

The Gospel – Mark's Report

Chapter 1 (1 - 8)

This is the story of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God

Long ago God said through the prophet Isaiah "I am going to send my messenger before you. He will prepare your way. A voice cries out in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord".

And so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

As the people were baptized by John in the river Jordan, they confessed their sins

John wore a garment of camel skin. Locusts and wild honey were his food. He said to the people "Someone is coming who is more important than I am. I am not worthy to kneel down and undo his sandal straps. I baptize you with water.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit"

Jesus, please help us prepare a way for you like John the Baptist

Chapter 1 (9 - 13)

About this time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the river Jordan. As soon as Jesus came out of the water, he saw the sky open, and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him

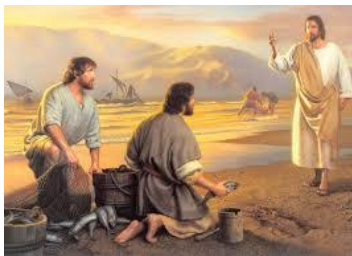
Then a voice came from heaven "You are my Son, the Beloved. My favor rests on you".
Straight after this, the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness for 40 days. During this time, Jesus was tempted by Satan

Holy Spirit, please increase your influence in my life

Chapter 1 (14 - 20)

Jesus went to Galilee and proclaimed the Good News from God. "The time has come" he said "and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News."

As he was walking along by the sea of Galilee, he saw two fishermen Simon and his brother Andrew. Jesus said to them



"Follow me and I will make you into fishers of people". Simon and Andrew then followed Jesus. Going a little further, Jesus saw two more fishermen James and his brother John. He called them also to follow him. They left their nets and boat, and followed him

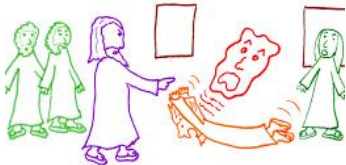
Jesus, please bless all the people who work full time as "fishers of men"

Chapter 1 (21 - 28)

Jesus and the fishermen went to the town of Capernaum. On the Sabbath Jesus began to teach in the local prayer hall

The listeners were deeply impressed by Jesus' teaching. Unlike the religious leaders, Jesus taught with authority

That very day in the prayer hall there was a man possessed by an evil spirit. The spirit shouted out "Have you come to destroy me, Jesus of Nazareth? I know who you are: the Holy One of God"



Jesus said strongly "Be quiet! Come out of him!" The evil spirit threw the man on the ground and with a loud cry went out of him.

The people in the prayer hall were amazed. They said "Here is a teaching which has authority. Even evil spirits obey him". Jesus' reputation quickly spread throughout the whole district

Jesus, Holy One of God, please protect my family from evil

Chapter 1 (29 -34)



Jesus went to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever. Jesus took her by the hand and helped her up. The fever left her, and she began to serve her visitors.

That night all the local sick people were brought to Jesus. He healed many who were suffering from all kinds of diseases. He also cast out many devils.

Jesus, please heal (..name..) who is sick

Chapter 1 (35 - 39)

The next morning, long before dawn, Jesus left the house and went off to a lonely place to pray. When Simon and the other fishermen found him, they said "Everyone is looking for you". Jesus replied "We must go to the nearby towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came"

Jesus went all through Galilee, preaching in the prayer halls and casting out devils.

Jesus, may every town on earth welcome you and hear your message

Chapter 1 (40 - 45)

A leper came to Jesus, and on his knees pleaded "If you want to, you can heal me". Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him and said "Of course I want to heal you. Be healed!" The leprosy left him at that moment and he was healed.

Jesus told the man not to tell people what had happened (in case people misunderstood Jesus' spiritual mission and tried to use him politically). But the man told everyone. Soon Jesus could not go openly into any town (for fear the crowds would become unruly). so he stayed in remote places. Even so, people from all around the district would come to him.

