

Interactive story

Session Four – Passion (An Easter story)

Bold text – Narrator

(Bracketed Italics) – everyone to join in

This interactive story works best with big groups. Start by teaching the group the interactive bits in brackets. When you get to them in the script, repeat them 2 to 3 times.

Have fun and be creative; you may wish to teach some volunteers ahead of time to help you tell the story. It's up to you. You're in charge!

Noisy. That's how it started. Jesus and his friends were together, chatting and eating a meal.

(Everyone makes chattering, incoherent crowd sounds or munching, eating sounds. Or both, if you like!)

And then, suddenly, Jesus said something very troubling, and everything went quiet.

(Everyone goes SHHHH)

"Tomorrow I must die," he said. "And one of you, sitting here, will turn me over to my enemies."

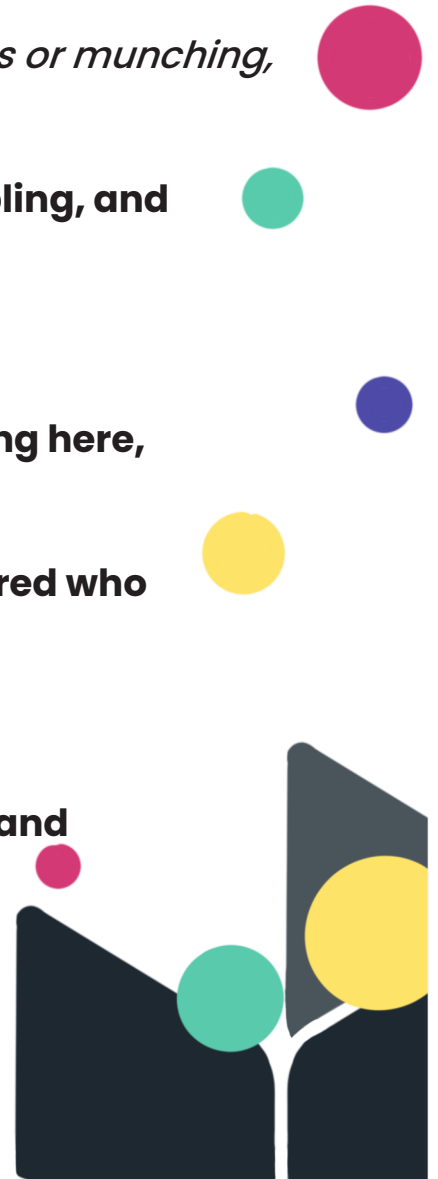
And then things got noisy again, as everyone wondered who it was.

(Everyone says, noisily "Is it me? Is it me?")

But when Judas said, "Is it me?" Jesus nodded sadly and whispered, "You have said it."

Then he took a piece of bread and broke it.

"This is my body." He said. "I give it for you.



Remember me, when you eat it."

And when everyone had eaten the bread, Jesus picked up a cup of wine.

"This is my blood," he said. "Poured out so that everything anyone has ever done wrong can be forgiven."

And when they had drunk the wine, they all left that place and walked together to a garden.

Everyone was quiet again.

(Everyone goes SHHHH)

Jesus took Peter and James and John to a quiet spot. "I'm going to pray," he said. "Stay here and watch."

(Everyone makes a praying hands motion)

"I know what has to happen tomorrow, Father." Jesus prayed. "If there is some other way, please show it to me. Otherwise, I am prepared to do what you have asked of me."

But it was so quiet that Peter and James and John fell asleep

(Everyone makes a snoring sound.)

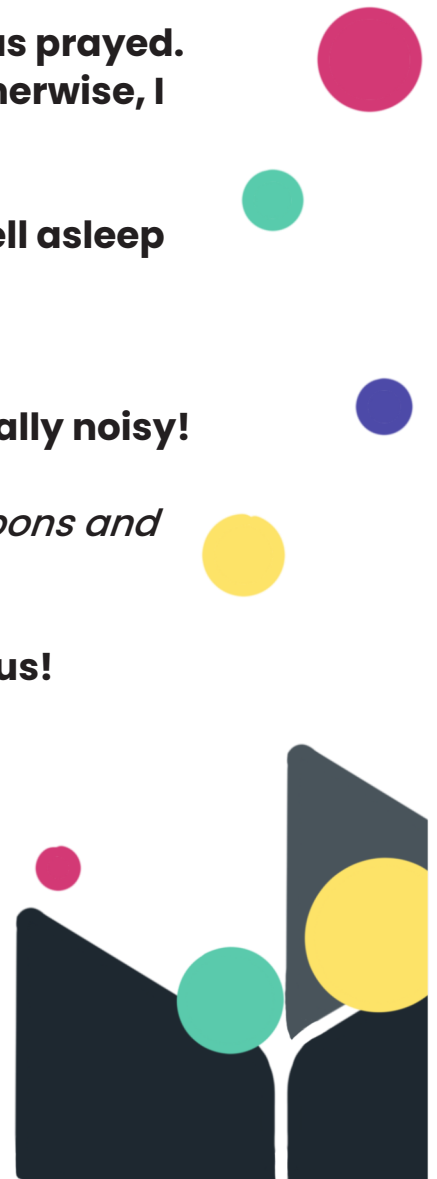
And then, suddenly, everything was noisy again! Really noisy!

