



## Family Lesson 67

**Principle:** Submission to God's will.

**Bible Character(s):** Jesus and Judas

**Scripture Reference:** Matthew 26:36-56

**1. Worship** - Choose your favorite songs from the [Spotify playlist](#) found on the curriculum resource page. Have fun, sing loudly, and follow along with the motions!

**2. Bible Lesson** - Read through the lesson with your family. The bold font is meant to be read aloud along with the Scripture references.

### Bible Lesson

**What did we learn about last week?** (Leadership is shown through serving.) **How did we see Jesus serve?** (Jesus served his disciples by washing their feet. He did not have to wash their feet; it was normally the job of a household servant.) **Why did Jesus wash his disciples' feet?** (Jesus chose to wash their feet because he was giving them an example of how to be a leader through serving.) **Jesus humbled himself, putting his disciples above himself by choosing to wash their feet. How does God want us to serve?** (God calls us to love and serve others by putting others above ourselves, just as Jesus did with his disciples.)

**At the time when Jesus washed his disciples' feet, they were beginning to prepare for Passover. Does anyone remember what Passover is?** (Allow responses.) **Passover is a celebration of God delivering the Israelites from Egypt. Jesus knew that Passover was the time when God had planned for him to be crucified. He also knew that Judas, one of his disciples, would betray him by giving him over to be arrested. How would you feel if one of your friends betrayed you?** (Allow responses.)

Today we will read the Bible in Matthew 26 to see what God had planned for Jesus.

### Matthew 26:36-39

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus went with them to the olive grove called Gethsemane, and he said, "Sit here while I go over there to pray." <sup>37</sup> He took Peter and Zebedee's two sons, James and John, and he became anguished and distressed. <sup>38</sup> He told them, "My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

<sup>39</sup> He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, "My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine."

**Jesus is deeply troubled; he knows God's plan is for him to experience great suffering. He does not want to suffer this way. How would you feel if you knew God's plan was for you to experience suffering?** (Allow responses.) **Would you obey what God wanted?** (Allow responses.)

**Jesus asks God to find another way, yet he ends his prayer with, "I want your will to be done, not mine." Jesus knows that God's plan is the best. He is willing to go through unbelievable suffering so that God's plan will be accomplished. He submits to God's will.**

**Define "sub" and "mission" for your child. Sub:** under or below. **Mission:** a task that one is sent to do. **Submission:** to willingly come under instruction that one is given.

**If submission means to willingly come under instruction that you are given, submission is related to obedience. If you are given instruction and submit to it, you obey. If you are given instruction and do not submit to it, you are**

disobeying. Submission also means to own the mission of another. When you submit, you willingly take on that mission.

**Do you think it is always easy to submit?** (Allow responses.) **Submission is not always easy. Sometimes we are asked to do something we do not want to do. Jesus, who was perfect and without sin, prayed and asked God for any other way. But he chose to follow God’s will, not his own. If he had not submitted to God’s will and taken on God’s mission to die on the cross for our sins, there would be no hope for any of us to be right with God. God’s will is perfect. Jesus knew that submitting to God’s will was more important and better than following his own plan.**

**Let’s continue reading the Bible to see what happens next and how Jesus responds.**

**Matthew 26:45-50**

*45 Then he came to the disciples and said, “Go ahead and sleep. Have your rest. But look—the time has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Up, let’s be going. Look, my betrayer is here!”*

*47 And even as Jesus said this, Judas, one of the twelve disciples, arrived with a crowd of men armed with swords and clubs. They had been sent by the leading priests and elders of the people. 48 The traitor, Judas, had given them a prearranged signal: “You will know which one to arrest when I greet him with a kiss.” 49 So Judas came straight to Jesus. “Greetings, Rabbi!” he exclaimed and gave him the kiss.*

*50 Jesus said, “My friend, go ahead and do what you have come for.”*

*Then the others grabbed Jesus and arrested him.*

**Jesus knows exactly what is happening. He knows that Judas will betray him. This is all part of God’s plan. Jesus does not run away, but instead, he submits to God’s will and plan for his**

**life. He makes a choice to allow Judas to betray him.**

**Matthew 26:51-56**

*51 With that, one of Jesus’ companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.*

*52 “Put your sword back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. 53 Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?”*

*55 In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. 56 But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.*

**How does Jesus respond to the men arresting him?** (Allow responses.) **He chooses not to fight the men who come to arrest him. Jesus could defeat these men. In verse 53, he says that he could send for thousands of angels to protect him. Jesus knows that being arrested is part of God’s plan. He chooses to submit to God’s plan and allow himself to be arrested. Jesus tells the people arresting him that God is in control of this situation. The only reason they can arrest him is because it is a part of God’s plan, and Jesus is submitting to God’s plan.**

**Recap the verses with your child and talk about the four ways Jesus submits to God’s plan.** (The four ways are: not running away as Judas approached; allowing Judas to kiss him; not defeating the men who came to arrest him; allowing himself to be arrested.)

**There are four times in this passage that Jesus could have chosen to do something other than God’s plan. He could have chosen to do what he wanted so that he would not experience the**

suffering that came with God's plan for him. But Jesus knew that God's plan was the best; he knew that God was in control of everything. He trusted God and submitted to his plan. Do you think it was easy for Jesus to submit to God's plan? (Allow responses.) How easy or difficult is it for you to submit to God's plan? Why or why not? (Allow responses.)

Read through each real life example and decide if they are in full submission or rebellion.

- You and your friend accidentally break your friend's mom's flower vase. Your friend wants to tell her mom that the cat knocked it over, but you tell her that would be a lie and want to tell the truth. Your friend gets mad, but you tell her mom what really happened with the vase.
- It's your sister's turn to clean off the table after dinner, but your parents ask you to clean it off instead. You do not complain, but obey them and do it.
- Your teacher asks you to clean up all the crayons from everyone's desks. You immediately go and clean up.
- Your little brother is taking his turn on the swing in your backyard. He has been on it for awhile, and you think it's your turn. You push him off the swing so that you can have your turn.
- You're taking a test in class and are having a hard time with one question. You glance to your left and realize that you can see your classmate's paper with his answer. You quickly read it so you can copy his answer to that question.
- You're playing a video game in your family room. Your parents tell you to stop playing and go clean up your room. You continue to play for ten more minutes before you actually go clean your room.

- Your babysitter tells you it's time for bed, but you know it's ten minutes before you normally go to bed. You tell her that you are not going to bed yet. She insists that you need to go to bed, and you continue to tell her no.
- All of your friends watch a certain TV show. One day, you're watching the show when your parents walk in and tell you they don't want you to watch it anymore. You don't understand why, but you trust that your parents must have a good reason. You obey what your parents ask and don't watch the show again.

We have a choice to submit to and obey God's plan, or disobey God's plan and follow our own will. Jesus saw the big picture of what God had for him. He knew that God's plan was the only way we could all be saved. He chose to obey God's plan for his life so that we could be saved from our sin. It is easy for us to forget that God's plan was the only way we could be saved from our sin. It is also easy for us to forget that God's way is the best way. Sometimes we do not believe this because we want things our way. We need to remember that submitting to God's plan is the best thing, even when it is hard. God is sovereign and in control, and he only wants what is best for us.

### Prayer

Spend a few minutes in prayer to close your family time. Thank Jesus for submitting to God's plan so that we could all be saved from our sin and made right with God. Ask God for help to submit to his plan for our lives, even when it is hard.

### Activity

"Jesus Prays" Coloring Sheet- (found on [GCK Resource Page](#))

