

Lent devotions

READ:

Mark 14:53-65 (click to open link)

REFLECT:

My son's flag football team runs a drill called sharks and minnows at the end of every practice. One person stands in the middle of the field and the rest have to try and cross the field without getting their flag pulled. Over the year's he's become very good at this game. When he's a minnow, he's often the last one caught. When he's the shark, he gets people out quickly.

Recently, he noticed that when he was a minnow, whoever was in the middle always tried to get him first. In fact, one boy didn't try to get anyone else until they caught him. He felt unfairly targeted and got frustrated on the field. The funny part was, it took a long time before he was caught.

Jesus was arrested and brought to a trial before the religious leaders of the day. The funny thing about it? They were targeting because he was good at being exactly who he was meant to be. You know, the whole Son of God thing. Even more so, they couldn't actually catch him in anything because he wasn't guilty of doing anything wrong.

Jesus sat silently, he was made to look bad by the teachers of the law and religious leaders. Why? Because they were threatened by him. He was changing things, making them better, new. He later reminded God to "forgive for they don't even know what they are doing."

RESPOND:

Have you ever been falsely accused of something? Has anyone ever trumped up the charges against you just to make you look worse? How can enduring through the gossip, the false accusations, the threats, and hardness, help make you stronger in the long run?

