



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

FOR THE SERMON PREACHED: Nov 26, 2017

"Faithfulness in the Face of Opposition"

PASSAGE: Mark 14:26-72

1. Read Mark 14:26-72. List 3 distinct ways in which Jesus faced opposition and why those instances would have been particularly painful. In what ways do you see parallels to your own life? Read 1 Peter 2:19-21. What do you learn about suffering and how did Jesus model this? In what specific ways does 1 Peter speak to your current suffering (ie. difficult family functions, persecution at work, false accusations, etc.)

2. Consider verses 26-31. Why is it safe to assume Peter had the best intentions to follow Christ when it would get difficult? Why did he fail and how do we make sure the same doesn't happen to us? Name one verse that has directed you through suffering and how it directed you?

3. Consider verses 32-42. From what Jesus prays what do you learn about his intimacy with the Father in prayer? His faith? His specific requests? His submission? His persistence? His obedience as a result of prayer? Of these six areas, where does your prayer life need to grow? What practical steps will you take to grow in the ways you've identified?

4. In what ways was the trial of Jesus in verses 53-65 unfair? (For more background on this, compare Jesus' trial with Deuteronomy 19:15-21.) Why do you think Jesus remained silent until verse 62? What is the difference between speaking for truth rather than speaking against lies? Consider times you have faced false accusations and lies. What do you know about God and his word that can keep things simple through lies, and keep you from unending arguments?

5. In Luke 22:54-62 we read a parallel account of Peter's denial of Jesus. How was Peter's response different than Judas (consider John 21:15-19 and Matt 27:3-6)? Have you ever felt a time you desperately wanted to follow Christ but failed to or felt you destroyed your Christian witness? How did you respond or how do you need to respond?

6. BREAKOUT

Write out a prayer to the Lord about a particular disappointment, opposition or struggle. Share this with your group.

Memory Verse

Mark 14:36 "And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."