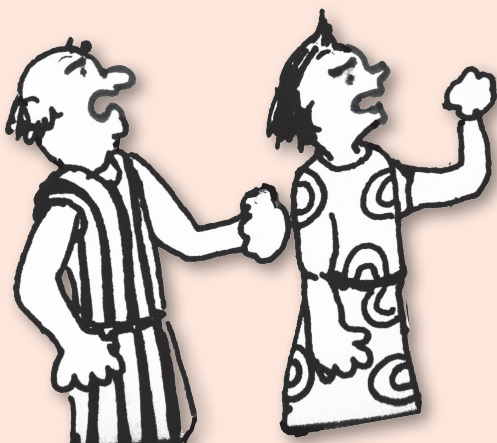


OCTOBER 2011

# KIDZONE



## SPY REPORTS ON JESUS 9



The Pharisees were furious. They were very angry when Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem to show he was the King God had promised to send. They were mad when he cleaned up the Temple, turned over their money tables and drove out the animals they wanted to sell. They were full of rage when the children shouted praise to Jesus in the Temple as he healed people. But Jesus was so popular they couldn't do anything to stop all this.

"Let's trick him with trap questions," they whispered to each other. "You know, the kind of questions where any answer has to be wrong. Now, what shall we ask him?"

"How about this one: Who gave you the right to do these things?"

"Yes! If he says 'God', we can arrest him for making himself equal to God. That's blasphemy. There's a law against that."

"And if he doesn't answer or says someone else, we can arrest him for what he's done."

"Here's another question: Should we pay taxes to the Roman Emperor?"

"That's good! If he says 'Yes', the people will riot against him. They hate paying tax to the foreigners who have conquered our country."

"And if he says 'No', we can arrest him for treason. That's great."

"Now where are those spies? Let's send them to trap Jesus."

## TRICK QUESTIONS TO TRAP JESUS

Jesus was surrounded by crowds of people listening to him. The spies grabbed the chance to ask him the Pharisees' trick questions.

"Sir, who gave you the right to ride into Jerusalem as the king and clean up the Temple?"

Jesus saw their trap.

"Let me ask you a question first," Jesus said. "Did John the Baptist come from God or not?"



John the Baptist was the prophet who said that Jesus had come from God. This was another trap question. If they said "John came from God," Jesus would say "Why didn't you believe what he said?" But if they said "no", the people would riot against them. John was very popular.

"We don't know," they replied.

"Then I won't answer your question," Jesus said. He knew it wasn't a real question.

After a while another spy asked Jesus the second question:

"Sir, should we pay taxes to the Roman Emperor?"

Jesus saw the trap and asked them to show him some money.

"Whose face is on this coin?" Jesus asked.

"The Roman Emperor's," they answered.

"That shows that it belongs to the Emperor," Jesus said. "So pay the Emperor what is his and give God what is his."

All the people were amazed at Jesus' wise answers.

The spies went back to the Pharisees.

"Your trap questions didn't work," they said. "Jesus is so wise, he never says anything wrong."

That made the Pharisees even angrier but still they couldn't do anything to stop Jesus.

***(Be a spy! Investigate the story for yourself from Mark 11:27 – 33 and 12:13 – 17. To find out more about other questions that were asked that day read Mark 12:18 – 37.)***

## TOP SECRET SUMMARY



### BE A SPY

Fill in the blanks and copy this into your Top Secret Notebook or your computer file. All the words come from the story.

The P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ S sent their S \_ \_ \_ \_ S  
to t \_ \_ p J \_ \_ \_ \_ s with t \_ \_ \_ k  
q \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ s, but J \_ \_ \_ \_ S wasn't  
caught. He gave them very w \_ \_ e  
a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ s.

## TOP SECRET VERSE



### BE A SPY!

Read this verse. It's in code. Some letters have to be left out.

**STHOSED SWHOP WHEARDY EJESUST  
TWEREN CAMAZEDS. "SWHEREX IDIDO  
PHEW UGETH PSUCHO FWISDOME?"  
ATHEYM BASKEDY.**

Look up Matthew 13:54 in a Good News Bible to check your answer. Copy the verse, without the extra letters, into your Top Secret Notebook or Computer file and learn it.

## QUESTIONS

What do you do when you have a difficult question you can't answer?

Tick the boxes.

☐

Forget about it.

☐

Ask someone who might know.

☐

Look for the answer in the Bible or a Christian book.

☐

Keep on searching for the answer.

☐

Remember that some questions don't have easy answers.

☐

Be patient. It might take some time to find the answer.

☐

Be careful. There are trick questions that are not real.

Did you know that when Jesus was 12 years old he listened to the elders in the Temple and asked them questions? They were amazed at his intelligent answers. Read Luke 2:41 – 52 to find the full story about this.



## CURLY QUESTIONS

Make a collage poster of question marks. You will need one big piece of card and some off-cuts of different colours, scissors, some coloured felts and some paste, glue or sellotape.

Draw question marks on the off-cuts in different fancy shapes and cut them out. Stick them onto the big piece of card to make a pattern. Display your poster. Remember that it's good to have real questions and to search for the answers.



## A PROMISE AND A PRAYER

### THE PROMISE:

Jesus said, "If you obey my teaching, you are really my disciples; you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." **John 8:31.**

### THE PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, I do want to follow you. Help me to obey what you say to me from the Bible. When I have questions, help me to know what is true, so that I can really be free. **Amen.**