Making Inferences

When things aren't explained literally in a text, you can use clues to reach a logical conclusion. This is called inference.

Read this part of the Easter Story then answer the questions in full sentences.

The Easter Story (Based on Matthew 26: 17-30)

The Last Supper Part I

During the feast of Unleavened Bread, or Passover, Jesus sent two of his disciples ahead with some instructions of how to prepare the Passover meal.

The meal was prepared and Jesus and his twelve disciples all sat around the table for the Last Supper. It was a dangerous time for Jesus as there were many people who wanted him killed because they were angry about his popularity. Because of this, Jesus' disciples were very quiet whilst eating.

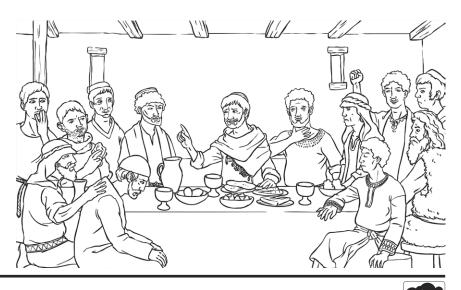
During the meal, Jesus finally spoke and said, "I tell you the truth, one of you here will betray me." The disciples were all shocked and wondered who it could be.

Jesus carried on and said, "The one who dips their hand into this bowl with me will betray me. I will die, just as it is written, but the man who betrays me will feel sorry forever."

Then, with his head bowed down, Judas quietly asked, "It isn't me is it?"

To this, Jesus replied, "Yes, you are the one." This made Judas very ashamed and worried.

Jesus then thanked God for the bread and broke it apart to share with everyone. "Take this and eat it. This is my body which is given for you," he announced. He then held a cup of red wine and said, "This is my blood, which will be poured out for many people so their sins may be forgiven." The cup was passed around and everyone took a sip from it.





Making Inferences The Easter Story Questions

- 1. Were the disciples worried about Jesus' safety? Why do you think this?
- 2. Why did the disciples stay with Jesus for a meal if his life was in danger?
- 3. What could Judas do next?

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- 4. Why did Jesus say the bread was his body and the wine was his blood?
- 5. Why did all of the disciples share the same cup to drink from?







The Easter Story Answers

These are the most probable answers, using evidence from the text. Other answers are acceptable if they are consistent with the text and are plausible.

- Were the disciples worried about Jesus' safety? Why do you think this? The disciples were worried about the safety of Jesus. The text says that they were very quiet during the meal, this would suggests that the atmosphere may not have been very relaxed.
- Why did the disciples stay with Jesus for a meal if his life was in danger?
 The disciples were friends of Jesus and friends stay and support each other not run away when times get difficult.
- 3. What could Judas do next?

When Judas heard that he would betray Jesus he could have left the group and not put himself in a difficult position. By staying with Jesus and the disciples he would be more likely to make the prediction come true.

- 4. Why did Jesus say the bread was his body and the wine was his blood? The bread and wine were not really Jesus' body and blood but he wanted people to think that they represented something as important as his blood and body. If he knew that the priests were going to kill him then he wanted a way for people to remember him after he had died.
- 5. Why did all of the disciples share the same cup to drink from? Sharing food and drink is a friendly thing to do and by using the same cup to drink from it shows what close friends Jesus and the disciples were.



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