

KNOW-ACT-BE

This is Holy Week — the final leg of the Lenten journey. In our Palm Sunday worship, Pastor Mark invited us to listen and hear more about Jesus as we walked through the long passion narrative of Scripture. And as we discovered, there is truly much to hear, remember and in fact, ... more of Jesus' story to tell.

As we walk through this week, I hope you *will consider* and process Christ's passion together and in quiet reflection alone with our Lord every day this week. I have broken down the passion narrative into five sections, offering a few BE questions for discussion or contemplation on the Scripture itself, and then end with some overarching ACT reflections for the week.

It is my prayer that you will sense Jesus is walking with you this week and that his passion and the Spirit's leading will profoundly change your journey going forward in the days ahead.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Angela

Rev. Angela Alvarado

Discipleship Pastor
College Church of the Nazarene University Avenue
aalvarado@collegechurch.org

Sermon for March 24, 2024: www.collegechurch.org/college-church-online

KNOW ... *God and his Word.*

Mark 14:1-31 (NIV)

- How are the actions of the woman with the alabaster box beautiful? What about the story makes it worth remembering? Discuss the other act that occurred in verses 10-11.
- At this Passover meal, a time of celebrating God's faithfulness to his people, Jesus speaks of betrayal and desertion. How does Jesus identify his betrayer? Who will eventually abandon Jesus? Why does this happen? What is the disciples' response to this information?
- In the midst of impending betrayal, Jesus welcomes the disciples to partake of the bread and cup. Discuss the significance of bread and cup as well as Jesus' action in offering it to them.
- What stands out in this Scripture? Discuss what the Lord is showing you in these stories.

Mark 14:32-52 (NIV)

- In the garden of Gethsemane, we see a very human Jesus and an obedient Son. Describe the ways Jesus' humanness and his obedience to the Father are being expressed. Is there anything that surprises you in Jesus' actions or his conversation with the Father in this passage?
- Judas could have betrayed Jesus by simply pointing him out from afar. What do you find the most shocking in the way the betrayal was carried out? Why? How might this method of betrayal attributed to the desertion of Jesus by the other disciples?

- What stands out in this Scripture? Discuss what the Lord is showing you in these stories.

Mark 14:53-15:15 (NIV)

- In this time, a matter is settled by the testimony of two or three. What does Mark tell us about the testimonies being given to the Sanhedrin against Jesus? How did Jesus respond to his accusers? What was used to convict Jesus?
- Outside the court where Jesus was being tried, Peter found himself on trial. Why was Peter there? Name the accusations against him. How do the accusations against Peter compare to the accusations against Jesus? What was the end result of Peter's trial?
- Who is Pilate? What adjectives would you use to describe him? Why was he involved in questioning and sentencing Jesus? What purpose did he serve?
- What stands out in this Scripture? Discuss what the Lord is showing you in these stories.

Mark 15:16-32 (NIV)

- Who bore witness to the soldiers mocking Jesus? What was the reason they mocked him and how did they do it?
- What does Mark's account of the crucifixion focus on? Name the charge against Jesus. Who speaks out in this passage to mock Jesus? What do they say? How do the mocking words actual bear witness to God's plan through Jesus?
- What stands out in this Scripture? Discuss what the Lord is showing you in these stories.

Mark 15:33-47 (NIV)

- What is significant about the centurion's confirmation of Jesus' death? How might Joseph of Arimathea's actions be considered risky? Why would he take that risk?
- Verses 40-41 and 47 speak of women being present at Jesus' death. Describe the women. What do their actions convey about them and their faith?
- What stands out in this Scripture? Discuss what the Lord is showing you in these stories.

ACT ... responding to & applying what we know.

- When was the first time you remember the passion and crucifixion making a difference in your life? How did it change you? After reading Christ's passion again this week, what is God calling you to risk believing or doing in your faith journey today?
- Pastor Mark said, "The rest of the story is us! We are the rest of the story!" How are "we" the rest of the story? Name some ways you can use your story with Jesus to introduce others to Jesus.