

### Aim of lesson

To appreciate what the Lord Jesus suffered at the hands of men; and to see how he reacted to such treatment.

### Bible background

Matthew 26:47-75; Matthew 27:1-54

### Outline of lesson

#### Pray for those who mistreat you

Ask the class to look up Luke 6:27-28. Ask them if they think that Jesus did what he taught his disciples to do. He must therefore have prayed for the people who ill-treated him.

Read Luke 23:32-34 together and ask the class to write the prayer of Jesus in the space provided in their workbook. Ask them whom Jesus had to pray for (those who during the last few hours had ill-treated him).

Help the class to go through the table in their workbook looking up the references and writing in each box the person or people that Jesus prayed for and what they had done to ill-treat him. Ask the class how easy they would find it to pray for all these people if they had been treated like Jesus had. Answer the questions on the second page in the workbooks with the class.

### Digging deeper

#### The veil

This section looks at some unnatural events that happened at the time of the crucifixion, and in particular the veil of the temple being torn.

### Relevance to our lives

Ask the class to let you know next week if anyone has treated them at all badly during the week. Did they remember to pray for them?

### Prayer

Father, forgive us, for sometimes we do not know what we are doing and we forget all that Jesus suffered without complaint.

### Other suggestions for activities

- The class could write down what happened at the death of Christ from the point of view of one of the soldiers.
- The class could read Psalm 22 and see the thoughts of Jesus expressed as the events of the crucifixion take place.