## **Journey Through Mark: Under Enemy Influence**



Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 04.14.24

<b>Key Truth:</b> Take The Enemy Seriously		
The Passover With The Disciples		Mark 14:12-2
12-16		Providential Preparation
Point:	The Lord To	You
17-21		Painful Revelation
	Against Enemy _	
	12-16 Point:	12-16   Point: The Lord To

## Mid-Week Devotion (Take time to pray & respond to the following)

Having the ability to distinguish between what's important and what's not is crucial. In today's fast-paced world, where productivity is constantly emphasized, this skill becomes even more valuable. Fortunately, it's something that can be learned and refined over time as one matures. If you are a follower of Jesus Christ, you need to be aware of the reality of spiritual warfare and be prepared to resist the influence of the enemy. It is vitally important that you take the enemy seriously.

Satan targets God's people intentionally and relentlessly. He wants to make them discouraged, distracted, deceived, and ineffectual. Their downfall brings disgrace to the Body of Christ and it deeply damages the witness of the church to the unbelieving world. Being vigilant against the enemy is critical not only for personal security but also for the church's boldness in the face of increasing persecution.

To strengthen our defenses against the enemy, we must engage in willful obedience to the Lord, practice the spiritual disciplines, and actively participate in Christian community. Satan's attempts to divide and conquer are ineffective when met with these formidable forms of resistance. The enemy hates God-empowered unity, peace, grace, love, and mercy.

Reflect on whether you're a spiritually "soft" or "hard" target for the enemy. Consider how your current lifestyle either facilitates or hinders the enemy's influence. Have you given prayerful and discerning thought to how God could bless and work through your life if you were more intentional in resisting negative influences?

Prayerfully express your need for God's guidance and protection. Ask for strength to be a force for righteousness and holiness in the world. Give thanks for God's protection and recommit yourself to resisting the influence of the enemy each day.