Jesus, please heal people who are lepers



Chapter 2 (1 - 12)

After some time Jesus returned to Capernaum. Crowds quickly gathered at the house where he was staying. While he was preaching inside the house, four men carried a paralytic on a stretcher to the front door.



They couldn't get in, because of the crowd, so they went up on the roof, took off some of the roof covering, and lowered the stretcher in front of Jesus.

Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic

"Your sins are forgiven". Some religious leaders present in the crowd thought to themselves "Who does this man think he is? Only God can forgive sins".

Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he asked them "Which is easier? To say 'Your sins are forgiven' or 'Get up and walk'? But to show you that I have authority to forgive sins, I now say, get up, pick up your stretcher and go home".

The man got up, picked up his stretcher and walked out in front of everyone. The crowd said "We have never seen anything like this"

Jesus, heal my friend (..name..) who is a paralytic

Chapter 2 (13 - 17)

Jesus went again to the Sea of Galilee.

Many people came to him and he taught them there by the sea

Near the sea he saw a tax collector Levi (Matthew) working at the customs house. Jesus said to him "Follow me". He got up and followed him

Levi gave a dinner in his house for Jesus. Sitting with Jesus were some tax collectors and "sinners". In fact Jesus' followers included many tax collectors and "sinners"



Some religious leaders asked Jesus' disciples "Why does he eat with tax collectors and 'sinners'?" Jesus himself answered them: "It is not the healthy who need the doctor, but the sick. I did not come to call the virtuous, but sinners"

**Jesus, thank you for
being a friend of people
who are rejected and despised**

Chapter 2 (23 - 28)

One Sabbath day Jesus and his disciples were walking through a cornfield

The disciples were hungry. They picked some ears of corn and ate them. Picking corn on the Sabbath was regarded as unlawful by the Pharisees. So the Pharisees said to Jesus "Your disciples are breaking the Sabbath law"

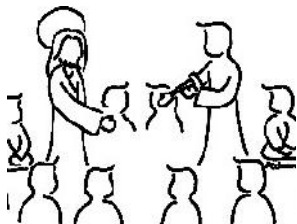


Jesus replied "Don't you remember what King David and his followers once did when they were hungry? They ate the Temple bread which only the priests were allowed to eat. Go and learn the meaning of these words 'What I want is mercy, not superficial external offerings' I am Master of the Sabbath"

Jesus, please help me understand that love is more important than law

Chapter 3 (1 - 6)

Jesus again went to a prayer hall on the Sabbath. In the hall was a man with a withered hand. The religious leaders were watching Jesus to see if he would heal on the Sabbath, hoping for something to use against him.



Jesus said to the man with the withered hand "Stand in the middle of the hall". Then he said to the religious leaders "Is it against the law on

the Sabbath to do good?"

They remained silent. Grieved that they were so obstinate, Jesus looked angrily round at them, and said to the man "Stretch out your hand". He stretched it out, and it was healed. The leaders left and began to plot how to get rid of Jesus.

Jesus, don't let my heart become obstinate

Chapter 3 (7 - 12)

Jesus went again to the Sea of Galilee. Great crowds of people from all over the country went to him. They had heard what he was doing and wanted to see him. Large crowds of sick people pushed forward, trying to touch Jesus. They had heard how he had healed so many sick people.

Jesus, please heal my friend (..name..) who is sick

Chapter 3 (13 -19)

Jesus went up a hill and called his disciples. He chose 12 of them to be his special companions. He commissioned them for preaching.

He gave them power to cast out devils.

The names of the 12: Simon, to whom he gave the name Peter; James and John, Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot the one who would betray him.

Jesus, please bless and protect all Gospel workers

Chapter 3 (20 - 21; 31 - 35)

Jesus went back to Capernaum. Such a crowd gathered that he could not even have a meal.

When his family heard about such things, they set out to take care of him, thinking that he was crazy. His mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent in a message asking for him. Jesus was told "Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside asking for you". Jesus replied "Who are my mother and brothers?" Then looking round at the people sitting in a circle about him, he said "Here are my mother and my brothers. Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother".

