

## **Word of Life...on the eve of death Part 7: John 18 - The Trial(s) of Jesus**

Intro: What happens to your faith when the pressure is on?

Who is on trial in this chapter? Jesus (yes), other characters? Us?

### **1. In the face of attack and betrayal, Jesus is powerful and faithful (18:1-11)**

His powerful word

His care for his friends

His faithfulness to the Father's plan (shall I not drink this cup)

Pastoral thought – Jesus knows what it is to be betrayed

### **2. In the face of injustice, Jesus is innocent, consistent and faithful (18:12-28)**

The Jewish leaders are committed to their agenda at all costs

Peter's failure of faith

When are we tempted to fail to identify with Jesus?

The importance of consistency and openness from the people of God

### **3. In the face of opposition, Jesus is faithful to the truth (18:29-40)**

“my kingdom is not of this world...” does that mean separation of church and state?

Pilate - when you have to choose (between law and order!)

“Everyone on the side of truth listens to me” – avoiding engaging with the truth

Will you go where the truth leads, even if that means making difficult, uncomfortable decisions?

The Truth about Us – guilty; the truth about Jesus – innocent; the truth about his mission him in our place.