

PART ONE: I Am

Mark 14:43-72

We ended last week's lesson with Jesus declaring, "Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."

Read Mark 14:43-52, Matthew 26:47-56, Luke 22:47-53 and John 18:1-11.

1. Summarize the details of Jesus' betrayal and arrest.

Mark 14:43 _____

Mark 14:45 _____

Matt 26:50 _____

Luke 22:48 _____

John 18:4 _____

John 18:5 _____

John 18:6 _____

John 18:7 _____

John 18:8 _____

John 18:9 _____

Mark 14:46 _____

John 18:10 _____

Matt 26:52-54 _____

Luke 22:51 _____

Mark 14:48 _____

Matt 14:49 _____

Mark 14:50 _____

Mark 14:51-52 _____

Detachment of troops (John 18:3) – a military cohort, the tenth part of legion, about 600 men

2. **THINK:** Why do you think the Chief Priests and the Pharisees brought such a large number of soldiers with them? What does this suggest about their understanding or misunderstanding of Jesus?

3. Read these verses and record what you learn about Jesus' purpose in coming to earth.

John 1:18 and John 14:9 _____

Hebrews 9:26 _____

1 Peter 2:24 _____

1 John 3:8 _____

1 Peter 2:21 _____

Jesus had no intention of trying to escape that night in the garden. He knew exactly why He had come to earth, and He intended to finish His ministry with the same authority He had shown up to this point. He went to the garden troubled and deeply distressed, but after He prayed, He faced His betrayer, the chief priests and Pharisees, and the Roman soldiers with strength and command.

During this time, a kiss was a common greeting and a sign of one's respect and honor for another.

4. **THINK:** What does kissing someone while actively betraying them say about the heart of the person doing the betraying?

5. What made the betrayal of Judas even more difficult for Jesus? Consider Psalm 55:12-14 when answering.

After Judas betrayed Jesus, he regretted his decision (Matthew 27:3-5). He tried to ease his guilty conscience by returning the money and declaring Jesus innocent. While Judas regretted what he had done and the consequences of those actions, he never sought the forgiveness Jesus offered him.

6. Consider how each person responded when they stumbled and sinned.

The religious leaders (Mark 14:1) _____

Judas (Matthew 27:3) _____

Judas (Matthew 27:5) _____

David (2 Samuel 12:13) _____

The religious leaders refused to acknowledge their sins and chose to focus on the sins of others, while Judas tried to make up for his. When that failed, he gave into despair. David chose to recognize his sin, humble himself before God, and ask for forgiveness.

7. In John's account, Jesus says, "I AM" to identify that *He* is Jesus of Nazareth (note the "He" is italicized, meaning it is not in the original language). Read the following verses and record what you learn about the other occasions when Jesus used this language, and then summarize the full meaning of what He was saying when He said "I AM."

John 8:58 _____

John 6:35 _____

John 8:12 _____

John 10:9 _____

John 10:11 _____

John 11:25 _____

John 14:6 _____

John 15:1 _____

Full meaning of what Jesus was saying: _____

8. How did those present at Jesus' arrest react to Jesus saying, "I AM"? (John 18:6)

9. **THINK:** Why do you think this happened?

10. What question does Jesus ask twice in John 18:4 and 7?

11. Whom or what are you seeking in your life, and how are you seeking it?

12. **THINK:** Peter decided to take things into his own hands. Taking his knife, he cut off the ear of Malchus. What do you think would have happened to Peter if Jesus hadn't healed Malchus, and how would that have potentially altered the trajectory of Peter's life?

Peter should have followed the Lord's lead. Instead, he chose to fight the wrong battle, at the wrong time, and with the wrong weapon.

13. How does Paul describe the believers' weapons and their intended purpose? (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

14. **THINK:** In verses 48-49, Jesus points out the force with which they came to take the same Man they had encountered regularly in the Temple teaching. What point do you think Jesus was trying to make, and how can this bring you comfort in uncertain times?