Jesus, please help me to do your will, even if people sometimes think I'm crazy

Chapter 4 (1 - 20)

One day Jesus told the people this story: A farmer was planting seeds in his field. Some seeds fell on



the path. Birds ate them.

Some seeds fell on rocky ground. They became sickly plants, without roots, and died.

Some seeds fell among thorns.

When they became plants,

they were choked by the

thorns. Some seeds fell on good soil and produced a rich harvest.

Jesus explained the story: People who hear God's word without good will, are like the seeds on the path. They are easy prey for Satan. People who hear God's word only superficially, are like the seeds on rocky ground. As soon as difficulties come, such people easily give up. People who hear God's word with one ear, but with the other are listening to the call of greed and pleasure, are like the seeds among thorns. Greed kills the word. People who hear God's word with good will and put it into practice, are like the good seeds which produced a rich harvest

Jesus, please help me be good seed!

Chapter 4 (35 - 41)

Jesus and his disciples got into a boat to cross the lake. Jesus was so tired that he went to sleep in the boat. A sudden storm caused big waves to lash the boat. Jesus' friends woke him up and said "Save us, Lord, we are sinking"



Jesus stood up, and ordered the wind and sea to be calm. Straight away the wind and sea were calm. Jesus' friends said to each other "Who is this? Even the wind and sea obey him".

Jesus, calm the storms in my life/family/world

Chapter 5 (25 - 34)

A large crowd gathered around Jesus near the side of the Sea of Galilee. In the crowd was a woman who had suffered from bleeding for 12 years.

She had spent all her money on doctors, but they had been unable to help her. She had heard about Jesus. She came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak. "If I can touch even his clothes, I will be healed" she said to herself. As soon as she touched Jesus' cloak, the source of the bleeding dried up at once. Aware that power had gone out from him, Jesus turned round and

said "Who touched me?" The woman fell at his feet and told her story. Jesus said "My daughter, your faith has restored you to health. Go in peace and be free from your illness".

Jesus, help sick people touch you by prayer

Chapter 5 (21 - 24; 35 - 43)

A prayer hall official, Jairus, fell at Jesus' feet and pleaded "My little daughter is dying. Please come and lay your hands on her and save her life".

While Jesus was on the way to Jairus' home, people arrived and told Jairus "Your daughter is dead. No need to trouble the Master any further"

Jesus heard this and said to Jairus "Do not be afraid. Just have faith". Jesus allowed only Peter, James and John to go with him. At Jairus' home, everyone was weeping and wailing. Jesus said to them "Why all this crying? The child is not dead, but asleep". Everyone laughed at him.

So he got them all to leave. Then taking the girl's parents and his 3 companions, he went to the place where the child was lying. Taking the girl by the hand he said to her "Little girl, I tell you to get up". The little girl got up at once. She was 12 years old.

Jesus, please give us more faith to pray for the sickeven for children who have died!

Chapter 6 (1 -6)

Jesus and his disciples went to his home town of Nazareth. On the Sabbath he went to the prayer hall and began teaching. People in the prayer hall were astonished at his teaching.

"Who does he think he is?" they asked. "He is just a carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, Joset, Jude and Simon. His sisters also are here." And they would not accept him.

So Jesus said to them "A prophet is despised only in his own country". Because of their lack of faith, Jesus cured only a few sick people there. He was amazed at the lack of faith in Nazareth.

Jesus, help me be happy about your gifts to others

Chapter 6 (7 - 13)

Jesus went on a teaching tour of the nearby villages. He sent out his 12 special friends in 6 pairs, with authority over evil spirits. He told them to take only bare essentials for the journey

He said "If any place does not welcome you, as you leave that place shake the dust from your feet as a sign to them". The 12 apostles preached repentance. They cast out many devils. They anointed sick people with oil and healed them

Jesus, may every place welcome you and your messengers

Chapter 6 (17 - 29)

Not long after Jesus began traveling and teaching, King Herod arrested John the Baptist and put him in prison. This was because John had told Herod he was breaking the Law by living with Herodias, his brother's wife. During a birthday party for Herod, the daughter of Herodias danced. Her dancing so pleased Herod that he said he would give her anything she wanted. Herodias told her to ask for the head of John the Baptist on a dish. Herod then had John beheaded.

