

The Easter Story



A plain English version
in words and pictures

Who is in the Easter story?

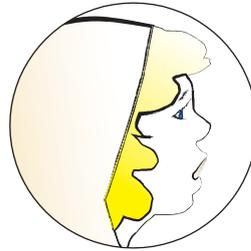
- 1 The devil tempts Jesus
- 2 Jesus does God's work
- 3 Jesus rides into Jerusalem
- 4 Judas helps the leaders
- 5 The Last Supper
- 6 Judas takes the soldiers to Jesus
- 7 Pilate asks Jesus some questions
- 8 Jesus dies on the cross
- 9 Jesus rises from the dead
- 10 Two more friends see that Jesus is alive
- 11 Jesus goes up to heaven
- 12 God's Spirit comes to the disciples



Jesus



Mary, Jesus' Mother



Mary Magdalene



The angels



Pilate



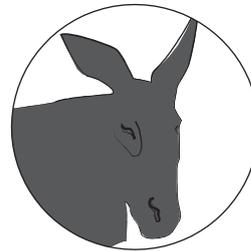
The devil



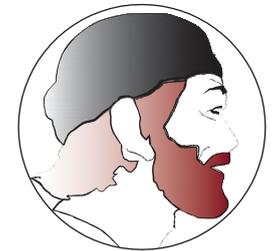
Disciples



Soldiers



The donkey



Judas



The people



The leaders

1 The devil tempts Jesus

Matthew 4
Mark 1, Luke 4



Jesus went to a far and empty place so that he could prepare to do God's work.

At that time, he did not eat, so he was very hungry. The devil came and showed him some stones and said, "If you are the Son of God, change those stones into bread so that you can eat".

The devil was trying to tempt Jesus to listen to him, to do as he said – not God. But Jesus told him, "You should not tempt me like this. Do not tell me what to do. I only listen to God and I only do as God tells me".



The devil

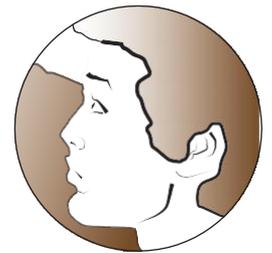


Jesus

**Who is in the
Easter story?**

2 Jesus does God's work

Matthew 4, Mark 1-10
Luke 4, John 2



The people



The people



Jesus

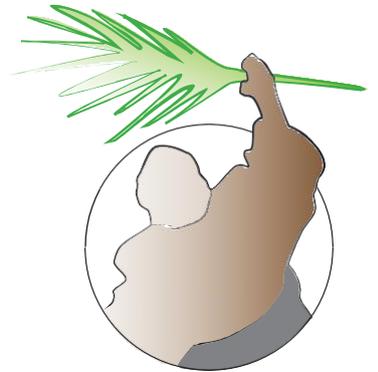
Jesus went throughout Galilee teaching the people, and telling them the good news that God loves them. He taught them how they should live and how they should behave by telling them stories. Jesus taught them how to pray, and he taught them the Golden Rule: 'Do for others what you would want them to do for you.'

He spent his time curing every disease and every sickness among the people. News of Jesus spread throughout the country, and they brought to him all the sick, those who had diseases and pains, those who were blind and deaf and those who were paralysed.

**Who is in the
Easter story?**

3 Jesus rides into Jerusalem

Matthew 21, Mark 11
Luke 19, John 12



The people



The donkey



Jesus

Who is in the
Easter story?

Jesus went into a big city called Jerusalem riding on a donkey. The people were very happy because of the wonderful things they had heard about Jesus.

They waved palm leaves and shouted, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord". But not everybody was happy. The leaders did not want Jesus to be treated like a King. They hated him.

4 Judas helps the leaders

Matthew 26, Mark 14
Luke 22, John 13



Jesus had twelve very close friends, who followed him and learned from him. They were called his disciples. One of them was called Judas. He knew that the leaders hated Jesus and wanted to arrest him.

Judas went to the leaders and asked them “What will you give me if I help you arrest Jesus?” The leaders were very happy and promised to give him money. Judas agreed. He went back to join the other disciples.



The leaders



Judas

**Who is in the
Easter story?**

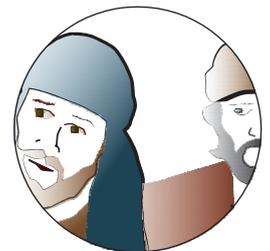
5 The Last Supper

Matthew 26, Mark 14,
Luke 22, John 13



Jesus and the disciples went to a house in the city and sat down to eat their last meal together. Jesus thanked God for the bread and wine and shared them with the disciples.

