

Into the Life of Jesus

A study in the gospel of Mark

Study #19 – Lent

Review of last week: Mark 11:1-21

As we think back to Scott's teaching, what stood out to you? Was there something that hit home, challenged, or encouraged you? What questions are you left with and what do you need to do with them?

Our passage this week focuses in on Mark 14:12-25

Take a moment to pray before you read and ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart to hear God's Word. *Then*, read the passage aloud a few times.

The following study will provide far more than you can likely cover, so chose the questions and trajectories that you or your group needs most.

Digging Into God's Word

In the opening verses Jesus tells the disciples *in exact detail* how to find a room in Jerusalem, despite the fact the city's population had quadrupled (or more!) for Passover. By this, Jesus has, yet again, shown the disciples that He is both God and man. The theological term for this is the *hypostatic union*. This describes Jesus two complete natures: fully human and fully divine.

- What difference does it make to know that Jesus is both fully God and at the same time lived a fully human life?
- How does this impact your understanding and practice of discipleship to Jesus, as well as your witness to others about Jesus?

Before they eat together Jesus makes a statement that shocks his disciples. They are rattled, looking around at each other, asking their master if it is they who will betray him?

- How do you make sense of Judas' choice in betraying Jesus?
 - Think about all of the time that Judas spent watching Jesus perform miracle after miracle, teach with unparalleled wisdom. And yet Judas still chose to steal from the money given and had made plans to turn him in.
- Refer to Genesis 50:20. What message did Joseph (who is like a Jesus) give to his brothers? And how does this relate to Judas' story?
- In his commentary on Mark, Dr. R.C. Sproul states: "It is not as though God in His sovereignty coerced Judas to carry out the evil act of betraying Jesus. Rather, the sovereign God worked His will in and through the choices of His creatures. Judas did exactly what Judas wanted to do, but God brought good out of evil, redemption out of treachery."
 - How might God allowing us free will make his grace even sweeter?

When we studied Exodus (last year) we became familiar with the Passover Meal.

- How does Jesus change the meal?
- And why does this matter? How does this help us understand and experience the Gospel?

Lastly, think about the food that nourishes and supports your life each day.

- How does your spiritual diet relate to your physical diet?
 - Do you also consume spiritual food each and every day?
 - What has helped you cultivate and savor this habit?
- Consider what it would be like to consume God's Word for as many hours as you watch television or spend time online each day. Is this doable? Why or why not?
- How might this change you as a person if you did?

Pray together: Dear Lord, we don't always appreciate what you've done for us. We are prone to wander. Help us to come before you humbly to honestly confess our sins.