1. Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane

Jesus knew that soon the soldiers would come to arrest him and he would be sentenced to death. He went to a garden called Gethsemane, with his friends and asked them to keep watch while he prayed to God to help him. But his friends were tired and they fell asleep. In the darkness of the night Jesus felt very alone. Even so, he trusted himself to God's care.

Dear Jesus, help us to be there for when our friends and family need us. Help us to also be obedient to our parents, as you were to your father in heaven.

Amen



2. Jesus is betrayed by Judas

At this time, Judas came with religious leaders and their servants. They had swords and clubs with them. Judas kissed Jesus which was the sign that told who Jesus was. They grabbed Jesus and arrested him!

Dear Jesus, help me always to stand up for my friends, deal with them honestly, and be always Your Own loving loyal friend.

Amen



3. Jesus is condemned by the Sanhedrin

The religious leaders held a trial. They said to Jesus, "If you are the Christ, tell us." He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe, and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on, the Son of man will be seated at the right hand of the Power of God." They all said, "So you are the Son of God then?" He answered, "It is you who say I am." Then they said, "Why do we need any evidence? We have heard it for ourselves from his own lips." Dear Jesus, give us the courage to always do what we know is right. Help us not to treat others unjustly or with prejudice.

Amen



4. Jesus is denied by Peter

Peter followed behind at a distance when the soldiers came to take Jesus away. He waited in the courtyard outside the high priest's house. He sat with the guards and warmed himself at the fire. Someone said, "You were also with Jesus of Nazareth," but Peter denied it. Two more times that night Peter said he didn't know Jesus. Then the cock crowed, and Peter remembered that Jesus had said, "Before the cock crows you will disown me three times." Peter went outside and wept bitterly.

Dear Jesus, Peter denied that he knew you three times. He admitted he was wrong and was forgiven. Help us to admit when we have done something wrong and we can also be forgiven. Amen



5. Jesus is sent to Herod

Pilate sent Jesus to Herod, the Jewish ruler of Galilee. He had heard about Jesus, the miracle worker from Galilee. Herod wanted Jesus to work a miracle for him. But Jesus just stood there quietly and did not speak. Pilate asked the crowd what to do with Jesus. "Crucify him!" they shouted. Pilate did not want to be part of this so he sent for a bowl of water and washed his hands to show that is was nothing to do with him.

Dear Jesus, open my heart to your suffering during your trial by Herod and my eyes to the times when I have deceived my friends despite your love towards me. Amen



6. Jesus is condemned to death.

Jesus was accused of many crimes he didn't commit. He didn't defend himself. He knew he needed to die for our sins. Today, millions of children are condemned to death by malnutrition and starvation. Lord, help us to see you, condemned once again in these children - our brothers and sisters.

Dear Jesus, we have so much while many have so little. Remind us to use our gifts so that all children in need may know the gifts of food, shelter, and clothing. Amen



7.Jesus is crowned with thorns and given his cross to carry

The cross was big and heavy. It was hard for Jesus to carry it. Jesus carried the heavy cross without complaining once. Jesus told us that to follow him we must take up our cross.

Dear Jesus, like you, we carry our crosses to remind us of your suffering. Teach us to think of our friends as our brothers and sisters who need us to care for them. Help us to help others without expecting anything in return. If you could carry your cross then we can carry ours. Amen



8. Jesus is helped by Simon of Cyrene.

Simon didn't come to help Jesus but to see what was going on. Then he was ordered by the soldiers to carry the cross, because Jesus was having such a hard time. When Jesus was so tired that he could go no further, Simon lifted up the cross and helped Jesus on His way.

Dear Jesus, sometimes I don't want to help my friends or brothers and sisters or parents when I am told to. Jesus, help me know that when I do help others, it is like helping you. I want to be kind and helpful. Amen



9. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem.

As Jesus, carries his cross he sees a group of women along the road. Jesus sees that they are sad. He stops to spend a moment with them, to offer them some encouragement. Although he has been abandoned by his friends and is in pain, Jesus stops and tries to help them.

Dear Jesus, help me to be a faithful friend. When my friends are going through a hard time or are being made fun of, I want to help them and be a true friend. Amen



10. Jesus is crucified.

The soldiers drove nails through Jesus' hands and feet. They lifted up the cross and put it in place. Jesus was in a lot of pain. Above his head they hung a sign saying, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then they crucified two bandits with Jesus, one on his right and the other on his left.

Dear Jesus, many people suffer pain every day from being sick, hungry, poor, and because of war or natural disasters. Jesus, please comfort everyone who is in pain today. Amen

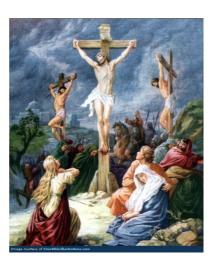


11. At the foot of the cross

Standing close to Jesus' cross were his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing there; so he said to his mother, "He is your son."

Then he said to the disciple, "She is your mother." From that time the disciple took her to live in his home.

Dear Jesus, you spoke lovingly to everyone gathered at the foot of Your cross. You knew the new life that Your death made possible. Speak lovingly to us when we come before You and make us worthy of that new life in You. Amen.



12. Jesus dies on the cross.

When Jesus died, the sky got dark and the ground started to shake. This made some people very scared. They saw that Jesus was innocent and that they had made a big mistake.

Dear Jesus, help me to admit when I make mistakes. Help me to say I'm sorry. Thank

you for always forgiving me. I love you, and I want to do the right thing. Amen



13. Jesus dies-Soldiers at the foot of the cross

It was about twelve o'clock when the sun stopped shining and darkness covered the whole country until three o'clock; and the curtain hanging in the Temple was torn in two. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father! In your hands I place my spirit!" He said this and died.

The army officer saw what had happened, and he praised God, saying, "Certainly he was a good man!"

Dear Jesus, today we remember your love for us. Thank you for your willingness to die for us. Help us to show our love for you. Amen

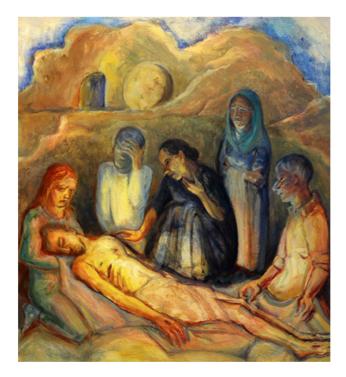


14. Jesus is placed in the tomb.

A man named Joseph from Arimathea, a town in Judea, went to Pilate and asked for

the body of Jesus. Then he took the body down, wrapped it in a linen sheet, and placed it in a tomb which had been dug out of solid rock and which had never been used. It was Friday, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

Dear Jesus, even when things look very difficult and sad, there is always hope that God can bring new life. I believe that you died and rose from the dead so that I could have new life. Thank you



15 Women watched and waited

The women who had followed Jesus from Galilee went with Joseph and saw the tomb and how Jesus' body was placed in it. They went back home and prepared the spices and perfumes for the body.

Dear Jesus, Help us to be like the women who watched and waited, as we to wait for Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday. Amen

