

GOOD NEWS FROM THE KING
A Study of the Gospel According to Mark
Mark 14:1–42
Holy Bible, New International Version ©2011

*"Abba, Father," he said, 'everything is possible for you.
 Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.'" Mark 14:36*

Pray for the Holy Spirit to open your heart to his word.

Read through this week's passage and jot down any thoughts and questions you may have.

Read Mark 14:1–11.

1. Compare and contrast the actions of the chief priests and teachers of the law, some of those present, and Judas Iscariot, with that of the woman.

Person(s)	What do they do?	Why?
Chief Priests and teachers of the law (vv. 1–2, 11)		
Some of those present (v. 4–5)		
Judas Iscariot (vv. 10–11)		
The woman (v. 3)		


2. Jesus strongly defends the woman when she is criticized. What does he say that might be surprising? (vv. 6–9)

Read Mark 14:12–26.

3. The Lord's Supper, or the Last Supper, is Jesus' celebration with his disciples of the Passover meal. Why is it fitting that Jesus is celebrating this particular feast on the eve of his suffering and death? (Exodus 12:1–8, 13, 23, 27; John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7b)

**Passover and the Festival
of Unleavened Bread.**


"Passover is the Jewish festival commemorating the occasion when the angel of the Lord "passed over" (Heb. *pāsaḥ*) the homes of the Hebrews on the night he killed all the first-born sons of the Egyptians (cf. Ex 12:13, 23, 27). ...The Feast of Unleavened Bread followed Passover and lasted seven days."¹

4. What does Jesus say about the one who would betray him? (vv. 17–21)
5. Note what actions Jesus takes with the bread in verse 22.
 - a. What might the disciples remember as they watch Jesus? (Mark 6:41; 8:6)
 - b. What does Jesus say the bread represents? (v. 22; John 6:33, 35)
 - c. When we partake of the bread during communion, what do we remember? (1 Corinthians 10:16b–17; 11:23–24)
6. Similarly, Jesus took a cup of wine.
 - a. What does Jesus say the cup represents? (v. 24; *Isaiah 53:12)
 - b. What was the previous covenant between God and his people? (Exodus 19:5–6; 24:7–8)
 - c. What is the new covenant Jesus establishes here? (Jeremiah 31:31–34; Matthew 26:27–28; Luke 22:20)
7. As they celebrate the Passover, faithful Jews look back to their deliverance at the time of Moses, and ahead to their deliverance at the coming of the Messiah. Our celebration of the Lord's Supper is a remembrance of the Last Supper, and it also looks forward. What future event does it anticipate? (v. 25; Revelation 19:6–9)

Read Mark 14:27–31.


8. Jesus uses a reference from Zechariah 13:7 in warning the disciples that they will be scattered, but at the same time, what hope does he give them? (v. 28)
9. Peter is unable to accept Jesus' prediction about falling away (v. 29) or that he will disown the Lord three times (vv. 30–31). What does Peter fail to understand about himself?

Read Mark 14:32–42.

10. In these verses we see the contrast between the faithfulness of Jesus and the weakness of the disciples.
 - a. What words does Jesus use to describe his anguish? (v. 34;  Psalm 42)
 - b. How does Jesus prepare for the suffering he knows is imminent? (vv. 32b, 35, 39)
 - c. When Jesus prays, "Take this cup from me" (v. 36b), what does he mean? (Jeremiah 25:15; Revelation 14:10)
 - d. How does Jesus confirm his obedience to the Father? (v. 36c)
11. What does Jesus want his disciples to do, and what do they do instead? (vv. 32, 34b, 37–38a, 40)
12. What temptation does Jesus want Peter and the disciples to guard against by praying and remaining watchful? (vv. 27, 30–31, 38b)
13. What is your hope when your spirit is willing, but your flesh is weak? (Psalm 73:26, 2 Corinthians 12:9–10, 1 Timothy 1:14–16)

"The mention of a third return of Jesus to the disciples gives the idea of finality and completeness; so there is a fitting finality in the words of his disciples, *Are you still sleeping?* Their failure has been complete, the crisis is over, and the betrayer is near. In the words of Jesus here there is no hint of bitterness, but there is a world of sadness. By *the hour has come*, Jesus means, not only that God's time has come, but that the matter over which he had prayed has been settled, and God's sovereign will has been revealed."²

"Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!" Mark 14:42

This lesson on Mark's Gospel is adapted from "Life of a Servant" by New Life Glenside Women's Bible Study, 2002–2003.
* indicates the passage is for further study.

¹ Walter W. Wessel and Mark L. Strauss, *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Revised Edition*, ed. Tremper Longman III & David E. Garland (Zondervan, 2010), 938.

² R. Alan Cole, *Mark*, Tyndale New Testament Commentaries (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008), 304–305.