

Stations of the Cross  
Episode #2 - **Condemnation at Caiaphas' Home**

**Jesus is Condemned - Station #3**

1. Read together Luke 22: 66-71 - When day came, the assembly of the elders of the people, both chief priests and scribes, gathered together, and they brought him to their council. 67 They said, "If you are the Messiah, tell us." He replied, "If I tell you, you will not believe, 68 and if I question you, you will not answer. 69 But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the power of God." 70 All of them asked, "Are you, then, the Son of God?" He said to them, "You say that I am." 71 Then they said, "What further testimony do we need? We have heard it ourselves from his own lips!" (NRSVUE)
2. What is the irony in the two journeys that Jesus took from the Mount of Olives on Palm Sunday, and then along the same route to be tried at the home of the High Priest just four days later?
3. This first trial of Jesus was strictly a religious trial held by the Sanhedrin Council. What religious terms used to describe the divinity of Jesus are used in this interplay?
4. The terms "Son of Man" (prominent in Daniel and Jesus' favorite self-description), "Son of God," "Messiah," and Jesus response "You say that I am" are all used. This last response of Jesus seems innocuous, but the Greek words for "I AM" were also used as reference to the holiest word to refer to God "YHWH" which translates "I AM." Why do you think Jesus, who rejected most of these references in his public ministry, suddenly embraces them?
5. Confessing that Jesus is the Messiah – the Christ – is life changing. We become part of the kingdom and take on the role of helping to build the kingdom with our King. When do you remember first embracing Jesus as more than a historical figure, but truly God and truly human?

**Jesus is Denied - Station #4**

1. Read together Luke 22:54-62 - Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. 55 When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. 56 Then a female servant, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." 57 But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." 58 A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" 59 Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him, for he is a Galilean." 60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. 61 The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." 62 And he went out and wept bitterly. (NRSVUE)
2. Why do you think Peter denied Jesus? Looking at Matthew's account (26:73), how could the crowd tell that John was from Galilee and not Jerusalem?

## Stations of the Cross

3. Peter was afraid. Following Jesus – being known as his disciple would make him different and could even risk his life. Have you ever been afraid to be singled out as a follower of Jesus? When have you done the same thing by just trying to blend in?
4. Jesus looked straight at Jesus, Peter remembered the crowing of the roosters, and then Peter wept. Have you ever realized that your actions were destructive to your witness of God? What prompted the realization? How have you responded? How does knowing of Peter's actions affect you?
5. In a period of ten hours or so, Jesus went from the Passover dinner to prisoner on trial. Have you ever had life change that quickly for you? One moment all seems well, and in a moment life changes? How did you cope with that change?