

Digging Deeper

Family Devotions



There were four pictures in the video which helped us remember four stories in John 18 & 19. Can you remember them?

Picture 1: Jesus being arrested

When Jesus was arrested, we highlight that Jesus was in control because he knew "all that was going to happen to him" (John 18:4). So he didn't fight, or cause a fuss because it was all part of God's plan. He protected the disciples.

Read John 18:8-9. If with older children, you can read the full story in John 18:1-13

1. Who arrested Jesus?
2. What did Jesus say about the disciples?
3. Who did Jesus let go, and why was this important?

Picture 2: Peter's denial, and the rooster

When Peter denied Jesus, Jesus knew it would happen. Back in John 13:38, Jesus had told Peter this.

Read John 18:15-18, 25-27

1. What does a rooster have to do with this story?
2. Peter was one of Jesus' friends, but he denied knowing him. Why do you think he did this?
3. How do we know that even as his friend denied knowing him, Jesus was still in control? (Hint: Read John 13:38)

Picture 3: Jesus before Pilate

When Jesus is on trial before Pilate, we as readers know he is innocent. Pilate and the Jewish leaders know that he is innocent. Yet the Jewish leaders want to get rid of Jesus because they were threatened by Jesus and his teaching. John 18:28 tells us that Pilate couldn't find any reason to charge Jesus. Pilate wanted to let Jesus go but he gave into the crowd and sentenced Jesus to be crucified. Jesus remained quiet, and didn't fight back. Jesus knew that to save people, he had to die.

Read John 19:8-12; 16. If with older children, read the full story in John 19:1-16a

1. What did Pilate want to do?
2. What did Pilate actually do?
3. How do we know that Jesus was still in control even during his arrest?

Picture 4: Sponge offered to Jesus on the cross

As Jesus hung on the cross, we are reminded of his words in John 10:18: "No one takes my life from me, but I lay it down of my own authority." Jesus gave his life willingly.

Read John 10:18 & 19:28-30. If you are with older children, read the full story in John 19:16b-27

1. Who takes life from Jesus?
2. What did Jesus choose to do?
3. Why did Jesus choose to do it?

These are all powerful reminders that no matter what things look like or what's going on in our lives, Jesus is and always will be IN CONTROL. So we can, and we must, trust Jesus.