

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of March 5, 2017

This Week's Focus: Jesus is the all-powerful and victorious King who displayed his sovereignty at his arrest and revealed God's justice, love, and glory in his atoning death on the cross.

This Week's Text: John 18:1-12

So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?" **John 18:11**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are your general impressions about this week's passage of Scripture?
- What is the setting of this week's text? What time of year is it in Jerusalem? What garden does Jesus travel to with his disciples? Reference Matthew 26:36, Mark 14:32, and Luke 22:39.
- Unlike the synoptic Gospels, John does not depict Jesus' agonizing prayer in the garden. How instead does John choose to portray Jesus in this passage? What divine characteristics can we see in Jesus in these verses?
- Who did Judas bring with him to the garden? What's significant about the fact that both the Jewish religious leaders and the irreligious Gentiles were involved in Jesus' arrest and crucifixion? Reference Romans 3:9-12, 23; 5:6-11.
- What is significant about Jesus' statement, "I am he"? Reference Exodus 3:13-14. What caused the band of soldiers to fall back at Jesus' words?
- In these verses, where do we see Jesus acting as both the Great High Priest as well as the Good Shepherd caring for his sheep? What ultimate protection does Jesus provide for his sheep (all those who believe in him)?
- What was Peter's mistake? Can you relate to Peter's tendency to act too swiftly before thinking?
- How is the metaphor of "the cup" typically used in Scripture? Reference Psalm 75:8, Isaiah 51:17, Revelation 14:10, and Revelation 16:19. Discuss how Jesus' substitutionary atoning death simultaneously evidences God's love and his righteousness (justice).
- How does this passage encourage you to declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?