



JUST JESUS: A Journey Through Mark

PART 60 - 14:43 - 47

Section One: Close to Jesus, Yet Far Away

READ: Mark 14:43 AND Psalm 41:9

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think Mark repeatedly identifies Judas as “one of the twelve”? What does that description add to the emotional weight of the betrayal?
- 2) What similarities do you see between David’s experience in Psalm 41:9 and Jesus’ betrayal by Judas?
- 3) Pastor Greg said, “Religious activity, biblical knowledge, and even positions of spiritual leadership are no guarantee that we are walking in step with God.” Why can those things never replace a personal, surrendered relationship with Jesus Christ?
- 4) What practices help us move beyond merely attending church, knowing Christian language, or participating in ministry toward genuinely trusting and surrendering ourselves to Jesus?

Section Two: Betrayal Disguised as Affection

READ: Mark 14:44–45 AND Proverbs 27:5–6

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why was Judas’ use of a kiss as the signal for Jesus’ arrest especially cruel and hypocritical?
- 2) How does Proverbs 27:6 help us understand the difference between genuine love and affection that is merely performed?
- 3) Pastor Greg said, “Judas does not merely identify Jesus. He stages a dramatic performance of affection for Him.” What warning does Judas’ performance give us about outward religious appearances not tied to sincerity of heart?”
- 4) Are there ways people can speak respectfully about Jesus, participate in Christian activities, or appear devoted while still refusing to surrender their hearts to Him? How can we honestly examine ourselves without becoming judgmental toward others?

Section Three: The One Who Allowed Himself to Be Seized

READ: Mark 14:46 AND John 10:17–18

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) What does Mark’s brief description of Jesus being seized reveal about the force used by the arresting party?
- 2) According to John 10:17–18, how much control did Jesus possess over the laying down of His life? How does that change the way we understand His arrest?
- 3) Pastor Greg said, “The One who could not be overpowered allowed Himself to be seized.” Why is Jesus’ restraint an expression of strength rather than weakness?
- 4) Jesus had already prayed, “Not what I will, but what You will.” How does His response during the arrest demonstrate that genuine surrender requires more than good intentions?

Section Four: The Sword or the Cross

READ: Mark 14:47 AND Matthew 26:52–54

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) What do Peter’s actions reveal about the danger of reacting impulsively when we are frightened, angry, or feel that circumstances are slipping beyond our control?
- 2) Jesus said that He could call upon more than twelve legions of angels. What does this reveal about the true reason He remained in the custody of those who arrested Him?
- 3) Pastor Greg said, “Jesus was not being arrested because He lacked the power to resist. He allowed Himself to be arrested because He possessed the love to surrender.” How does that truth deepen your understanding of Jesus’ love for you?

4) What does surrendering to God look like when the “swords and clubs” arrive in our lives? How can we refuse to fight in the flesh without becoming passive, fearful, or unwilling to act wisely?