Jesus took the bread and said, "This is my body" and he took the wine and said, "This is my blood". Jesus told them to do this in the future, and when they do, to remember him.



Disciples



Jesus

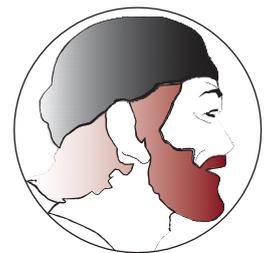
**Who is in the
Easter story?**

6 Judas takes the soldiers to Jesus

Matthew 26, Mark 14
Luke 22, John 18



Soldiers



Judas



Jesus

After their last supper together, Jesus and the disciples went to a garden where Jesus could pray.

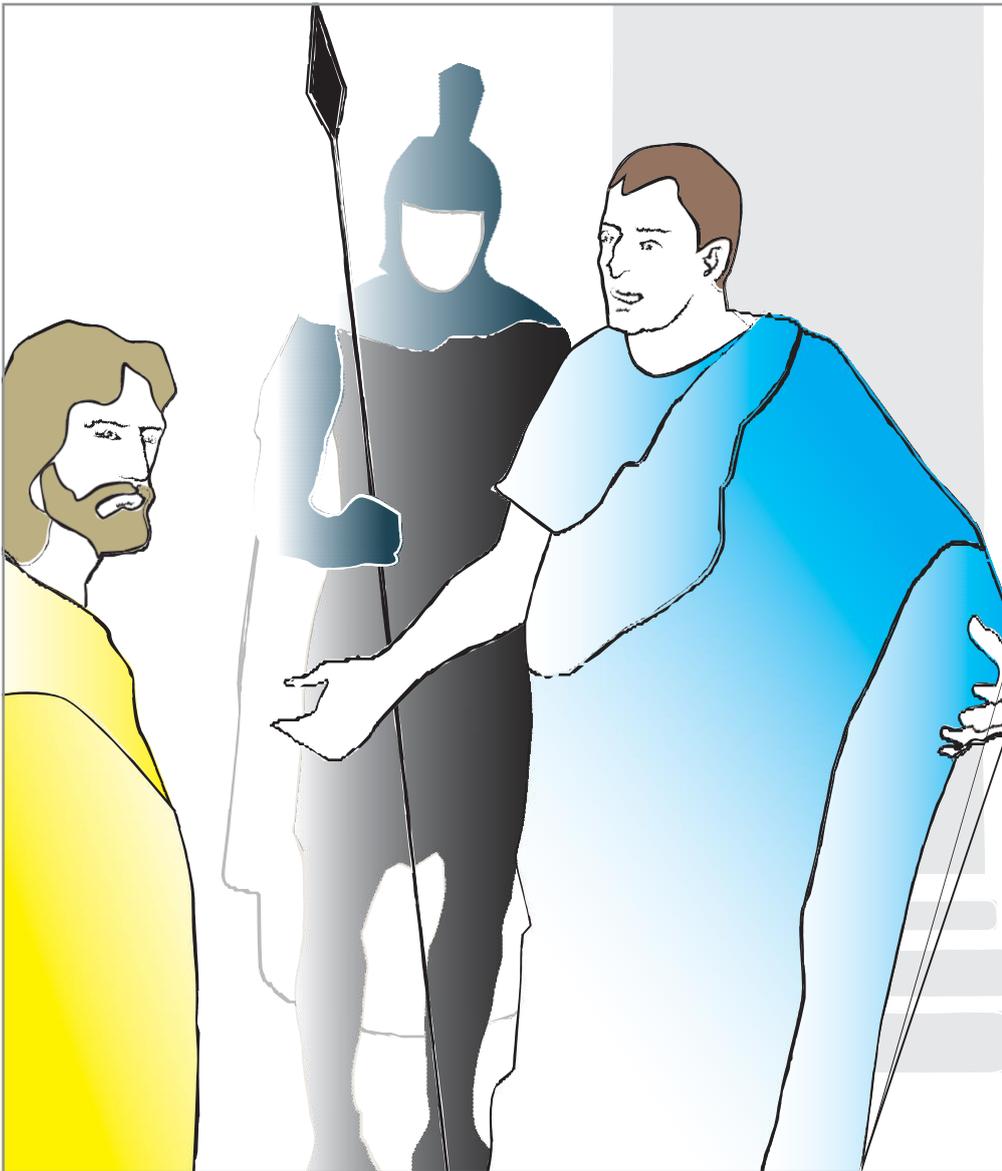
While they were in the garden some soldiers arrived. The soldiers had been sent by the leaders.

