

Community Group Discussion Questions

The Last Week, “The Arrest” John 18:1-14, 19-24

Theme: Jesus is the example for how to respond to unjust suffering and mistreatment.

How would you respond if a group of people falsely accused you of a crime and even called the police to have you arrested? That is exactly what happened to Jesus. The religious leaders had been watching his every move for years, but previous attempts to seize him had failed. Now, Judas helped arrange Jesus’ arrest and execution. All Judas wanted was 30 pieces of silver, the typical price charged for a slave.

We each experience mistreatment and are sometimes falsely accused. It can be painful, confusing, and angering. When you face this kind of trial remember Jesus. He has given us an example to follow when facing difficult, unfair times.

Gathering Together

Share with each other a strong memory from when you were 14 years old. Is it a good memory or a difficult one? Why?

Growing Together

Read John 18:1-14, 19-24

Using a map of Jerusalem, find the Garden of Gethsemane and the Palace of the High Priest. What occurred at each place?

Other gospel accounts tell us about Jesus’ prayer in the Garden. What does his prayer tell us about the character of Jesus? Read Luke 22:40-46 & Hebrews 12:2.

Why do you think Judas betrayed Jesus for just 30 pieces of silver? See John 12:3-8. What can we learn from Judas? See 1 Timothy 6:10.

What does Jesus do during his arrest that displays his nature and His character?

What can we learn from the soldiers involved in Jesus’ arrest?

Jesus was bound and brought to Annas. What kind of man was Annas? How likely was Jesus to get a fair trial before Annas?

What has Jesus taught you through this account of his arrest and the hearing before Annas?

Getting Real With One Another

How do you tend to react when mistreated? Is your reaction helpful or hurtful?

Have you ever had someone show you a healthy way to respond to mistreatment? What did they do that helped you?

Do you ever unfairly mistreat others? How? Why do you think you do? What will help you be less likely to treat others in this unfair and unloving way?

What most helps you remember who you are? How does that help you handle the difficult times in life?

Is there anyone who has mistreated you and you are having a hard time letting go of revenge and judgment? How can others encourage you to give this to God?

Group Prayer Time

Prayer for one another so you each can respond more like Jesus when you are mistreated and hurt by others.