

Cut into egg shapes and number for the egg hunt.

1. Jesus and his disciples went to Jerusalem for the Passover Feast. Jesus told two of his disciples to bring him a donkey. He told them where to find it. Jesus rode the donkey into Jerusalem. A big crowd welcomed him. People waved palm branches and put them on the road in front of Jesus. They shouted, "Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the King of Israel." (Hosanna means 'save us'.) The leaders in Jerusalem did not like Jesus. They saw how many people were following him and they were angry about it. They were jealous.

3. Judas was one of Jesus' disciples. He believed that Jesus was no longer from God so he went to see the chief priests. "How much would you pay me for giving Jesus over to you quietly?" Judas asked the priests. The priests counted out 30 silver coins and gave them to Judas. And from then on, Judas started to look for the right moment to betray Jesus.

2. Jesus went straight to the temple. He found it full of people buying and selling doves and exchanging money for special temple coins. Jesus was angry and sent them out of the temple. "This is a place of prayer," he cried. "And you have made it a den of thieves." When the temple priests heard what he had done, they were really angry. They saw him as a real threat to their power and were more determined than ever to kill him.

4. Jesus and his disciples met for a special Passover feast. Jesus knew he would be leaving them soon. After supper, Jesus wrapped a towel around his waist and filled a bowl with water. Jesus washed and dried the disciple's feet, one by one. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, you should never wash me feet, I should wash yours." Jesus replied, "As I have washed your feet, you must wash each other's feet." By doing this, Jesus showed his friends how to love and serve each other.

5. After supper Jesus picked up a loaf of bread and blessed it. He broke it into pieces and gave it to his disciples to eat. Jesus said, "This bread is my body. Every time you do this, think of me." In the same way, he took a cup of wine and blessed it. He gave it to his disciples to drink. "This is my blood, it is poured out to forgive the sins of many. Every time you do this, think of me."

7. Soon Judas arrived with some soldiers. "The man you want is the man I kiss," he told the guards. Judas kissed Jesus on the cheek. Peter drew his sword and cut off one of the guard's ears. But Jesus healed the man's ear and allowed himself to be arrested. The guards marched him off and the disciples all ran away.

6. After the feast, Jesus went to his favourite Garden of Gethsemane to pray. He asked his disciples to keep watch but they fell asleep. He woke them up and said to them, "You will all run away and pretend you don't know before the cock crows at the end of the night." Jesus prayed, "Father, if it is your will, I am ready to give my life so that all the people who trust in me will be saved from their sins."

8. The guards took Jesus to the High Priest's house. Peter followed and joined some people around the fire. A girl asked him, "Weren't you with Jesus?" "No, I do not know him," replied Peter. A little while later, another man asked, "Weren't you a follower of Jesus?" Again, Peter said, "No." An hour later, another man said, "You come from Galilee, you must know Jesus." Again, Peter said no, and then the cock crowed and he remembered what Jesus had said. He ran away and cried.

9. Meanwhile the Jewish Council were trying to find evidence to convict Jesus and put him to death. "Are you the Son of God?" they asked him. Jesus replied, "You say that I am." "Guilty," the Council shouted. "He must die." The Jewish Council could not execute a prisoner without the permission of the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate. Pilate could find nothing that Jesus had done wrong and wanted to set him free. It was a Jewish tradition to set a prisoner free at the feast of Passover. So Pilate asked the crowds outside, "Shall I free Jesus or the robber, Barabbas?" The crowds shouted, "Crucify Jesus. Set Barabbas free." Jesus carried a large wooden cross through the streets to Golgotha. He was nailed to the cross on that Friday and given a crown of thorns to wear on his head. At 12 o'clock the sky went dark, and a shadow blocked out the sun. At 3 o'clock, Jesus died and the cloth in the temple split.

10. Joseph from Arimathea got permission from Pilate to take Jesus' body away for burial in his tomb. They wrapped Jesus' body on special cloth and covered him in spices and carried him to the tomb. A large rock was rolled over the entrance and the tomb was sealed. Two soldiers guarded the tomb. The next day was the Jewish Sabbath so no one went to the tomb on the Saturday.

11. At sunrise on the Sunday, Mary Magdalene and some women came to the tomb. When they got there, the stone had been rolled away and the soldiers had gone. Inside the women found an angel and the strips of cloth that had covered Jesus' body. "Do not be afraid," said the angel. "Jesus is not here. He is risen from the dead. Go and tell the disciples the good news." Jesus appeared to his disciples over the next few days and they knew he had risen from the dead.