

# Mark Series: Let the Gospel Tell the Gospel

## YOUR NEED FOR THE REDEEMER'S HEART

### DISAPPOINTMENT AND PERSECUTION PRESS YOU TO YOUR NEED FOR CHRIST ALONE.

38 “Keep watching and praying that you may not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

Covenant Presbyterian Church

**MARK 14:26-52**

26 May A.D. 2013

**A<sup>1</sup>** Mark 14:17-21 *one of you will betray me*

**B** Mark 14:22-26 *This is my body....This is my blood of the covenant*

**A2** Mark 14:27-31 *you will all fall away*

14:26-31 Without the Shepherd we fall away

14:32-36 Without the Father the Shepherd grieves to the point of death

14:37-42 Without the Father and the disciples Jesus is fully alone

14:43-49 Without opened-eyes intimate friend and Israel's leaders remove the Shepherd of Israel

14:50-52 Without the Shepherd the weakness of all is unclothed

#### **Mark 14:26-31 Without the presence of the Shepherd sheep fall from faithfulness to see their great need**

14:26 The discipline of praise: psalms of lament: crying out with complaint, despair, but always ending with praise.

14:27 fall away (*skandalizein*) here with a passive sense: Judas has a hardened heart; the others are weak

Isaiah 53:10; Luke 22-31-33; Mark 14:28: the disciples seem not to hear this promise of future presence.

Jesus to Peter in John 21: *Do you love me?* If so, don't fall away; feed my sheep.

#### **Mark 14:32-36 The pressing certainty of drinking the cup of God's wrath grieves Jesus to the point of death**

Gethsemane = *olive press, oil press* Jesus is being pressed like olives; his heart of hearts is here revealed

14:33 the inner three are tested again to be shaped and steeled unto future faithfulness

14:33-36 The language is incredibly strong

This text shows Jesus' humanity and divinity in perfect integrity: he is both fully human and emotionally present in the moment to a grief we cannot really begin to understand AND fully divine with full confidence in the Father's purpose.

14:36 *Abba:* the Son before the Father (we may use the term as the New Testament does [Rom. 8:15] only because of Jesus' drinking the cup of God's wrath.

John 18:11 (NASB) <sup>11</sup> So Jesus said to Peter, “Put the sword into the sheath; the cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?”

Mark 10:38-39

Psalm 75:8 (NASB95) <sup>8</sup> For a cup is in the hand of the LORD, and the wine foams; It is well mixed, and He pours out of this; Surely all the wicked of the earth must drain *and* drink down its dregs.

1 John 4:10 (NASB95) <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

Romans 3:25 (NASB95) <sup>25</sup> whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;

You must learn to see God in his holiness and judgment. In our radical depravity we become so used to living apart from his presence we think it is normal, which is why we are so willing to hurt one another too. The Son's intimacy with the Father is being broken for the first time. He is taking on all our unfaithfulness; he steps alone into judgment.

Jesus' inward obedience and the suffering of spirit which leads to it is the necessary step before the agony of the cross.

**Mark 14:37-42 Jesus rebukes us in the weakness of our flesh but moves boldly from lament to embrace his path that we might be born again to live in and by the Spirit.**

Jesus is living fully in the moment. He is perfectly present both to experience the anguish, shame and sorrow unto death and to embrace with confidence the path of betrayal, death and atonement for our sins.

Peter, James and John are tired physically but more so their weariness and kingdom disappointment push them to avoidance and sleep.

Circumstances do not determine our character; they reveal it.

The HEAT. PRESSURE. The Garden is full of temptation. The disciples see their leader in weakness and are overwhelmed, for they do not yet know that he has become weak on their behalf and is drinking a cup he alone can drink; though in following him they will need to die to self in order to find new life in him.

<sup>42</sup> "Get up, let us be going; behold, the one who betrays Me is at hand!"

**Enough!** he says. Like Adam in the first garden they choose not to obey and be blessed. But he obeys and is crushed (Isa 53) for their transgressions do that God need never turn his back on their cries and so they need never be fully alone.

**Mark 14:43-49 Betrayal by both intimate friend and public authority simply confirm the depth of corruption that Jesus—fulfilling Scripture--comes to judge and redeem.**

14:43 Immediately! Judas, one of the twelve Whomever I kiss

Proverbs 27 <sup>6</sup> Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but deceitful are the kisses of an enemy. (ESV profuse...enemy)

Swords and clubs: how little they understand who Jesus is and what he is doing! (even Peter has much to learn!)

<sup>49</sup> "Every day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me; but *this has taken place* to fulfill the Scriptures."

**Mark 14:50-52 The nakedness of our flesh is revealed; flee to Jesus for a new heart that by the Spirit will grow in unity of God-centered affection and action.**

The disciples' lack of integrity and unfaithfulness are exposed, including this mystery disciple.

We need a new heart and when Christ gives it, we cultivate its affections and stir them by thinking according to the Spirit and looking faithfully at Jesus and his work on our behalf.

You become who you commit to, growing in faithfulness unto integrity. We live in a day when so many are trying to find themselves or be true to themselves. Your fleshly self is divided and broken and easily falls and away, flees and tries to become someone else. Christ's covenant faithfulness is where we lose ourselves to find ourselves.

Jesus is the only one truly integrated (same inside and out) and who is absolutely faithful. Hide yourself in him. Rehearse his faithfulness: as you love him and see him, you will be you—with integrity—but you will be like him!