



# MUST KNOW BIBLE STORIES

stories worth exploring

## Story Script

Second Level

## An active retelling of the Bible story of The Death and Resurrection of Jesus

*You will need:*

Pictures from the PowerPoint, A Tale of Two Gardens (downloadable from [bibleworld.co.uk/resources](http://bibleworld.co.uk/resources))

OR

*Props:*

- *A few coins*
- *Leaves or flowers*
- *Pillow*
- *Sword*
- *Piece of paper with the word 'LIES' on it.*
- *Piece of paper with a large question mark on it*
- *Bowl of water*
- *Thorny branch*
- *Cross*
- *Black paper*
- *Stone*
- *'sad' emoji*
- *'amazed' emoji*
- *Pair of trainers*

### Palm Sunday

I don't know if you know much about Jesus, but Christians believe he was someone really special. They believe he was the Son of God. That God was his dad. The Bible says he did some amazing things when he had been living on earth. Like changing water into wine, making enough food to feed 5000 people from just 5 loaves of bread and two fish, making a storm stop just by speaking. And he had been telling everyone great

stories, all about how much God loved them. Most people thought he was great.

One day Jesus and his friends (we call them the Disciples) were going into the big city of Jerusalem.

*Invite one child to be Jesus and a few others his disciples. Ask them to stand at one side.*

As they got near, Jesus spoke to a couple of his disciples and said:

‘Go to the village, take the donkey you see. If anyone says ‘what are you doing?’, tell them it’s for the Lord.’

*Ask Jesus to repeat his lines after you.*

Jesus’ friends were used to him doing odd things, so they went to the village and found the donkey. They told its owner ‘it’s for the Lord’ and brought it back to Jesus.

*The disciples should walk a short distance to find the ‘owner’ and the donkey. Find a volunteer to be the donkey. (with waterproofs on if outside! Or willing to give a piggy back)*

They put their coats over the donkey’s back and Jesus sat on it.

*Act this out!*

As they got into Jerusalem there were loads and loads of people. They were so excited to see Jesus.

*Arrange class into two, as if on either side of a road*

They put their coats down on the road just like a red carpet.

*The children will be keen to do this. Pop some tarps underneath if wet and muddy!*

And got palm leaves to wave like flags.

*Everyone find a leaf or something to wave.*

As he came closer the crowds waved their leaves and started to shout 'Hooray for the King, Here is the one to save us'.

*The crowds wave and shout as Jesus moves through them on the donkey.*

They all followed him into the city still waving and shouting. The whole city came out to see. And no one would fight him.

### Garden of Gethsemane and Arrest

*Ask the children to sit down. Use pictures from the PowerPoint – A Tale of Two Gardens (downloadable from [bibleworld.co.uk/resources](http://bibleworld.co.uk/resources)) or props to illustrate the story as you tell it.*

A week later everything had changed. The leaders were jealous of how much everyone liked Jesus. They wanted Jesus dead. They had paid one of his own friends, Judas, to betray him. Judas was going to lead the soldiers to Jesus.

*If you're using props, lay out some coins.*

Jesus knew all this. He went to a garden to pray. He wanted peace and quiet to talk to his dad. He took his friends and told them I am so sad at what's going to happen. Stay here and keep watch with me.

*If you're using props, lay out some leaves or flowers.*

Jesus moved away and bowed down to the ground and prayed. 'Father, if it's possible please stop this happening.'

He went back to his friends. But they were sleeping. 'Wake up, keep watch and pray.'

*If you're using props, lay out a pillow.*

He left them again and prayed 'If this has to happen for your plan, I'll do it.'

He found his friends still sleeping. He prayed again, and for a third time when he came back his friends were still sleeping. He woke them up saying 'They've come to get me'.

Judas arrived with the soldiers. Jesus was arrested. All his friends ran away.

*If you're using props, lay out a sword.*

### **Trials of Jesus**

The mob who had arrested Jesus took him to the High Priest who asked him lots of questions. He also found people who told lies about Jesus. The High Priest was very angry because Jesus claimed to be God! He, and other leaders, decided that Jesus should be put to death.

*If you're using props, lay out a piece of paper that says 'LIES'*

They tied him up and took him to Pilate the Roman Governor, Pilate had the power to make that happen.

Pilate always let one prisoner go free during the Passover festival. He asked the big crowd that had gathered which prisoner they wanted freed, Jesus, or a well known terrorist called Barabbas.

*If you're using props, lay out a piece of paper that has a large question mark on it.*

The crowd shouted, 'Barabbas!'. Pilate asked them, 'What will I do with Jesus?'. 'Nail him to a cross!', they shouted. Pilate asked, 'Why, what crime has he committed?'. The crowd shouted even louder, 'Nail him to a cross!'.

Pilate took some water and washed his hands, and said, 'I don't want anything to do with killing this man!'

*If you're using props, lay out a bowl of water.*

Pilate let Barabbas go free, and handed Jesus over to the soldiers.

### **Death and Resurrection**

The soldiers stripped off Jesus' clothes and dressed him in a red robe. They made a crown out of thorn branches and pushed it onto his head.

*If you're using props, lay out a thorny branch.*

They laughed at him, and pretended to worship him. They shouted at him, 'Hey, you King of the Jews!'. They spat on him, and beat him up.

When they were finished, they led him off to be nailed to a cross. On a hill called Golgotha, they nailed him to the cross.

*If you're using props, lay out a cross shape.*

People who were passing by shouted horrible things at Jesus, the two criminals who were hanging on crosses next to him shouted at him as well. At midday the sky turned black until about 3pm.

*If you're using props, lay out a black sheet of paper.*

Just about then Jesus shouted, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me!'

Then he died. The big curtain in the temple in the city ripped in half, from top to bottom. The earth shook. The soldiers who were guarding Jesus saw everything that happened. They said, 'this man really was God's son!'

A friend of Jesus took his body wrapped it in cloths and put it in a tomb, like a big cave. A big stone was rolled over the entrance. Soldiers were sent to guard the tomb.

*If you're using props, lay out a stone.*

## Resurrection

Very early on the Sunday morning, two days after Jesus died some of the women who were Jesus' friends went to the tomb. They wanted to say goodbye to Jesus.

*If you're using props, lay out a picture of a 'sad' emoji.*

As they were on their way the earth began to shake. The soldiers fell down and an angel appeared. The angel rolled away the stone and sat on it.

The angel said to the women 'Don't be afraid! Jesus isn't here. He's alive!'

When the women looked in the tomb they saw that it was empty.

*If you're using props, lay out a picture of an 'amazed' emoji.*

They ran back to Jerusalem to tell Jesus' friends. They were frightened but happy.

*If you're using props, lay out a pair of trainers.*

Suddenly in front of them they saw Jesus. They fell down and worshipped him.

Jesus said 'Don't be afraid. Go and tell everyone I am alive!'