

Mark 14:53 - 15:15

Discussion Questions

Read Mark 14:53-65

1. What evidence does Mark give to help explain WHY Jesus is being rejected by the religious leaders (55-57, 63-65)?
2. Have you ever encountered a similar attitude amongst those who reject Jesus today?
3. We can also be hard-hearted and stubborn. When was the last time you changed your mind or behavior because of something God says in Scripture?

Read Mark 14:66-72

4. Mark is drawing a comparison and contrast between Jesus (55-65) and Peter (66-72). How are their circumstances similar or different?
5. What is the main difference in the way they respond to their trials?
6. What does this contrast help highlight about Jesus?

Read Mark 15:1-15

7. How does this story about Barabbas demonstrate about why Jesus died (cf. Mark 10:45)?
8. Jesus came to be our substitute. Looking at this passage as a whole (14:53-15:15), how do these event help demonstrate: i) that we need a substitute; ii) that Jesus is the only one who can stand in our place?
9. How might you use this passage to explain the good news to an unbelieving friend?

Prayer Ideas:

- Give thanks that Jesus was perfectly righteous and that he lived and died in our place.
- Pray that God will help you understand your own sin and your need for him more deeply. Pray that out of this recognition he will give you have a deeper love for him and fuller appreciation of his grace.
- Pray that God will open a door for you to explain this good news to others in the coming week.