

DISCUSSION IDEAS

BETRAYED

Mark 14:1-21

April 24th, 2016

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♦ DISCUSSION POINT ONE: WHO WAS IN CONTROL?

This week we heard about a famous theologian's opinion that Jesus was a victim of events.

How do we know that his opinion is false?

Look at the following passages:

Mark 8:31

Mark 9:30-32

Mark 10:32-34

Mark 14:8 (we will look at this more next, and in context.)

What dangers or fears were likely to result from the coming events?

Why did Jesus tell the disciples what was to happen to him?

What was His concern at this time?

♦ DISCUSSION POINT TWO: EXTRAVAGANT LOVE FOR JESUS.

Mark 14:3-9 recounts something that happened two days before the Passover.

Remember Lazarus, whom Jesus raised from the dead?

His sisters were Martha and Mary, and their home was in Bethany, about two miles from Jerusalem.

What did the woman do (verse 3)? We know from John 12:3 that this was the same Mary, the sister of Lazarus and Martha.

(In today's US Dollars, the bottle of perfume she used was worth over \$36,000!)

What was the point of this action? Remember the Jewish ritual of anointing? Note too that the word Messiah means "anointed"!

What did Jesus say about her action (verses 6-9)?

What is the definition of agape LOVE?

♦ DISCUSSION POINT THREE: EXTRAVAGANT LOVE BY JESUS.

JESUS' LOVE FOR THOSE WHO FOLLOWED HIM:

Earlier tonight we discussed how Jesus was fully aware of what was to happen.

What do Mark 14:1-2 and John 11:57 tell us about the danger?

What do the secret arrangements in Mark 14:12-16 to prepare for the Passover supper show about Jesus' concerns?

In view of the passages we just looked at in Mark 8, 9, 10 and 14, is there any evidence that Jesus was trying to avoid His eventual suffering and death?

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There is not enough time tonight to review John chapters 13-17, but these tell us something about Jesus' plans for that evening. Study these chapters this week and note Jesus' over-all purpose on this last night together.

What does all this tell us about Jesus' concern for His followers?

Compare John 17:12. (The whole of Chapter 17 is His amazing prayer.)

JESUS' LOVE FOR THOSE WHO DEFIED HIM:

We know from the record what Judas did, but why did Jesus specifically predict that in Mark 14:17-21?

Judas certainly was aware of Jesus' statements. What does verse 19 say about the conversation that resulted?

How does Jesus' letting Judas know what is going on, and letting him know the eternal consequences show Jesus' love for Judas?

For comparison, look at what God said to Cain in Genesis 4:6-7. Keep in mind that God told him this BEFORE Cain committed the murder!

How can God's love for Cain be seen here?

How is God's love for Cain also seen in Gen. 4:14-15?

How do these accounts graphically show us Jesus' (God's) LOVE and His willingness to forgive?

♦ FOR MEDITATION:

Read Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53, noting the prophecies about Jesus' intentional purpose on earth.

Study through John chapters 13-17, noting how Jesus was preparing His followers for the future.

Remember Jesus statement in Luke 7:47 about love? This was an earlier event, recorded in Luke 7:36-50. In this case a similar thing took place, but with tears and perfume.

Why did the woman in that case anoint Jesus feet?

(Note that in that case she stood at His feet. She did not anoint his head, but washed and anointed His feet only.)

What did Jesus say to her at the end?

What did her actions say about her trust (faith) in Jesus?

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♦ **PRAYER:**

Pray for our individual relationships and our witness to those in our lives.

In what ways will my life influence them?

How significant are my prayers for them?

Continue to uphold the Shelter Valley believers, and the GCC team that serves there.

Thank God for the Shelter Valley folks who have trusted in God and for those who were publically baptized this week!

Let's continue to pray for the Lord's love and power to be seen in Baranganon Island.

Pray for encouragement for Benders and Ingvoldstads. It is a VERY hot season right now.

Pray for Eddie, as he grows in Christ and takes on greater responsibilities on Baranganon Island.

Thank God for Seth, who insisted on sharing his testimony openly and in person (not videotaped), even though he is very shy.

Thank God and uphold in prayer the "TFG" (Time For God) group of children and young folks who meet every day!

Pray with the strong, self-motivated women's group as they study God's Word and grow to be mature believers.