



Week 3  
Discipleship Study  
Questions



**Mark Part 1: The Journey to the Cross**

During the season of Lent, we will follow Jesus on His journey to the cross. As disciples of Jesus, we have to understand the cost of what He did for us. Jesus intentionally went to His death, suffering physical pain and separation from God. Even if we've heard this story before, we still can remind ourselves of the enormity of Christ's sacrifice for us.

But praise God, His journey didn't end at the cross – He is risen!

### **Read the Scripture:**

*Individual:* Read the passage from two or three different translations.

*Group:* Have two different group members read the passage using different Bible translations.

### **Speak the Scripture:**

*Individual:* Recite the story aloud from memory (as best you can) or tell it to a friend or family member. The goal here is to get the essence of the passage in your heart.

*Group:* Have someone volunteer to recite the passage aloud in their own words, as best they can.

### **Understand the Scripture:**

*Individual or Group:* Use the Discovery Questions to help ensure you understand the passage.

### **Dig Deeper into the Scripture:**

*Individual:* Work through the Digging Deeper questions and pray about what God reveals to you through His word. Discuss with a Christian friend or family member if you choose.

*Group:* Work through the Digging Deeper questions as a group, celebrating the work God is already doing in each person's life, and encouraging each other to trust Him in the places that need growth.

# Small Group Guidelines

## **This is a Safe Group**

Confidentiality is key—what is said in the group stays in the group. Be aware of how you are affecting the environment with your words, actions, and non-verbal communication. This needs to be a place where people feel comfortable opening up and sharing.

## **No Crosstalk**

Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations, phone time, texting etc.

## **Listen**

Let's value one another by listening to what is being shared. Allow a pause after someone shares to allow them to finish and others to consider what was said. Eye contact and body posture play key roles in creating a positive or negative group environment.

## **No Rescuing or Fixing**

We are not here to fix each other; Jesus does that part. Avoid the tendency to rescue when someone is struggling to get the words out or shares a struggle or conviction.

## **Use "I" Statements**

It's easy to talk about the issues of others, or respond with "we," "us," or "the church," but for us to grow as disciples and build relationships, we want to use "I" statements.

## **Don't Over-Talk**

We want to create time for all members of the group to participate in the discussion. Be careful not to always be the first responder or regularly give long responses.

## **Fight for Relationship**

It's not if conflict or hurt feelings will happen, but when. We commit to fight for relationship with each other. Go to the person and share your struggle or seek wise advice if you are not sure how to handle the conflict.

## Week 3

**Background:** On the first two days of Holy Week, Jesus entered Jerusalem to the cheers of the people, cursed a fig tree, and turned over the tables in the temple. On His final night with his disciples, Jesus celebrated the traditional Jewish Passover meal. Even though He knew they would abandon and betray Him, Jesus still chose to spend time with the disciples. He even gave them a new tradition that completely redefined the Passover and gave all believers a way to remember Christ's death and resurrection.

**Read:** Mark 14:17-31

### **Discovery Questions:**

What do we learn about God in this passage?

What do we learn about what it means to be a follower of Christ in this passage?

What do you think the Holy Spirit might be teaching you personally through this passage?

Is there anything God is leading you to do after reading this passage?

### **Digging Deeper:**

What does Jesus reveal to the disciples about his impending suffering and death? How do they react?

How would you react if someone at your dinner table called the bread and the wine their body and blood? What do we now understand that Jesus meant by this?

What does it feel like to be betrayed? Would you want to honor your betrayers with a meal?

How do we see Jesus' extraordinary grace in this passage? How do we see Him speak truth?

### **End this time with a prayer.**

*Heavenly Father, when we were still sinners You sent Your Son to die for us. We have been just as faithless as the disciples at times. Thank You for Your grace, and for the Communion meal where we can come together and remember Christ's sacrifice. His body was broken and His blood was shed so we may have life. Alleluia. This is the best news of all. In Jesus' name, Amen.*