



### **STATION 1 - TRIAL**

*Jesus stands all alone. Nobody speaks up for him. Nobody helps defend him.*

*He devoted his entire life to helping others, listening to the smallest ones, caring for those who were ignored by others, they don't seem to remember that as they shout at him, tell lies about him and hurt him.*

*And even though his heart is breaking and his body hurts Jesus is silent, he knows he is not alone, that God is with him.*

#### **Prayer**

**God our friend and companion, sometimes we feel alone.**

**Sometimes we feel that others don't stand up for us and defend us when we are afraid.**

**Sometimes we don't feel like we are treated fairly.**

**Help us to remember we are not alone that you are always with us.**

**Help us to accept criticism and unfairness as you did, and not complain.**

Everyone has a small paper heart to gently tear as they think about their own time of heart break and remember how God is always with us.

### **STATION 2 - THE CROSS**

*When the soldiers put a big heavy cross on Jesus shoulders, Jesus doesn't fight with them or say angry words to them. His body is weak he knows that he has to carry this cross a long way, and that the walk will be hard for him at times. But Jesus knows God is with him and he asks God to help him to carry this cross, even though it is heavy.*

#### **Prayer**

**Heavenly Father, sometimes we don't like the problems that come our way.**

**Sometimes we try to get others to take care of them or solve them for us.**

**Sometimes we become upset and grumpy, even when we are asked to do the smallest thing to help ourselves.**

**Help us Lord to remember that we can share our problems with you, that you will help us to shoulder the load. Amen**

***Ribbons: take a purple ribbon to represent your problems tie it to the cross***

### **STATION 3 – SIMON OF CYRENE**

*The soldiers are becoming impatient. This is taking longer than they wanted it to. They are afraid Jesus won't make it to the hill where he will be crucified. As Jesus body grows tired and weak, they look for a strong man in the crowd and make him carry your cross. He was just watching what was happening, but all of a sudden he is helping Jesus to carry his cross.*

#### **Prayer**

**Lord, sometimes people suddenly need our help.**

**We can pretend not to see or to hear them.**

**We can disappear into the crowd when we know other people could use our help.**

**As your children make us willing to support other people. Amen**

***Small wooden or pipe cleaner People. Who is this person who may need you, they may be a stranger they may be someone you ignore or dislike even someone who usually helps you? Carry them with you this weekend***

### **STATION 4 – CRUCIFIXION**

*How much Jesus hurts as the soldiers nail him to the cross. His heart is breaking; he is tired and thirsty; he knows he is going to die. But he looks at the people who have hurt him and instead of saying bad things to those people, Jesus asks God to forgive them. He looks at his mother and his friend he asks them to take care of each other. Even when he is dying, Jesus is thinking of other people.*

## **Prayer**

**Lord, I confess, sometimes I hurt others. Sometimes I choose not to like someone because of how they dress or the way they speak. I cause other people pain by what I say and do even without thinking. Help me look again at the people around me.**

**Help me see the hurt and pain I have caused in others.**

**Forgive me and help me make amends for the harm I have done. Amen**

*Bubbles – as we blow the bubbles look for the rainbow. This reminds us that God forgives us even when the bad things we do really hurt him.*

*Jesus knew that God was with him even in sad and painful places, even in death.*

*Now we share Hot Cross Buns and drinks to remind ourselves that God is always with us too. Feel free to wander off and enjoy being here those who wish may return to church for our final station*

## **STATION 5 – THE TOMB**

*Jesus' friends washed his body and wrapped it in clean cloth. They touched his body gently, and then they put his body into a tomb. When they had finished they pushed a very large stone over the entrance so no one could go inside.*

*Now it is quiet and dark in the tomb where Jesus' body lies, and all of his friends go home because they are tired and very sad.*

## **Prayer**

**Compassionate God, sometimes we treat other people better when they are sad or in pain, than when they are happy and full of life. When somebody suffers or dies, we become very gentle and kind. Help us to become more tender and loving, and to value the people around us all the time. Amen**

## **Candle -**

**Take a candle home with you to light this evening or tomorrow.**

**Let it remind you that however hard people try to extinguish the light of God's love from the world, Jesus lives in our hearts and together we can make his light shine.**

