

Small Group Study in Mark
January 12, 2020

A suggested format for your group time

15 min - **Fellowship**

15 min - **Prayer** (using the four quadrants of the SG prayer sheet)

*If your group has a mission partnership and/or college student connection then take time to lift those up specifically

45 min - **Study** (see below)

Mark 14:1-31

Chapter Summary:

While eating at the home of Simon, a former leper, a woman entered the house and anointed the head of Jesus with costly ointment. Jesus rebuked those who considered her act of devotion as a waste. Judas goes to the chief priest to formulate the plan of betrayal. Jesus directs two of His disciples to go and prepare for the Passover where Jesus shares and institutes the Lord's Supper with all of the disciples. During the Supper, Jesus announces that there is one who will betray Him and all will desert Him. Peter pledges his devotion but Jesus predicts that he would deny him before morning light and that the sound of a rooster crowing would confirm that denial.

Key Idea: Our love for the Lord is reflected in the way we respond to Him.

Jumpstart Questions: (These questions are designed to generate discussion and to help your group make a connection between everyday life and biblical truth. Please feel free to use any, all, none, or make up your own questions to initiate class conversations.)

- What is the evidence that a person loves something or someone? What is the difference between a person who goes to church and someone who loves the Lord? What are tangible expressions of a person who loves Jesus?
- Do you think Judas loved Jesus? Do you think Peter loved Jesus? Explain your response. What wounds a relationship more: betrayal or denial?
- What factors contribute to the development of a deep relationship with another person? Do these same factors be applied to the development of our relationship with Christ?

Suggested outline for reading the text and using the Process of Discipleship questions

1. Ask volunteers to read a portion of the chapter (14:1-11) and then have the group make general observations using the first two diagnostic questions.
 - What is one thing you like in this passage?
 - Is there anything that is difficult for you to understand in the passage?
2. Follow the same pattern for the following sections of Scripture (14:12-26; 14:27-31).
3. Once general observations have been made, ask a volunteer to re-read the entire passage in either the same translation or a different translation so that the entire text is in view. Follow the reading with the remainder discipleship questions.
 - What is something this passage shows about God (the Father)? It's helpful to think about this question while imagining how we would answer if this were the only chapter of Scripture to which we had access.
 - If you had no other information about Jesus, other than what Mark has shared in this passage, what would you have learned about the person of Jesus?
 - What does this passage teach us about Man? Are there any good or bad examples to learn from?
 - Is there specific sin(s) discussed in this passage that we need to avoid or confess/repent of?
 - Is there a command to obey or a principle to follow presented in this text?
 - Is there a specific promise to trust in this passage?
 - What is at least one-way God's Spirit is using this passage to personally teach, admonish, or correct you as you seek to live more like Christ?
 - What is one specific thing you will do in response to this passage?
4. In conclusion, brainstorm ways that the truths of this text can be applied.
 - *Be specific and avoid broad general statements that cannot be measured*