reading other family members will jot down things that stand out to them in the story, what they saw, or whatever helps them take in the story. The confirmation student can use pages 92-93.

Give a moment to jot down any last things and then have the other parent read the following three scenes again (it is important to have a different person read it the second time because they will read it a little differently causing us to hear the story a little differently). Once again others will jot down things that help them take in the story. The confirmation student can use pages 94-95.

Scene One: ARREST

After Jesus and his disciples finished their meal together, they went to an olive grove to pray. Jesus took three of his disciples – Peter, James, and John – away from the others.

In the days leading up to the Passover celebration, some of the Pharisees and Jewish leaders had met at the home of Caiaphas, who was the high priest in Jerusalem, appointed by the Roman government. The leaders had conspired ways they could have Jesus arrested and killed. "*We can't arrest him during Passover,*" they had agreed, "*or it will create a huge riot.*"

So the Pharisees arranged to have one of Jesus' disciples, named Judas, betray Jesus in exchange for money.

In the olive grove, Jesus knew that the moment of his capture was near. "*My soul is overwhelmed with grief,*" Jesus told Peter, James, and John. "*Stay here with me and watch over me.*" But his disciples couldn't stay awake and they fell asleep in the garden.

So Jesus walked a short distance and fell face-down on the ground. He prayed, "*Abba, Father, you can do anything. If there's another way besides my death, please let that happen – but I will do whatever you ask.*"

Just as he finished praying, Judas arrived with an armed mob. To signal the guards who they should arrest, Judas kissed Jesus on the cheek.

Jesus said, “*Am I a dangerous criminal? Is that why you need weapons to capture me? Why didn’t you arrest me in the Temple where I’ve been teaching every day? You don’t see it now, but this is part of God’s plan.*”

Then the mob arrested Jesus and carried him off ... and all of the disciples ran away and hid.

Scene Two: TRIALS

Soon, the mob brought Jesus to the home of Caiaphas, who was the Jewish high priest. Some religious leaders were already gathered in the house, waiting for Jesus to be brought to them. Two men stood up and said, “*This man said that he was able to destroy the Temple and rebuild it again in three days.*”

The high priest turned to Jesus. “*Are you going to answer these charges?*” he asked. “*What do you have to say for yourself?*”

But Jesus stayed silent.

So the high priest said, “*In the name of God, I demand that you tell us – do you think YOU are the messiah – the Son of God?*”

Finally, Jesus replied, “*Those are your words. But I will tell you that soon you’ll see me in the highest place of power, next to God.*”

The high priest was horrified. He tore his clothing, yelling, “*You heard him – he claims to be next to God. What is your verdict?*”

The people in the house shouted, “*Guilty! He deserves to die!*”

Then they began hitting Jesus and spitting in his face. [pause]

A few hours later, the religious leaders brought Jesus to Pilate, the Roman governor of Judea. In order to have Jesus executed, the religious leaders had to get government approval.

“*Are you the king of the Jews?*” Pilate asked him.

Jesus responded just as he had to the high priest: “*Those are your words,*” Jesus said.

The religious leaders stirred up the crowds and pressured Pilate to have Jesus put to death. They shouted, “*Crucify him! Crucify him!*”

Pilate could not find fault with Jesus, but a riot was stirring. To keep peace, Pilate handed Jesus over to his soldiers to be crucified. Symbolically, Pilate washed his hands in a bowl of water and said to the crowds, “*I wash my hands of this man’s fate. His blood is on your hands!*”

Scene Three: CRUCIFIXION

Jesus was brutally beaten and whipped by the Roman soldiers. They put a crown of sharp thorns on his head and a purple robe around his shoulders. They taunted him by saying, *"Hail, the king of the Jews!"* All night long, the Roman soldiers mocked and beat Jesus.

When morning came, they led Jesus to be crucified at a place called Golgotha (meaning "Skull Hill"). There, the Roman soldiers nailed Jesus' hands and feet to a wooden cross and planted it in the ground, leaving Jesus hanging on it to die. [pause] Two criminals were also crucified with Jesus – one on his right and one on his left.

Some people passing by the cross mocked Jesus, yelling, *"If you're really the Son of God, save yourself and come down from the cross!"* Some of the Pharisees and other religious leaders mocked him in the same way.

At noon, darkness filled the skies, blocking the sun for three hours. Then, Jesus yelled out, *"My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"*

Jesus cried out again, and took his last breath.

At that moment, people heard a loud rumble. The earth began to shake and rocks split apart. The thick curtain hanging in the Temple suddenly tore down the middle. The priests in the Temple and people around the cross were terrified! [pause]

Late Friday afternoon, Jesus' body was taken down from the cross, wrapped in the strips of cloth, and placed in a tomb. A large stone was rolled over the entrance to the tomb. Roman guards were posted to make sure nothing happened to Jesus' body. [LONG pause]

Scene Four: RESURRECTION

Then, early on Sunday morning, some of the women who had followed Jesus went to visit the tomb. Suddenly, there was another earthquake, as an angel of God came from heaven, rolled the stone away from the tomb, and sat on it. His face looked like lightning, and his clothes were as white as snow.

The soldiers guarding the tomb were terrified and fainted.

Then the angel spoke to the women: *"Don't be afraid! I know you are looking for Jesus. He's not here. He's risen from the dead, just like he said would happen. See for yourself – he is gone from the tomb. Go! Tell his disciples that he's risen from the dead! You will see him again."*

The women, afraid and excited hurried to tell Jesus' disciples what they'd seen. As they ran, they saw Jesus ahead of them – alive! They ran to him, grabbed his feet and bowed down in front of him.

“Don’t be afraid,” Jesus said. “Go tell my followers to leave for Galilee. I will meet them there.”

In the weeks after his resurrection, Jesus met with his followers many times. Everyone who saw him was full of joy. – Jesus was really alive!

Do the “Remix” activities on pages 96-99 (parents should do so on their own paper). When everyone is done share what you’ve created with one another.

Here are some questions to now discuss this story (you don’t need to discuss every question, there are more here than you need, but do take a good 10-15 minutes to process the story):

- What stood out to you from this story?
- What did this story make you wonder about?
- What did you notice about Jesus from this story (maybe for the first time)?
- Why do you think Jesus asked Peter, James, and John to stay with him while he prayed? How do you think Jesus felt when he found them asleep?
- How do you think the disciples felt when they saw Jesus arrested by the armed mob? How do you think they felt when they saw that it was Judas who led them to Jesus?
- One of the last things Jesus said from the cross was, *“My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”* Why do you think Jesus said these words? What emotion do they convey?
- What do you think Jesus’ death shows us about him? What might it show us about God?
- Why do you think it is important that Jesus rose from the dead?
- Take a moment to think back through all of the stories we have shared about Jesus.... How would you describe Jesus’ life?

Everybody answers:

- What do you think story says about US? (What does this story say about, or to, our human nature?)
- What does this story say about YOU? (How is this story speaking to you as an individual?)

Finish your time together by praying together.