

## **Sermon Overview**

The theme of Mark 14 is the abandonment of Jesus. The chapter opens with Jesus and the disciples in Jerusalem, where he is teaching and debating with the religious leaders. Everything, in other words, is as it has been in the Gospel so far. But following the Lord's Supper, a rapid and total defection follows, leaving Jesus alone and abandoned. However, the more Jesus is betrayed, deserted and vilified, the more he shows himself to be sovereign over the situation.

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## **Getting Started**

1. What meals have you shared with others that mark a significant moment or relationship?

## Starting with God

2. Read verses 3-9. Why is the woman criticized for her actions? Why does Jesus call her act "beautiful"?

3. In what specific ways should we strive to act like the woman who anointed Jesus?

4. Review Mark 14:10-12 and 20-21. Judas is a chilling example. Here is a man that looked like a believer in every way, and was not. In what ways are we all like Judas? In what ways is a genuine Christian not like Judas?

5. Read Mark 14:12-26 and Exodus 12:1-20. When Jesus presides over the Passover meal, and says, "This is my body and blood," he is drawing parallels between the Passover event and his own mission. What are some of these parallels and what do we learn from them?

6. Notice in verses 27 and 49 how Jesus continually refers to prophecy throughout his trial. What does this tell us about Jesus' death? How does the cross help us to face suffering and injustice in our own lives?

7. The word "Abba" in v. 36 is an equivalent to our use of "daddy" or "papa." What does this tell us about Jesus' suffering?

8. In all ways — and especially in the passion — Jesus is perfectly obedient to the Father. Why is his obedience significant to us? What difference does it make?

9. In what other ways is Jesus' example in the garden full of practical comfort and guidance for us?

10. Read Mark 14:58. First, Jesus is accused of saying that he will destroy the temple and replace it in three days. In what way is this charge false? Yet in what way is this charge true?

11. In 14:61-62, Jesus is accused of blasphemy. Is he innocent or guilty of this charge?

## Living God's Word

12. In this week's text, Peter is shown as making several mistakes. What are Peter's mistakes and how can we avoid them?

Prayer

Father God,

Thank you for your compassionate and sovereign control over all of redemptive history. Please form my heart to look to you for my redemptive history. Please guide my heart to fix my eyes on the person and work of Jesus Christ for my joy and salvation. Amen.