Jesus, protect people from bad leaders like Herod

Chapter 6 (30 - 44)

Once after Jesus had been healing and teaching many people all afternoon, his disciples said to him "It's getting late and the people need to go and eat".

Jesus replied "They don't need to go. *You* feed them". The disciples replied "We have only 5 loaves and 2 fish". Jesus got the people to sit on the grass. There were about 20,000 of them. Then he blessed the loaves and fish. He handed the loaves and fish to his disciples. His disciples gave them to the crowd. Everyone had plenty to eat. They even had 12 baskets of leftovers.

Jesus, please help the starving people of the world

Chapter 6 (45 - 52)

After feeding the crowd with 5 loaves and 2 fish, Jesus told his disciples to go by boat across the nearby lake. Jesus stayed to send the crowds away. Then he went up into the hills to pray. When it was dark, the boat was far from land, but battling large waves caused by a strong head-wind.

Jesus then walked on the water towards the boat. He called out to his disciples

"Courage. It is I. Don't be afraid."

Then he got into the boat, and the wind stopped.

Jesus, please give me courage by helping me remember that you are in my boat (my life)

Chapter 6 (53 - 56)

When Jesus got out of the boat on the other side of the lake, people recognized him and news of his presence spread quickly.

From all around that area, sick people were brought to him.

Wherever he went, to village or town or farm, they laid down the sick in open spaces, begging him to let them touch even the fringe of his cloak. All those who touched him were healed

Jesus, please heal my sick friends (..names..) by letting them, through prayer, touch your clothing

Chapter 7 (1 - 23)

Some religious leaders asked Jesus "Why do your disciples ignore many external practices of our religion?"

Jesus answered, with the words of the prophet Isaiah: "This people honors me with external lip-service, while their hearts are far from me". Jesus also said "It's not certain foods or lack of washing that makes a person unclean.

It's evil in the heart that makes a person unclean. Evil intentions like murder, adultery, fornication, theft, perjury, slander. These are the things that make a person unclean".

Jesus, please clean my heart

Chapter 7 (24 - 30)

Jesus went to the district of Tyre. A foreign woman fell at his feet and begged him to expel a devil from her daughter. Jesus said "The children (= Jews) should be fed first. It's not right to give the children's food to the house dogs (= foreigners)". She replied "Ah yes, Sir, but the house dogs under the table can eat the children's scraps". Jesus said to her "For expressing such great faith, you can go home happy. The devil has gone out of your daughter". She went home and found the child lying on a bed, and the devil gone.

Jesus, please give sick people more faith in you

Chapter 7 (31 - 37)

Jesus traveled through the area south of the Sea of Galilee. A deaf man with a speech impediment was brought to him. Jesus took the man aside in private, away from the crowd. He put his fingers into the man's ears and put spittle



on his tongue. Then he prayed and said "Be opened". The man's ears were opened and his speech became normal. The people said "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak".

Jesus, heal (..name..) who is "deaf and dumb"

Chapter 8 (22 - 26)

In the village of Bethsaida, a blind man was brought to Jesus. His friends begged Jesus to touch him. Jesus took the man by the hand and led him outside the town. Jesus put spittle on the man's eyes and placed his hands on the man's eyes. "Can you see anything?" asked Jesus. The man was starting to see and replied "I can see people. They look like trees, but they are walking about". Jesus then placed his hands on the man's eyes again, and he saw clearly. He was healed and could see everything clearly.

