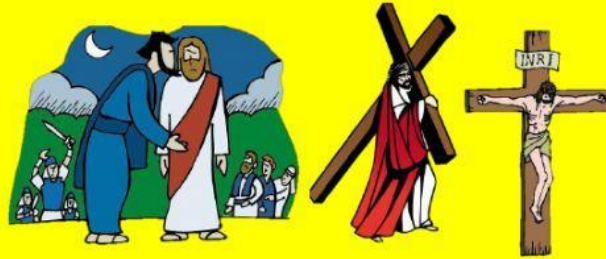


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Celebrating Easter: The Suffering of Jesus



The path Jesus took to the cross was one of great suffering. In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus suffered distress and grief. He experienced betrayal. On the road to Golgotha He was mocked, whipped and tortured. His body endured great suffering on the cross. Jesus endured to the very end.

Jesus knew that His journey to the cross would involve great suffering (Luke 9:22). However, He was willing to die for the sins of mankind because He loved us. He also knew that He had to be obedient to His Father – "...Yet not what I want, but what You want" (Matthew 26:39). Jesus knew that His suffering would lead to great victory for all believers.

Jesus suffered because He had a special mission to accomplish. Christians today must also suffer for their faith. Jesus said that if we follow Him we must "take up our cross every day" (Luke 9:23-24). When Christians suffer, they take part in the sufferings of Jesus Christ (I Peter 4:12-13). Suffering produces faith, patience and endurance in a person's life (James 1:3)

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.

1. Where was Jesus when he got arrested? _____
2. Which of the disciples betrayed Jesus? _____
3. How did he betray Jesus? _____
4. What was placed on Jesus' head to mock him? _____
5. Who helped to carry Jesus' cross? _____
6. List 5 ways Jesus suffered before his death
