

First Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have begged Pilate to set you free. We would have yelled, "Let him go; he's a good man."

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I really have been brave enough to speak up for Jesus? What if Pilate had arrested me, too?

Here and now, do I have the courage to speak up for someone who is being treated unfairly?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Second Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have carried that heavy cross for you. We would have told those soldiers, “Get back; leave him alone! Can’t you see he’s in pain?”

But we weren’t there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I have dared talk back to a group of sword-carrying soldiers? What if one of them had pointed his sword at me?

Here and now, what do I do when someone is wrongly blamed for something he or she didn’t do?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Third Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have made sure you didn't fall. We would have walked beside you and given you strong arms to lean on.

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I have wanted to touch Jesus and get blood and dirt on my clothes? What I'd someone had seen me like that?

Here and now, what do I do when my friends laugh at me for helping someone?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Fourth Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have formed a circle around you and Mary to let you talk as long as you wanted. We would have held out against anyone who tried to push us away.

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I have dared to get in front of an angry crowd of people? What if I had been pushed down and hurt?

Here and now, what do I do when someone shoves me or a friend out of line?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Fifth Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have taken turns carrying the cross so that you wouldn't have had to carry it at all. And we would have let Simon go on by.

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Maybe the others would have taken turns carrying the cross, but would I? What if I had hurt myself?

Here and now, do I respond eagerly when my parents or teachers ask me to help with difficult chores?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Sixth Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have done just what Veronica did. We would have wiped your face with soft, warm cloths, and then put bandages on your open wounds. But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I really have dashed out toward Jesus with all those people around? What if someone had made fun of me?

Here and now, what do I do when someone gets hurt on the playground or gets sick on the bus?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Seventh Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have demanded that the cross be removed from your shoulders. We would have told the soldiers, "Can't you see he's had enough?"

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I have made demands in such a dangerous situation? What if the soldiers had pushed me back?

Here and now, what do I say or do when I know that a grown-up is doing something wrong?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Eighth Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have told the women, “Don’t you understand? It is sin, our sins and your sins, that Jesus wants us to cry over and be sorry about.”

But we weren’t there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I have understood Jesus any better than the women of Jerusalem? Would I even have tried?

Here and now, am I sorry for the pain I cause others through the selfish things I sometimes do?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Ninth Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, you would not have fallen again. We would have held you up and supported you in every way we could. We would have picked up the cross ourselves.

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I have helped carry the cross with the others? What if it had fallen on me and hurt me?

Here and now, what do I do when someone old or sick could use my help?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Tenth Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, those soldiers wouldn't have laid a hand on you. We would never have allowed them to touch your clothing or to humiliate you in any way.

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I have even followed Jesus that far, much less demanded that the soldiers back off?

Her and now, what do I do when someone is being made fun of at school?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Eleventh Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have told the leaders, “Don’t you realize who this is? He’s not a criminal. He hasn’t disobeyed your laws. He’s Jesus, god’s own son.”

But we weren’t there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I really have protested what was happening to Jesus? What if the leaders had gotten angry with me?

Here and now, do I ever speak out for people who are left out and being treated unjustly?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Twelfth Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have pushed the people back from the cross. We would have knelt beneath it and prayed with you.

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remember.

Child: Would I really have knelt beside the cross for all the world to see? Would I, like Jesus, have asked God to forgive the soldiers and the crowd?

Here and now, do I pray for those who hurt me? Do I really forgive with all my heart?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Thirteenth Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have done just what Joseph did. We would have taken your body down from the cross with dignity and with love. And we would have comforted Mary and stayed with her.

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I, like Joseph, have admitted being a follower of Jesus? What if Pilate had arrested me?

Here and now, what do I do to show that I am a Christian? Do I ever try to hide my faith from others?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.

Fourteenth Station

Parent: If we had been there, Jesus, we would have helped carry your body to the grave and we would have put our own pillows and blankets beneath it.

But we weren't there. We are only here now, remembering.

Child: Would I really have given up my own pillow or my blankets, even for Jesus? What if I had been unable to get any others?

Here and now, do I give up any of my comforts to help those in need?

Jesus, teach me how to follow you.