Jesus, heal my friend (..name..) who is blind

Chapter 8 (27 - 38)

One day Jesus asked his disciples "Who do people say I am?" The disciples replied "Some say you are one of the famous prophets". Jesus then asked them "And who do *you* say I am?" Peter answered "You are the Christ". Jesus then explained to them how he must go to Jerusalem to suffer, die and rise from the dead. He also said "If you want to be my disciple, you must deny yourself, take up your own cross, and follow me. Selfishness will ruin your life. Self-sacrificing will bless your life. What use is it to have everything in this world yet miss out on Heaven?"

**Jesus, please help me find my life
by losing it in service of others**

Chapter 9 (1 - 8)

One day Jesus took his disciples Peter, James and John up a high mountain. On the mountain Jesus' whole appearance changed. His face shone like the sun. His clothes were as white as snow. Moses and Elijah appeared and spoke with him. Peter said to Jesus "Lord, how good it is for us to be here!" Then a bright cloud covered them with its shadow. From the cloud came a voice: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." The disciples bowed to the ground. When they got up, they saw only Jesus in his normal appearance.

Jesus, how good it is to spend time with you

Chapter 9 (14 - 29)

A man brought his son to Jesus and pleaded: "Master, there is a spirit of dumbness in my son. When it takes hold of him, it throws him to the ground, and he foams at the mouth and goes rigid". They brought the boy. As soon as the spirit saw Jesus it threw the boy into convulsions. Jesus asked the father "How long has this been happening?" He replied "From childhood... please help us". Jesus said "Everything is possible if you have faith". The father cried out "Please increase my faith!" Jesus rebuked the evil spirit: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again". The spirit came out, but the boy seemed to have died. Jesus took him by the hand and helped him up. Jesus' disciples asked "Why were we unable to expel that spirit?" Jesus replied "Only prayer can drive out that kind of spirit"

**Jesus, please help me pray better,
so that I can help other people more**

Chapter 9 (33 - 35)

One day Jesus heard his disciples arguing about which one of them was the most important. So he said to them "If you want to be No. 1, you must become No. 1,000 and a servant of everyone else"

**Jesus, help world leaders care more about
their people than about themselves**

Chapter 9 (38 - 41)

Jesus' apostle John, said "Master, we saw a man who is not one of our group, casting out devils in your name. Because he was not one of us, we tried to stop him". Jesus said "You must not stop him. No one who works a miracle in my name is going to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us, is for us. In fact, even someone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to me, will be rewarded".

Jesus, please help me stop dividing people into "us and them"

Chapter 10 (1 - 12)

One day some religious leaders put Jesus to the test by asking him "Is it against the Law of Moses for a man to divorce his wife?" Jesus replied "God created male and female, for the two to become united as one body. What God has united, no one should separate."



The religious leaders then asked "But why did Moses allow divorce?"

Jesus replied "Moses allowed divorce because people were so hard of heart. But divorce was not God's plan. So I say to you, anyone who walks out on their partner and marries someone else, is guilty of adultery".

Jesus, please help married people stay together

Chapter 10 (13 - 16) & Chapter 9 (37 & 42)

Some people brought their little children to Jesus. They hoped Jesus would put his hands on the children and bless them. Jesus' disciples told the people to go away and not bother Jesus. But Jesus said "Don't stop the little children from coming to me". Then he put his hands on



them and blessed them. Jesus also said "Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me. But anyone who causes scandal to one of these little ones, commits a great crime"

Jesus, please help all children to know you from their earliest days. Please don't let parents prevent children from coming to you. Please heal children who have been scandalized by adults

Chapter 10 (17 - 27)

A young man asked Jesus "Master, what do I have to do to get to Heaven?"

Jesus replied "Keep the commandments: do not kill; do not commit adultery; honor your father and mother; care for others as much as you care about yourself".

The young man said "I have kept all these commandments. What else do I need to do?"

