

*Mark: Come Follow Me*  
Mark 14.32-52  
November 13, 2022

This is our last set of Life Group questions for this session, so as we finish our study of Mark's Gospel, I want to encourage you to keep on digging deep. Maybe create your own questions! There's still a lot in this section of chapter 14, so use this guide as an aide to help you get into the text. Take on the questions *as you are able and have time*. You do not need to answer each one. Please enjoy some time in the Scriptures.

Pastor Eric

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*Share with your Group:* What's been one highlight for you during this Life Group session? What will you miss most during the upcoming break?

Take a glance back through Mark 14 and familiarize yourself with the flow of the preceding narrative. Read on in **Mark 14.32-52** as we focus on events in Gethsemane. What do you imagine is going on in the disciples' minds as they descend from the Mt. of Olives to Gethsemane? Take a stab at what you think they may imagine is coming next. Why do you think Jesus selects Peter, James, and John to go a little further with him into the Garden?

Describe what Jesus is going through as he anguishes in prayer. If you were watching him, what do you think you'd be seeing? What would have been your reaction had you witnessed it? Notice what Jesus expresses to the three in verse 34. Why would they fall asleep after hearing Jesus express his terrible concerns? What is he telling them to do when he tells them to watch? Is there a difference between watching and praying, as in verse 38? Do you think that outcome would have changed had they been faithful to his request that they watch and pray? If not, would anything have changed if they had watched and prayed?

Why did Judas need to arrange for a sign to identify Jesus? Wasn't he pretty famous by now? How do you imagine it felt for Jesus to be kissed by his betrayer, Judas? What do you imagine was going through the mind of Judas? What was he feeling as he placed that kiss on Jesus' cheek? What are the other disciples doing as the arrest is being made? What is some other information that the other Gospel's include that you find insightful here?

Do you find verses 51-52 humorous? Before any explanation was given of it during the sermon, what did you make of this quick aside that no other Gospel includes? Is it just comic relief? There is usually a break between verses 50 and 51. Ignore it and read straight from verse 50 through verse 52. Does that make better sense of it? Still, why does Mark choose to include this curious side story?

“Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

1 Peter 5.8

Consider the attitude shift of Jesus from before he prayed to after he prayed. Clearly, his prayer was key to prepare for the hour that was coming upon him. We noticed that his prayer was *honest, intimate, and submissive*. Are there other ways you might describe his prayer?

Notice that Jesus embodies for the disciples what he told them to do in verse 38. How is watchful prayer critical to keeping one from temptation? What might be an example of that actually working in someone’s life? What might be an example of neglecting watchful prayer and someone falling into temptation?

Read 1 Peter 5.8, and note that it captures much of what Jesus is telling his disciples to practice. If you were to really take this seriously – to *really* remain watchful and prayerful – how would you need to rearrange your lifestyle? Are there steps you can take in that direction?

For one final time, what did you learn about Jesus? How should you respond to what you learned about Jesus?

“The Christian prays, “expecting power, accepting suffering.”

Dowd, in *The New International Version Application Commentary*