

# MARK

## READ ALOUD: MARK 14:26-52

### Pursue & Practice

#### Quick Passover History:

In our test last week, Jesus predicted his betrayal by Judas. In this week's verses, Mark 14:26-52, we will see even those determined not to leave him fall asleep, fall away (flee), and even be predicted to deny him. Each of these abandonments will leave Jesus more alone on his way to the cross. However, in this text, we not only see the earthly fellowships of Jesus fleeing from him in their weakness, but we see the anguish of Jesus as he considers what taking on every sin of his future siblings will mean for his heavenly fellowship with his Father.

- **All who followed Jesus on the night of his arrest abandoned Him when it was hard to follow Him. Where have you found yourself tempted to or choosing to abandon Jesus when it is hard to follow him? What in your life most tests your loyalty to Christ? What role does accountability play in your ability to remain loyal to Christ?**
  - **How did Jesus react to their failure? (Both now and after his resurrection.)**
    - **Have a group member offer a prayer of thanksgiving for Jesus's patience, mercy, offer of repentance, and abiding grace for the group before moving on to the next question.**
- **So far, Mark has done a beautiful job displaying that Jesus is the Son of God, a goal of his gospel. But here, in these verses, we see that Jesus is also fully human. What are some of the ways we see his humanity in this text?**
  - **Read Hebrews 2:14-18. According to these verses, why was it important that Jesus was fully human?**
    - **Have a group member offer a prayer of gratitude for Jesus's work on the cross that has delivered us from slavery to sin and death to life with him!**
- **In these verses in Mark, we also see that Jesus wrestled with what was to come. What do you think the depth of Jesus's anguish in the garden tells us about what he will face on the cross?**
  - **How does Jesus respond to his suffering and anguish in the garden? (*Hint: does he deny it, try to alleviate it himself, or try to control it? No, what does he do?*)**
  - **What does Jesus's human and sinless response to his pain and suffering teach us about our suffering and how we can respond when it comes to our own lives?**
    - **Have a group member offer a prayer of thanks to Jesus for taking the cup of wrath that was due to us upon himself. Thank him for being our empathetic high priest, who knows even more deeply than we ever will the depth of pain that suffering brings and has compassion for us.**

### Proclaim

There are people in the spheres in which we work and live who face the suffering of sin and brokenness in this world with no hope. Have each group member share the name of one person they are going to be praying for and looking for opportunities to share with in their lives.