Jesus said "If you want to do something really special with your life, go and sell all your possessions, give the money to the poor, then come and follow me as one of my disciples"

When the young man heard these words, he went away sad, because he was very rich

Jesus then said to his disciples
"It is hard for a rich person to get to Heaven".

Jesus, please don't let riches endanger my eternal life



Chapter 10 (28 - 30)

On behalf of all the disciples, Peter asked Jesus
"What about us? We have left everything to follow you."

Jesus replied

"You will be leaders in the church on earth.
Anyone who has left home, family or country for the sake of my name, will receive a 100-fold blessing in this life,
and will also receive eternal life in Heaven."

Jesus, please bless all Gospel workers

Chapter 10 (35 -45)

The brothers James and John were two of Jesus' disciples. One day their mother said to Jesus "When you become king, allow my sons to sit at your right and left". Jesus said to James and John "Only my Father in heaven can allocate seats on my right and left"

The 10 other disciples were angry at James and John for seeking honor. So Jesus said to them all "In most places, people in power like to dominate and control others. But this is not to be your way of exercising authority.

You must exercise authority by serving others, not dominating them, just I came not to be served, but to serve, and to give my life as a ransom for the world"

Jesus, please help me want to help and serve other people, not dominate and control them

Chapter 10 (46 - 52)

As Jesus was leaving Jericho on his way to Jerusalem, many people followed him along the road. Sitting by the road was a man who had become blind.

When he heard that Jesus was going past, he called out "Son of David, have pity on me".

Some people tried to stop him from calling out, but he shouted even more loudly "Son of David, have pity on me". Jesus stopped and said to him "What do you want me to do for you?"

He replied "Lord, let me see again". Jesus said to him "Go, your faith has saved you". Immediately his sight returned, and he followed Jesus along the road

Jesus, please heal my blind friend (..name..)

Chapter 11 (1 - 11)



Jesus sat on a donkey colt for the trip down the hill from the Mount of Olives into the city of Jerusalem. Big crowds accompanied Jesus down the hill. People spread their clothes on the road as a sign of honor. People cut branches from the

trees and waved them singing "Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!"

Jesus, may you be warmly welcomed by every place and every person in the world

Chapter 11 (15 - 19)

When Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, he went to the Temple. In the Temple there were money changers and people selling pigeons.

Jesus tipped over their tables and drove them out of the Temple. He said to them "My house is a house of prayer



for all the peoples of the world, but you have turned it into a place for robbery"

Jesus, protect all places of prayer from corruption

Chapter 12 (28 - 30)

In Jerusalem a religious leader asked Jesus "Which is the most important commandment?" Jesus replied "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart. And you must care as much about others as you care about yourself.

These are the two most important commandments. All other commandments depend on these two"

Jesus, please help me love you with all my heart and care for others as much as I care about myself

Chapter 12 (38 - 40)



Jesus told the people to beware of religious leaders who like to walk about in long robes, who like to be greeted obsequiously in the market places, who like to take the places of honor at prayer halls and banquets, who steal the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers

Jesus, help religious leaders to be good people

Chapter 12 (41 - 44)

Jesus sat down in the Temple area and noticed people putting money into a donation box to help the poor. Many rich people put in a lot of money. A poor widow put in two small coins.

Jesus said to his disciples

"That poor widow has donated more than all the other people, for they put in money they had left over, but she put in the only money she had"

Jesus, please make me more generous in helping poor people

Chapter 13 (1 - 37)

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the future:
"On account of my name you will be hated,
tortured and killed. But the Good News of the
kingdom will spread to every nation
before the end of the world.

At the end of the world, the sun and moon will
stop shining. Stars will fall from the sky.
Then my sign will appear in the sky, and all
peoples will see me coming on the clouds with
power and glory.

I will send my angels with a loud trumpet
to gather good people from all parts of the earth.
Therefore you should live a good life, and you
will have nothing to fear on your last day"

**Jesus, please help me to live and grow and die
in your love....and not be afraid of death**

Chapter 14 (1- 11)

Two days before the Passover festival,
the religious leaders kept looking for a way
to arrest Jesus and have him put to death.
During these days Jesus had a meal at the home
of Simon the leper. At the meal, a woman put
expensive burial oil on Jesus' head. The woman
understood that Jesus was soon to die.

