

MARCH 22, 2020

Betrayed and arrested

As Jesus gathered with one last meal with his friends, he incorporates the Jewish Passover meal into one last teaching. The meal summons God's people to a posture of gratitude and remembrance. *God saved his people. And he will do so again.* Let this scene unravel as you read and reread; let the foreshadowing sadness invite your heart to wonder and grieve that his friends and followers couldn't understand...and so they fled.

The passages for this study are not included this week. Please open your Bible (OR [read online](#)) and examine the following passages with careful study.

- **Read 14:16-26: The Supper**

- What is the Jewish feast that Jesus and the disciples were experiencing together? What might be the significance of that meal in light of the events that are taking place?
- What is the "new covenant" that Jesus is referring to and why was there a need for a new one?

- **Read 14:27-31: Impending Betrayal**

- Mark personalizes one of the disciples' experience of concern and betrayal. How does Peter demonstrate infidelity to his rabbi?
- In vs 27-28, what is Jesus's expectation of his disciples?

- **Read 14:32-42: Prayer and Pressure**

- Gethsemane is named as a place where olives are *pressed* for their oil ("oil press"). How is this an appropriate name for a place where Jesus is grieved and cries out to the Father?
- Jesus asks for the cup to pass from him. What is this cup that he is referring to? (Is there any connection to the cup from the Supper?)

- How might the experience in the garden reveal the beginning of Jesus's suffering?
- How do the disciples display "spiritual sleepiness" as well as physical sleepiness? What affect does this have on Jesus's sense of companionship during this time?

- **Read 14:43-52: Arrest and Abandonment**

- How does Judas betray Jesus? What led up to this decision?
- Who are the people (groups) who are seeking to end Jesus's ministry?
- What does Jesus say to the crowd who came to arrest him? How does he provide a seemingly calm and rational explanation for what is happening to him?

- **Read 14:53-66: Trial Before the High Priest**

- Who was present during the trial? What were the responsibilities of these individuals/groups?
- Imagine looking into the faces of those present. What is the expression on their faces? (the high priest, the "eyewitnesses", the other priests, ...Jesus?)

- **Apply it**

- How do we think of and remember Jesus by observing the communion meal of bread and wine/juice? What makes this meal special to you...and to our community when we gather?
- We too can "abandon" Jesus. Can you think of ways that you make faithful promises to God but forget or actively disregard them?
- Do you relate to the disciples' apathy and inability to endure? How so? What might we learn about prayer in our own suffering?
- Have you ever been accused of something because of your faith? What happened? How did that experience help or hurt your own faith?
- What can we learn from Jesus about the way we stand before others and profess our own faith?