

Jesus  
was  
\_\_\_\_\_  
and  
then  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Which reaction to Jesus can you most relate to in your own life: the calculated betrayal of Judas, the unfair judgment of Annas, or the fear-driven denials of Peter? Why?

Jesus was  
\_\_\_\_\_  
by the  
high priests  
Annas  
and  
Caiaphas.

Pilate was  
forced to  
condemn  
to execution  
an \_\_\_\_\_  
man in  
order to  
\_\_\_\_\_  
the people.

What is truth and how did Jesus represent it well on the day that He died?

The King  
of Jews  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
to accomplish  
the purpose  
for which  
He had  
come.

Strip back all the political maneuvering, the late-night arrest and interrogations, and the brutal Roman execution, and you see a King who was completely, undeniably in control of every single second. Jesus didn't alter His message or lie to save His skin; He came into the world to testify to the Truth, and He represented it flawlessly all the way to His death. While Judas calculated his betrayal, Annas and Caiaphas' trumped-up charges, and Peter let fear turn his bold words into cowardice, Jesus simply stood His ground and declared, "I AM." He didn't avoid the cross; He marched straight toward it because it was the cup the Father had given Him to drink. The irony of the cross is that the world thought it was defeating Him, while Jesus was actually finishing the exact work He came to do in the way He was always meant to do it.

Like Peter we still try to take matters into our own hands, thinking our way is somehow better than His. Let's stop fighting the path He's laid out for us, submit to His authority, and trust the King who willingly gave up His life so that we could have life. Our role in witnessing these final snapshots isn't to look back with pity or remorse, but to watch what He does, trust in Him, and have life in His name. Let's stop living as if we are the ones in charge, bow to His lordship this week, and let His self-sacrificing love that was so clearly displayed in every scene be the distinguishing mark of how we treat one another.