One of Jesus' 12 apostles, Judas Iscariot, went to the religious leaders and offered to help them arrest Jesus at a convenient time. The leaders promised to give Judas money. Judas looked for an opportunity to arrange the arrest.

Jesus, forgive me for the times when I have not been faithful to you and your teaching

Chapter 14 (17 - 25)

On Passover Eve, Jesus ate a last meal with his apostles. While they were eating, Jesus told them he knew he would be betrayed by one of them. He told Judas he knew he was the betrayer. Then Jesus took some bread, blessed it and gave it to his apostles saying "This is my body". Then he took a cup of wine, blessed it and gave it to them saying "This is my blood"



Jesus, please help me understand how bread and wine become your body and blood when Christians celebrate the Eucharist

Chapter 14 (26 - 42)

After the meal, Jesus said to his apostles "Tonight all of you will desert me". Peter said "I will never desert you". Jesus replied "Tonight before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times". They came to a place with olive trees called Gethsemane. Jesus asked Peter, James and John to pray with him

Jesus was overcome with sadness and fear. He said to them "Sadness is filling my heart, as if my heart is dying. Please support me as I pray". Then he fell on his face and prayed for about an hour: "Father, don't let this suffering continue. But your will be done"



He stood up and found that the apostles were asleep. He said to them "Couldn't you stay awake one hour to support me?" Three times he prayed the same way. Three times the apostles went to sleep. Then he said "Get ready. The one who is betraying me is coming"

Jesus, please help me give more time to prayer

Chapter 14 (43 - 52)

While Jesus was still speaking, Judas arrived. Judas had with him a large crowd of men with swords and clubs, sent by the religious leaders. Judas had told these men "The one I kiss is the man. Take him". So Judas went to Jesus and said "Teacher" and kissed him. The men then seized Jesus. Jesus said to them "Am I a robber that you needed to capture me with swords and



clubs? Day after day I was openly teaching in the Temple". All the apostles then deserted him and ran away.

Jesus, when I am being treated unfairly by other people, please give me strength

Chapter 14 (53 - 65)

The men who arrested Jesus took him to a meeting of the religious leaders. The leaders wanted to condemn Jesus to death, even if they had to use false evidence. Jesus remained silent before their accusations. Then the main leader challenged Jesus: "Are you the Saviour, the Son of God?" Jesus replied "I am". The leader then called out "We have heard him claim to be of Divine origin. This is blasphemy". The rest of the leaders shouted "He should die".



Then they spat in Jesus' face and hit him with their fists.

Jesus, thank you for submitting yourself to insult and spittle for the salvation of

the world

Chapter 14 (66 - 72)

Peter went to the place where the religious leaders had Jesus on trial. A young woman in the courtyard of the place said to him "You were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth". Peter replied "I don't know what you're talking about". Peter went to the gateway of the place. The woman saw him again and said to people around her "This man is one of them". Peter denied it.

Not long after this a group of people said to Peter "You are his friend. We can tell by your Galilean accent". Then Peter even more strongly replied "I do not know the man".

At that very moment, a rooster crowed. Peter remembered Jesus' words "Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times". Peter then wept loudly.



Jesus, please help me not to deny you. Give me courage to say "I am a Christian"

Chapter 15 (1 - 15)

Early in the morning, the religious leaders had Jesus bound with ropes. They took him to Pilate, the Roman governor. The leaders accused Jesus of many crimes. To the governor's amazement, Jesus remained silent. The leaders persuaded the crowd to demand the execution of Jesus. They called out to Pilate "Crucify him". Pilate asked "Why? What has he done wrong?" The crowd shouted all the louder "Crucify him. Crucify him". Giving in to the crowd, Pilate then ordered Jesus to be scourged and crucified.