(Everyone wave their arms like they are waving weapons and make ugly shouting sounds)

Men, sent by the high priest, had come to arrest Jesus!

Judas kissed him on the cheek so the men would know exactly which man to arrest.

Peter took out a sword and swung it around, but all he managed to do was to slice off the ear of one of the high priest's servants.



“Put it away,” said Jesus. “Now is not the time for fighting. I need to go with these men.”

And things just got noisier from there.

Jesus was dragged before the high priest and put on trial.

(Everyone wave fists and make ugly shouting sounds)

Witnesses told lies about him

(More fist waving and shouting)

And when Jesus admitted that he was the Son Of God, the high priest tore his robe in anger.

(Everyone makes a big noisy ripping sound)

The guards spat at Jesus and hit him hard

(More fist waving and ugly shouting)

And when that was over, they sent him to the Roman Governor Pilate, to be sentenced to death. Pilate questioned Jesus. But Jesus was silent.

(Everyone goes SHHHH).

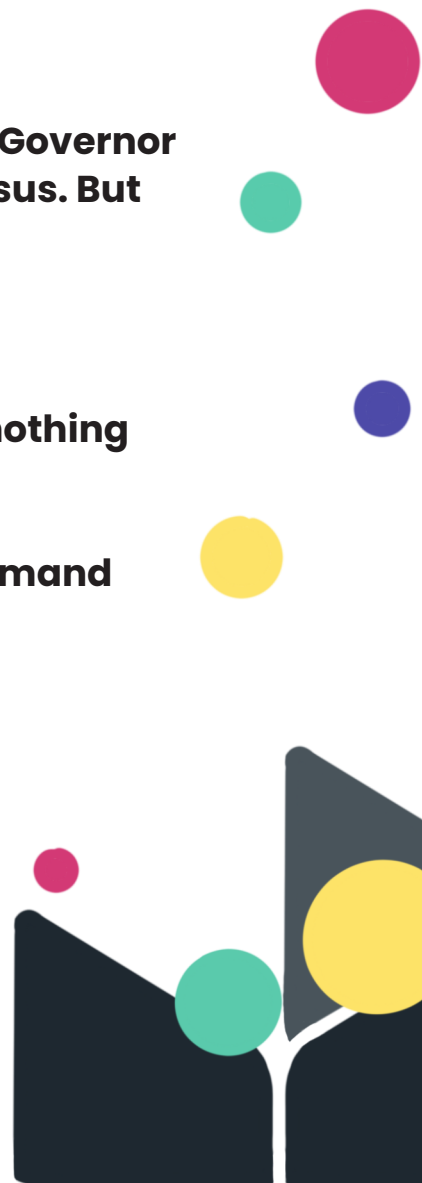
“This man should not die,” Pilate said. “He has done nothing wrong.

But the high priest’s men whipped up the crowd to demand Jesus’ execution.

(Everyone waves fist and shouts, “Crucify Him!”)

And it was so noisy and so scary that Pilate gave in to the crowd and ordered his men to put Jesus to death.

And then one awful noisy thing followed another.



The Roman soldiers laughed at Jesus.

(Everyone laughs)

The beat him and put a crown of thorns on his head and dressed him in a robe. And mocked him, saying, "Hail, the King of the Jews."

Then they put a wooden cross in his back and led him up a hill called The Skull. Some people cried when they saw him like that. But others shouted.

(Everyone shouts again)

When they reached the top of the hill, they nailed Jesus' hands and feet to the cross. Bang bang bang.

Then they stood that cross in the ground, like a tree, for all to see. And still the noise went on. People made fun of Jesus and mocked him

(More shouting)

But up on the cross, as he hung there, things went strangely quiet.

(Everyone goes SHHHHH)

Jesus comforted a dying thief.

(SHHH)

And he comforted his mum, too.

(SHHHH)

And even though they didn't realise it, he comforted the very people who were killing him.

(SHHHH)

"Father, forgive them," he whispered. "They don't know what they're doing."



The sky turned black. The rain fell. And finally, it happened,

(SHHHH)

"It's finished," Jesus said. And there, on that cross, he died.

"It is finished,"?

Three days passed. And for Jesus' friends, all was quiet. All was sad.

(Shhhhh).

But when some of the women went to his tomb, to put spices on his dead body, things got noisy again!

There was an earthquake!

(Everyone goes boom!)

There were angels.

(Everyone screams AAAAAAH!)

And when the angels spoke, it wasn't in a whisper. No, it was with a shout of joy.

"Jesus is not here. He is alive, Go and tell his friends to meet him!"

(Everyone shouts Hooray!)

