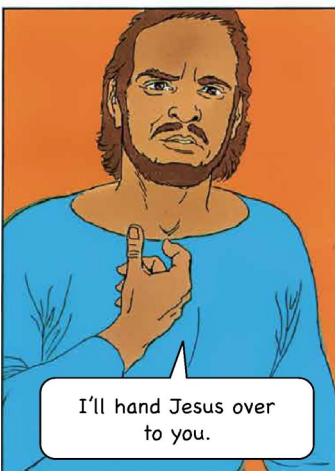
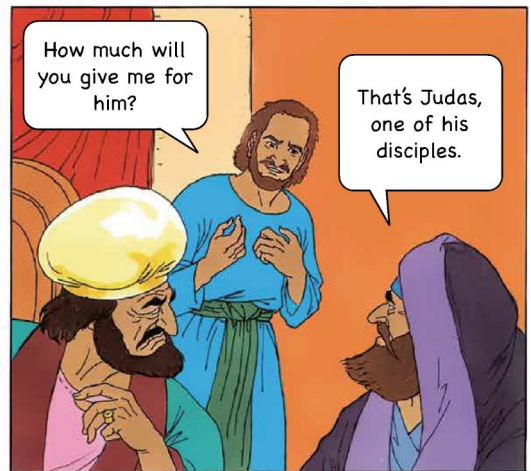
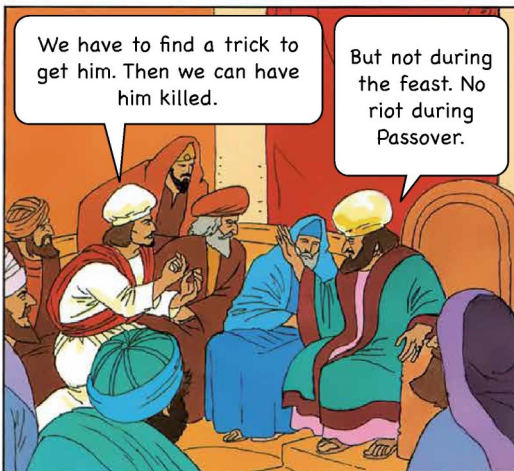
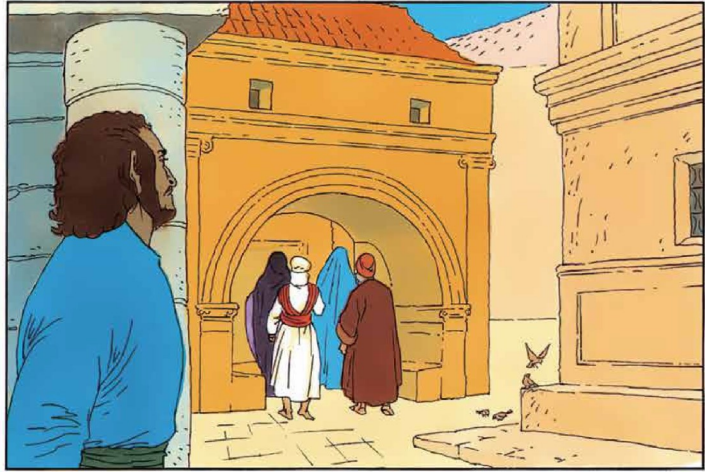


## THE BETRAYAL

READ FOR YOURSELF: Matthew 26:14-19

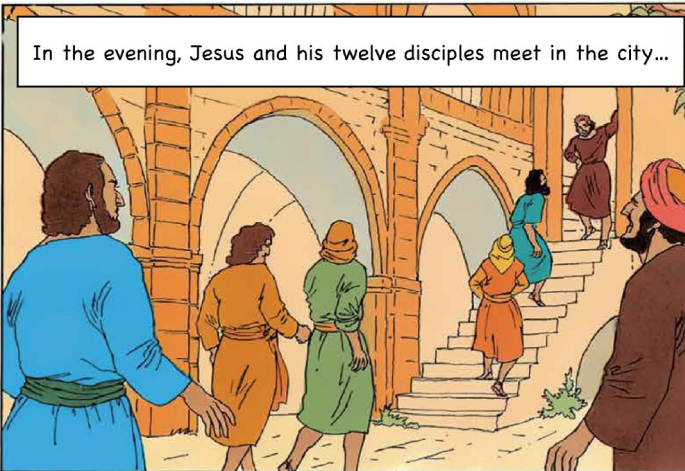




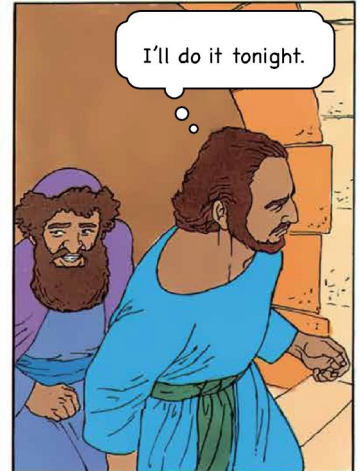
In the days before Passover Jesus speaks to the people in the temple. He predicts that Jerusalem will fall. Everyone will have to flee. But he will keep on loving the people. Then he asks Peter and John to prepare the Passover meal...