Jesus, help people who are condemned to death

Chapter 15 (16 - 20)

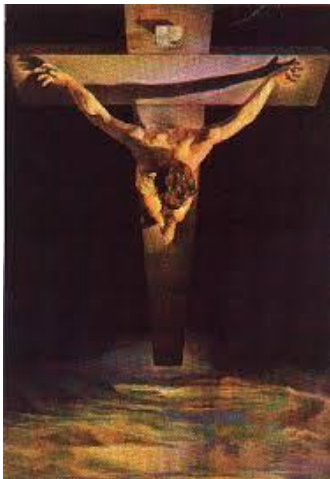
After the Roman soldiers scourged Jesus, they made fun of him. They put a purple cloak on him. They made a crown out of thorns and put it on his head. They knelt in front of him and mocked him saying "Hail, king of the Jews". They hit his head with a reed, and spat on him. When they had finished making fun of him, they dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.

Jesus, please don't let me hurt other people by making fun of them



Chapter 15 (21 - 32)

As Jesus was taken to the place of crucifixion, a man named Simon, from Cyrene, was made to carry Jesus' cross. Sometime after 9am, Jesus was nailed to the cross. Two robbers were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left



Above Jesus' head was a sign with the charge against him. The sign said "The King of the Jews"

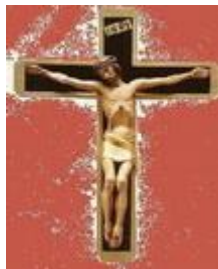
People passing by that place made fun of Jesus. So did the religious leaders. They mocked and taunted him

Jesus on the Cross, thank you for suffering so much for the salvation of the world

Chapter 15 (33 - 39)

Jesus was put on the cross sometime after 9am. From about noon until 3pm there was darkness over all the land. About 3pm Jesus cried out the words of Psalm 22: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

A little while later he again cried out in a loud voice. Then he died. At that moment the holy curtain in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The leader of the Roman soldiers who crucified Jesus, when he saw how Jesus died, said "Truly this man was a son of God"



Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross for the salvation of the world

Chapter 15 (42 - 47)

Joseph from Arimathaea was a rich man who had become a disciple of Jesus. After Jesus died on Friday, he asked Governor Pilate for Jesus' body

Joseph wrapped the body in a clean burial cloth and put it in a tomb in a rock cave. He then put a



large stone at the cave's entrance. Mary of Magdala and another woman watched Joseph as he put Jesus' body in the tomb

Jesus in the tomb, please give eternal life to everyone who dies today

Chapter 16 (1 - 8)

Jesus died on Friday afternoon. Early on Sunday morning, Mary of Magdala and two other women went to Jesus' tomb to anoint his body with spices

They had been wondering how they would roll away the large stone, but when they arrived, the stone had already been rolled away

When they went into the tomb, they saw a young man in a white robe, and they were full of awe

But he said to them "Do not be afraid. You are looking for Jesus who was crucified



He is not here. He has risen from the dead. Go and tell his disciples he will see them in Galilee"

Jesus, when life seems hopeless, like a dead body in a tomb, please help us remember how you rose from the dead....and you can help us "rise" from any "hopeless" situation

Chapter 16 (9 - 20)

After he rose from the dead, Jesus appeared first to Mary of Magdala, from whom he had cast out seven devils. Next he appeared to two of his disciples while they were on a journey. Then he appeared to the eleven apostles. He said to them



"Go everywhere in the world. Proclaim the Good News to all creation. Anyone who believes and is baptized, will be saved. Anyone who

refuses to believe, will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers:

- in my name they will cast out devils
- they will have the gift of tongues
- they will pick up snakes in their hands
- they will be unharmed if they drink poison
- they will lay their hands on the sick, who will be healed".

And so, the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up to heaven, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming their message by the miracles that accompanied the message

**Lord Jesus, may more and more people
all over the world believe in you**