Judas led the soldiers to Jesus and Judas kissed Jesus. This was the sign to the soldiers that this was Jesus. Then the soldiers arrested Jesus and took him away.

Who is in the Easter story?

7 Pilate asks Jesus some questions

Matthew 27, March 15
Luke 23, John 18



The man in charge of Jerusalem was called Pilate. The soldiers took Jesus to Pilate, and Pilate asked if Jesus was really the King of the Jews. Jesus said, "This is what you say".

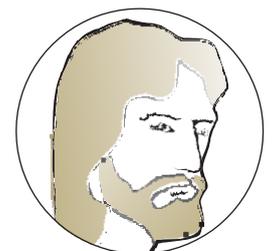
Pilate wanted to let Jesus go. He didn't find Jesus guilty but the people had turned against Jesus and wanted to kill him by nailing him to a cross made of wood.



Soldiers



Pilate



Jesus

**Who is in the
Easter story?**

8 Jesus dies on the cross

Matthew 27, Mark 15
Luke 23, John 18



Mary, Jesus' mother



Soldiers



Jesus

The soldiers put a sign over Jesus' head that said, "King of the Jews". Because kings wear crowns the soldiers made some thorns into the shape of a crown and they put the crown of thorns on Jesus' head.

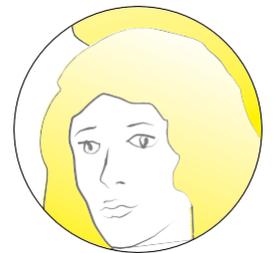
The soldiers then nailed Jesus to a cross made of wood. Mary, Jesus' mother, and John, his beloved disciple, watched what was happening from a distance.

Even though it was the middle of the day, it became as dark as night and the ground shook very hard – and Jesus died. Jesus' disciples put Jesus' body into a cave and rolled a huge stone across the entrance so that nobody could get in or out.

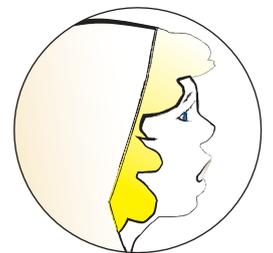
**Who is in the
Easter story?**

9 Jesus rises from the dead

Matthew 28, Mark 16
Luke 24, John 20



The angels



Mary Magdalene

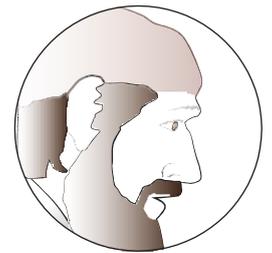
**Who is in the
Easter story?**

On the third day, Jesus' friend Mary, who came from a place called Magdala, went to where they had put Jesus' dead body. She saw two angels wearing shining white clothes and they told her that Jesus was not there because he had risen from the dead.

Then Jesus came up to Mary. She did not recognise him at first. Mary only realised it was Jesus when he spoke to her, saying, "Go tell the disciples I have been raised from the dead. I am going now to Galilee where you will all see me".

10 Two more friends see that Jesus is alive

Luke 24



Disciples

On the same day, two of Jesus' friends were walking to another village about seven miles away and a stranger joined them. His friends didn't realise it was Jesus when he talked to them about all that had happened those last few days.

When they got to the village, the disciples invited the stranger to stay with them. They sat down together for a meal – and when Jesus blessed the bread and wine, they finally realised that the stranger was Jesus and that he was really alive again.



Disciples



Jesus

**Who is in the
Easter story?**

11 Jesus goes up to heaven

Acts 1:9, Luke 24:50
Mark 16:19



Disciples



Disciples



Jesus

**Who is in the
Easter story?**

Jesus led the disciples out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing the disciples, Jesus moved away from them.

As the disciples were watching, Jesus was lifted, and a cloud took him away out of the disciples' sight and the disciples continued to gaze up towards heaven.

The disciples went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere and they remembered that Jesus had told them that he would be with them.

12 God's Spirit comes to the disciples

Acts 2, John 14



Disciples



Disciples



Disciples

**Who is in the
Easter story**

The disciples remembered that Jesus had told them: that the Holy Spirit would come when he was gone, that the Holy Spirit would teach them what to say.

On the day they celebrated Pentecost, the disciples heard a loud noise and felt a strong wind and there were tongues of fire resting on each of them and they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

The disciples all started speaking in different languages so that the people, who had come from different countries, could understand what they were saying. The disciples told the people about Jesus and the Good News message spread all over the world. Christians still tell the same message today.