Read Mark 14:53-65.

15. Detail what each person or group was doing.

Jesus

v. 53 _____

v. 61 _____

v. 62 _____

Peter

v. 54 _____

Chief priests, elders, and scribes

v. 55 _____

v. 64b _____

v. 65 _____

False witnesses

v. 56 _____

v. 57-59 _____

High Priest

v. 60 _____

v. 61 _____

v. 63-64 _____

16. Look carefully at the actions of Jesus. How did He respond to the false testimonies against Him and the High Priest's questions regarding those false testimonies? (v. 61)

How did He respond to the High Priest's question, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" (v. 62)

17. What can you learn from Jesus' example when faced with people who have accusations against or questions about the Lord?

18. What can you learn from Jesus' example when faced with persecution for doing right?

Read Mark 14:66-72.

John's account points out that, in addition to Peter, another disciple followed Jesus after His arrest.

19. Contrast the actions of the other disciples with those of Peter and the other disciple who followed Jesus. (Mark 14:50, 54; John 18:15-18).

The other disciples: _____

The other disciple who followed Jesus: _____

Peter: _____

Forsook – to desert one (wrongfully)

20. **THINK:** What do you think made the other disciples desert Jesus?

21. How can we remain strong in times of persecution?

Isaiah 40:31 _____

Philippians 4:8-9 _____

2 Timothy 3:14-17 _____

1 Peter 5:8-10 _____

Hebrews 12:1-2 _____

One minute they were listening to Jesus give His “Upper Room Discourse” (John 13-17), enjoying the Passover Feast, and the next minute they were in the Garden of Gethsemane watching Jesus being placed under arrest by order of the religious leaders and 600 Roman soldiers.

22. Take some time to picture Jesus, the Faithful Servant, as He moved through each of these scenes and write a response to Him.

PART TWO: A Focused Look at Peter's Denial of Jesus

Mark 14:54-55, 66-72

23. Read Mark 14:27-31 and summarize Jesus' prediction.

24. What did Peter say in verse 29?

25. Read Proverbs 16:18-19. What was the condition of Peter's heart when he made this statement?

26. Can you think of a time you made a prideful statement like Peter did? What was the outcome?

Peter is the disciple most people are familiar with. Many can identify with Peter and his character.

27. Look up the following verses and write down what they reveal about Peter.

Matthew 4:18

Matthew 16:15-20

Mark 8:31-33

Luke 5:4-8

John 1:40-42

John 13:6-9

28. Summarize what these verses teach you about the character of Peter.

29. By having a bigger picture of Peter, does his response to Jesus in Mark 14:29 make sense? Do you see yourself in Peter? Why or why not?

30. Read Mark 14:54 and describe Peter's actions. Can you see the mistake Peter made?

31. Give a present-day example of how we can follow Jesus at a distance.

Read Mark 14:66-71.

32. Record each of the three denials.

1.

2.

3.

Commented [CD1]: The "by" makes is easier to read correctly.

33. Read Mark 14:72. Think about what Peter had just done. Think about Peter's response when he realized what he had done. Think about what Jesus said in Mark 14:30. Write out what this must have been like for Peter (keep in mind the character of Peter).

34. When you read about Peter's denial of Jesus, can you relate? Do you love Jesus just as Peter did, but sometimes feel embarrassed or just don't want anyone to know? If so, explain.

35. We have such a gracious Lord. Peter denied Jesus, and when he realized what he'd done, Matthew's Gospel tells us that he wept bitterly. But Jesus did not give up on Peter. Read Mark 16:7. The angels told the women to tell the disciples – and Peter – of the risen Lord. Why do you think they specifically mentioned Peter?

36. After Jesus rose from the dead and before He ascended into heaven, He had a very intimate conversation with Peter. Read John 21:11-17. What does this tell you about Jesus' forgiveness and love for Peter?

37. How does our Lord's tenderness toward Peter minister to you?
