



NEW TESTAMENT • LESSON 35

## JESUS ARRESTED

*Jesus offered no resistance to arrest, that we might be saved.*



### MONDAY

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#### **THE STORY: MARK 14:32-42**

In one of the clearest demonstrations of the suffering of Christ on our behalf, Jesus took time to pray just prior to His arrest. Jesus was so filled with anguish that He cried out to the Father to take the suffering away. All the while His disciples were sleeping, and one was about to betray Him.

The sinfulness of man in contrast to the grace of God is clearly portrayed in the failure of the disciples to stay awake to pray with Jesus. The Scripture tells us, “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us, (Romans 5:8).

#### **TALK ABOUT IT:**

What did Jesus pray to His Father? (Jesus prayed that the cup be taken away from Him but not according to His will - only by the Father’s will.)

What did the cup represent? (The cup represented the suffering on the cross and the rejection by the Father, who would pour out upon his Son the wrath we deserved.

What was important about Jesus’ prayer? (Jesus didn’t just request relief for His own sake. He said, “Yet not what I will, but what you will.” When we pray and

ask God for things, we can follow the example of Christ, who submitted His request but gave preference to the will of the Father. Many times we pray for things that are not in keeping with God’s will for us. If we pray like Jesus, our prayers will honor the Father.)

**PRAY:**

Have each person in your family offer a request to God following the pattern of Jesus, who said, “Yet not what I will, but what you will” (Mark 14:36).



**T U E S D A Y**

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**THE STORY: MARK 14:43-50**

Jesus was betrayed, arrested, and deserted. Just as Jesus predicted, Judas betrayed Jesus. The kiss was unnecessary, for Jesus identified himself (see John 18:5), yet Judas followed through with his treachery. We learn from John 18:10 that Peter is the one who cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest. Luke 22:51 says that Jesus then touched the man and healed him.

Peter was determined to fight, but did not realize there would be no fighting with swords. Jesus would fight alone. The fight was for our salvation, and the weapon was not a sword, but the cross. Once the disciples saw Jesus arrested without offering resistance, their hope for a restored kingdom was crushed (see Luke 24:21), and they fled. Zechariah predicted this when he said, “Strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered” (Zechariah 13:7).

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

Why did Peter cut off the man’s ear? (Peter, in an effort to demonstrate his willingness to defend Jesus, started a fight. He had no idea that Jesus was going to allow Himself to be taken.)

Why did Jesus allow Himself to be taken? (Jesus came to die on the cross at the hands of sinful men. Though there was great suffering involved, Hebrews 12:2

tells us that there was also a joy to which Jesus was looking forward. That is the day when those He came to save will be fully redeemed.)

**PRAY:**

Thank Jesus for enduring the suffering of the cross that we might be saved.



**WEDNESDAY**  
**WHERE IS THE GOSPEL?**

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**THE STORY: JOHN 18:1-11**

Jesus did not call down legions of angels or defend Himself. This fulfilled the Scriptures (see Matthew 26:56). Isaiah 53:11 prophesied, “He shall bear their iniquities.” The arrest of Jesus was linked to His death, where He bore our sin. When we read of His arrest, we see His willingness to die in our place. This is the greatest demonstration of love in history.

Though Jesus did not defend Himself, John records a fascinating glimpse at His authority and power. When Jesus answered the officials, saying, “I am he,” the officials drew back and fell to the ground. Something caused them to fall back. Whether it was a momentary shockwave or simply the command of His voice, we can’t help to notice that Jesus’ words, match those God used to describe Himself to Moses, saying “I am who I am” (see Exodus 3:14). These men did not fall forward in worship; they should have fallen back since they were mere men arresting God.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

Why didn’t Jesus defend Himself at His arrest? (If Jesus had defended Himself, he would have won easily, but there would be no salvation.)

What signs did those who arrested Jesus have that He was God? (Not only did they fall back when Jesus said “I am,” but they also witnessed Jesus healing the ear of the man Peter had injured.)

**PRAY:**

Pray that God helps us to recognize Jesus. Many people know His name, but not everyone believes and gives Him their lives.



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**THURSDAY**

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**THE STORY: MARK 14:53-65**

Jesus went on trial. Jesus had done nothing wrong; He was without sin. All the rulers came together and brought false witness against Jesus but their testimonies, all lies, did not agree.

The chief priest asked Jesus directly, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” Jesus answered, “I am.” Then He went on to say He, the Son of Man, would come with the clouds of heaven. The high priest, knowing that Jesus was claiming to be God, equal with the Father, tore his clothes and accused Jesus of blasphemy. Jesus was then condemned to die, cruelly beaten, and mocked. The rulers did not realize that everything Jesus said was absolutely true.

Jesus calling Himself the Son of Man brings together Daniel 7:13,14 and Psalm 110:1. The Son of Man in Daniel is given authority and glory, and all the nations worship Him. He is God. Combined with the words “I am,” there is no mistaking Jesus’ claim to be God.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

What is significant about the words “I am”? (“I am” is the name God gave Himself when He spoke to Moses. The Jewish leaders would have known this. Jesus used those words with this in mind.)

What do you think you would have done if you lived in the time of Jesus’ arrest? (We can think that we would have acted nobly. The truth is we would have either

sided with the religious rulers and accused Jesus, or sided with the disciples and deserted Jesus. We should not look back at these men with judgment. They were all sinners, like us, in need of a Savior.)

**PRAY:**

Ask God to help each member of your family always remember the cost of the cross.



**FRIDAY  
ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS**

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**THE STORY: PSALM 41:9**

This is a reference to Jesus' betrayal by Judas and includes a reference to the Last Supper, where Judas shared bread with Jesus. Jesus quoted this passage in John 13:18 and directly attributed it to Himself. Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss, the greeting of a close friend.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

How did Jesus trust Judas even though Jesus knew Judas was going to betray Him? (Jesus allowed Judas to remain with Him and even gave Him the job of carrying the disciples' money.)

Would anyone have understood this passage as referring to Jesus prior to Him making this connection? (No, there were many clues hidden in the Scripture, and in many ways all of the Old Testament points to Jesus.)

**PRAY:**

Thank God for sending His son Jesus in spite of the tremendous betrayal and suffering He needed to endure.