



# WHO IS JESUS?

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF MARK

## INTRO

What do you remember about Palm Sunday when you were younger? Good/bad/no memories?

## READING

Mark 14:1-52

## DISCUSSION

1. In Mark verses 3-9, Jesus defends the woman who anoints him with expensive perfume (unnamed in Mark but identified in other gospels as Mary) against those who criticized her "waste." What does this teach us about how we value Jesus compared to other priorities in our lives?
2. In verse 18, Jesus doesn't identify Judas as the betrayer, causing all of the disciples to question themselves. When have you experienced a moment of self-examination that revealed uncomfortable truths about your motivations or actions?
3. In the passage, there's a notable contrast between Mary (who found Jesus beautiful) and Judas (who found Jesus useful). How do you see both tendencies in your own relationship with Christ, and how might you cultivate more of Mary's heart?
4. Pastor Mike quotes Solzhenitsyn: "If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through the heart of every human being. And who is willing to destroy a piece of his own heart?" How does this quote challenge your view of yourself and others, especially those you might consider far from God?
5. Pastor Mike describes the gospel as "bad news before it is good news." How does acknowledging our brokenness actually prepare us to more fully receive God's grace? Share a time when confronting your own sin led to a deeper experience of God's love.

