

Getting to Know Each Other.

Share light refreshments. Go around the group and introduce yourselves and talk through this question: *“What is one of the silliest lawsuits you have heard about?”* *

Follow up. Did you get to share with someone about Jesus this past week?
Or how else did you obey Jesus?

Vision. Jesus told us to “Make disciples.” The purpose of our Life Group is: To help people become Believers in Jesus and grow up to become Disciple Makers.

Bible Study Introduction. While praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus was arrested in the early hours of Friday morning and His disciples scattered in fear. And Jesus was taken to the residence of the high priest. Then, at daybreak the whole Jewish Counsel met to finalize their judgment of Jesus.

Pray. Before we read the Scripture, let’s pray that God will speak to each one of us.

Read. We will read through the passage two times and then discuss it, so listen carefully. Get two people to read **Mark 14:53-65**. **

Discuss these questions, one at a time, encouraging everyone who wants to respond to do so. Remind the group: Keep your answers based just on this passage.

1. What stands out or surprises you in this passage?
2. What does it show us about people and choices we can make?
 - Peter ran away after Jesus was arrested, but then he followed Jesus “at a distance.” What does that show about Peter?
 - The purpose of a trial should be to determine the truth. What was the purpose of this trial?
 - One of the false witnesses said they heard Jesus say, “I will destroy this Temple....” Is that what Jesus actually said? Read John 2:18-21. What was Jesus talking about?
3. What does this passage show us about God?
 - How does it feel to be falsely accused?
 - Jesus remained silent and did not defend Himself. What can we learn from His example?
 - What did this “court” find Jesus guilty of? Read Daniel 7:13-14.
 - Jesus was claiming to be the “Son of Man,” the Son of God, the Messiah. Rather than condemning Jesus of blasphemy, what could they have done with Him?
 - The soldiers blindfolded Jesus, spit on Him, beat Him, and mocked Him. Knowing that Jesus went through this for you, how does that make you feel?

Obeying Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, we want to follow Jesus in whatever way He is leading us today. As we pray silently for 30 seconds, see if God speaks to your heart. Pray something like this: *“Lord Jesus, what do you want me to do with what You are showing me today?”* [30 sec. silent prayer]

Remember to obey what God is saying to you. And this week ask God who He wants you to talk with about Jesus. Let’s close in prayer.

Closing Prayer.

Pray something like: “Lord, prepare the hearts of the people we will be sharing the Good News of Jesus with this week. And give us strength and joy as we follow You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

** If there are no new people, you can skip the “icebreaker.”*

*** Reading from different translations often helps.*