In the evening, Jesus and his twelve disciples meet in the city...



I'll do it tonight.





## THE BETRAYAL

The Lord Jesus is speaking to the people in the temple. In the mean time His opponents are making plans to kill Him. How would they? If they just grab Him, the people will turn against them. They will have to incite the people to reject Him. But then they will first need to prove that He is not the Messiah.

Suddenly, from an unexpected source, they get the assistance they want. One of Jesus' own twelve disciples comes to them: Judas Iscariot. He will lead Jesus right into the hands of his enemies. Discreetly, so that there will be no disturbance. And when Jesus will be condemned to be killed, everyone will see that He has no power at all.

Who is Judas? He too was chosen by Jesus as one of His disciples. He is the only one of the twelve who comes from Judea. All the others are from Galilee.

Jesus gives him a responsible task. He is to manage the finances. In outward appearance he is not different from the other disciples. But the Gospel writer calls Judas a thief, a person in who the devil has forced himself and also a betrayer. Why? He has never trusted and accepted Jesus. In the company of the disciples he seeks his own advantage. And he thinks he will get that advantage by handing Jesus over...

## MEMORY VERSE

*"For by the blood of Christ we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God." (Ephesians 1:7)*

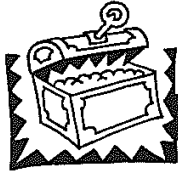
## WHO IS JESUS?

### Passover Lamb

*"You must remove the old yeast of sin so that you will be entirely pure. Then you will be like a new batch of dough without any yeast, as indeed I know you actually are. For our Passover Festival is ready, now that Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed." (1 Corinthians 5:7).*

Jesus has made us completely new. Like new, fresh dough. Sin belongs to our old life, but not to our new life.

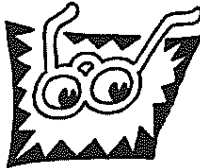
The Passover lamb for the Israelites announced a new time of delivery from the slavery in Egypt. But a common Passover lamb is not able to free people from the slavery of sin. Only the Passover Lamb, Jesus Christ, can do that.



## OLD TREASURES

Judas receives 30 pieces of silver for his betrayal. That is also the payment for a slave (Exodus 21:32). This way the prophecy from Zechariah 11:12 is fulfilled. It says there that the people do not value the work of the Good Shepherd (Jesus) more than 30 silver coins, the value of a slave.

*I said to them, "If you are willing, give me my wages. But if not, keep them." So they paid me 30 pieces of silver as my wages. (Zechariah 11:12).*



## EXTRA INFORMATION

### The Jewish Passover festival

The Jewish Passover festival (the 'Pasha') lasted seven days. During those days people ate only unleavened bread. No yeast was allowed to be used. That is why the Passover festival was called 'the feast of unleavened bread'.

On the day of preparation a Passover lamb was slaughtered. A part of the lamb and the blood was offered in the temple. The meat had to be eaten all before morning. At the evening meal the food consisted of bitter herbs, unleavened flat loaves of bread and wine.

The first Passover (also called Pesach, passing by) was celebrated when the Israelites left Egypt. The blood of slaughtered lambs became their salvation (Exodus 12). Wherever that blood was visible on the doorposts the judgement passed them by. Now the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin, so that for everyone who believes in Him there is no condemnation (Romans 8:1).

## KEEP TRUSTING IN JESUS

Sometimes we have to choose: do we trust in the Lord Jesus, or do we go our own way? Sometimes it seems attractive not to do what Jesus wants. Tell a small lie to make it easier for yourself. Associate with bad friends. Get rich by unjust means. Act as though you are very good.

These are all temptations to gain something for yourself. In all these ways you are trusting in your own strength. But if you trust in Jesus, you know for sure that He will give you "life in all its fullness". (John 10:10).



### DO YOU KNOW...?

1. Which task does Judas get from Jesus?

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2. What does Judas get as payment for betraying Jesus and what is it worth?

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3. Which two disciples prepare the Passover meal (Luke 22:8)?

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4. Why is the first Jewish Passover festival called Pesach (passing by) (Exodus 12:26, 27)?

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5. What do we celebrate at Eastern?

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6. What does the blood of Jesus do with our sin (1 John 1:7)?

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7. Why is Jesus called the Passover Lamb?

- a) He dies in the temple.
- b) He is the sacrifice for our sin.
- c) He already existed before Moses instituted the Passover festival.

### BIBLE READING

|     |                     |
|-----|---------------------|
| Sun | Matthew 26:14-19    |
| Mon | Exodus 12:1-20      |
| Tue | Exodus 12:21-42     |
| Wed | Hebrews 11:24-29    |
| Thu | 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 |
| Fri | Revelation 5:6-14   |
| Sat | James 1:9-16        |



### ACTION POINT!

**Fill in:**

*For sin pays its wage:*

\_\_\_\_\_ ; but God's free

*gift is*

\_\_\_\_\_ *in union with Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23).*