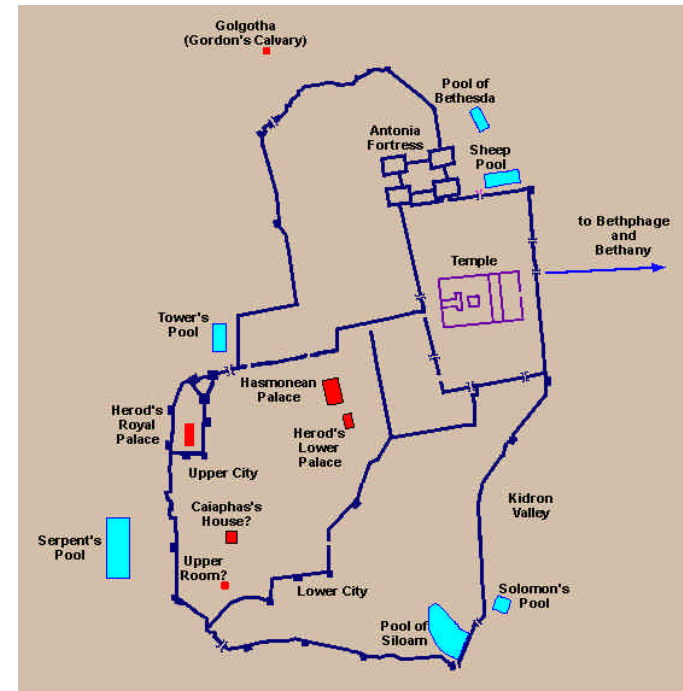


## Chapter Fourteen BROKENNESS AND DENIAL



### WHERE IS JESUS?

1. Bethany, at Simon the Leper's home.
2. The upper room in Jerusalem.
3. The Garden of Gethsemane.
4. The Sanhedrin at Caiaphas' house.

**OVERVIEW :** As Jesus' final week progresses, we see His last significant teaching opportunity with His disciples. Chapter fourteen begins with the stark statement that the religious leaders in Jerusalem were plotting the arrest and execution of Jesus. All of this was occurring while Jesus and

His disciples were preparing to celebrate the Passover one last time.

There is a wonderful scene at the home of Simon the Leper, a man Jesus may have healed earlier, and a good friend of Mary, Martha and Lazarus. Mark says a woman (she is identified in John 12:1, 2 as Mary) broke a jar of expensive perfume and poured it over Jesus head. When the disciples rebuke her for this, Jesus commends her act saying that she has anointed His body for burial. He goes on to say that wherever this story is told until the end of time she will be remembered for this act!

This tender and intimate scene is immediately followed by the incredible betrayal of Jesus to the Jewish leaders by one of His own disciples—Judas Iscariot. The leaders paid him money and he plotted with them to hand Jesus over at a secluded location. Meanwhile, Jesus and His disciples were making preparation for their final Passover celebration. This meal became the place where Jesus instituted what has become the Eucharist or Lord's Supper: a meal celebrated regularly by Christians to memorialize the death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

At the end of this meal, Jesus predicts that the disciples will all fall away in the midst of persecution and that Peter will deny Him three times. Immediately after the Passover meal, Jesus and the disciples go out to the Garden of Gethsemane, where He spends the night agonizing in prayer over the impending crucifixion. In a typical scene for Mark's narrative, the disciples fall asleep three separate times while they were supposed to be

watching and waiting while Jesus prayed. Immediately upon the completion of Jesus' prayer time, Judas arrives with the soldiers commissioned by the Sanhedrin to arrest Jesus. Jesus is taken away to the house of the High Priest, Caiaphas, where He is questioned in the middle of the night. The disciples scatter after Jesus' arrest, Peter denies Jesus three separate times, and the rooster crows to signify another prophecy has been fulfilled. The final sequence in the journey to the cross has officially begun.

**Read Mark 14:5.**

? "*rebuked her harshly.*" John 12:3 identifies this woman as Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. John also tells us that Judas was the one who rebuked her. The Greek word for rebuke is ***emprimaomai***, and it literally means "to express violent displeasure."

**Read Mark 14:24.**

? "*Covenant.*" The Greek word here is ***diatheke***, and refers to a covenant or agreement made by only one person (God) as opposed to ***syntheke***, which is an agreement entered into by two equal parties.

**Read Mark 14:33.**

? "*Deeply distressed and troubled.*" The Greek words here are ***ekthambeo*** (distressed), which literally means "to be greatly alarmed" and ***ademoneo*** (troubled), which literally means "to be in extreme anguish."

**Read Mark 14:36.**

? “*Abba.*” This word is the Aramaic form of the Greek word ***Pater*** and occurs only two other times in the Bible (Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6). *Abba* was a common way for a young Jewish boy to address his father. It conveyed a sense of familial intimacy and familiarity.

**Read Mark 14:51.**

? “*A young man.*” Most commentators believe that Mark was talking about himself here, but there is no biblical proof of that.

**FOR YOUR PERSONAL STUDY:**

1. How would you have reacted if you had been there when the woman poured the oil over Jesus?

2. Read 14:27-31. How have you been like Peter in making statements about your commitment to Christ? How has it turned out?

5. Read 14:32-36. If Jesus was alone in the garden where He was praying, how did Mark know what He said?

6. Describe a time when you passionately prayed for something specific to happen in your life.

How did your prayer differ from Jesus' prayer in the garden? What happened?

7. At Jesus' arrest, the disciples started to fight for him (even with a sword), but quickly lost their nerve and ran away. How has this scene been played out in your life?

2. Describe some of the characteristics of the disciples as you have gotten to know them in Mark. What is your overall impression of them?

3. Read 14:17-26. Jesus institutes a new covenant in this last supper. What was wrong with the old covenant? How can we be sure this new covenant will work (see Jeremiah 31:33, 34)?

4. How does this scene affect your understanding of the meaning communion has for you?

3. In what ways are you a faithful disciple? In what ways is your allegiance to Christ being tested on a daily basis?

4. Read v. 38. Jesus says that the spirit is willing, but the body is weak. How have you seen this played out in your life?

5. Judas was one of the twelve who had walked with Jesus and professed allegiance to Him, yet he betrayed Him with a kiss. How have you been a Judas in your life as a Christ follower?

6. Who do you think the young man was who ran away at Jesus' arrest (v. 51)?

7. When the guard came to arrest Jesus all the disciples deserted Him and ran away. How do you think you would have reacted?

How do you react today when you are faced with opposition to your faith?

8. The disciples deserted Jesus at His arrest. Think back on the Gospel of Mark and list some of the signs or indicators that pointed to the fact that this would happen.

9. Read Hebrews 5:8. How have you learned obedience through suffering for your faith?

**FOR YOUR GROUP STUDY:**

1. What observations have you made in your study of Mark this week?