



Rockbridge Church Small Groups Lesson 14
Mark 14 – Real Jesus (Read Mark 14)

Questions:

1. What do you see in Mark 14 that helps you know what Jesus is like?
2. In what ways do you see Jesus hard at work, on a mission, with a purpose, loving people?
3. What one thing about Jesus stands out to you in this chapter? (What about Jesus astonishes you, amazes you, challenges you or comforts you?)
4. In Mark 14, who encounters Jesus, and how do they respond to Him?
5. How are you responding to the Jesus you encountered in Mark 14?
6. What was most instructive, and what did you appreciate most from Sunday's sermon?

Check out the additional notes on **Prayer** on the next page

Prayer

Prayer is an open, shameless admission of total dependence on God.

It is our God-given means of intimate fellowship with God, and total surrender to God.

And He went a little beyond them, and fell to the ground and began to pray that if it were possible, the hour might pass Him by. And He was saying, "Abba! Father! All things are possible for You; remove this cup from Me; yet not what I will, but what You will." And He came and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour? Keep watching and praying that you may not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Mark 14:35-38

Peter fell asleep while Jesus prayed. Peter didn't see much need to pray — he had just told Jesus something like, "Hey, trust me. I've got this" (see Mark 14:27-29). Peter had confidence in his flesh — he trusted himself, and didn't have much need for depending on God for much of anything.

Jesus knew differently. He stayed awake (and alert) and prayed a very childlike, dependent prayer. Jesus' prayer was an open, shameless admission of total dependence on His Father. He knew His Father knew best, so Jesus surrendered in prayer. It was childlike, not childish — childish praying is demanding God do what we want. Childlike prayer desires and asks fervently for specific outcomes, with the heart attitude and verbal expression, *"nevertheless, Your will be done."*

Prayer is personal communion and conversation with the living God. It is the meeting place where we draw near to God to receive His grace, to release our burdens and fears, and to be honest with the Lord. Prayer is an opportunity (and therefore a choice), and a privilege (and therefore a responsibility).

Prayer is the voice of faith, whose whisper can be felt across the street or across the world. It's what pries us from our seats as spectators and places us as participants in matters of destiny. As we spend time in His presence, His thoughts gradually become our thoughts, and His ways our ways. Through prayer we become transformed.

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