

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of March 12, 2017

This Week's Focus: Jesus, the innocent and sovereign Son of God, endured unjust ridicule at the hands of corrupt sinners to accomplish the Father's predetermined plan to redeem rebellious sinners from sin, death, and hell.

This Week's Text: John 18:12-27

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD. The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar! You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!" **Psalm 118:26-29**

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What are your general impressions about this week's passage of Scripture?
- What is the setting for this week's text? Where did the captain and his officers first lead Jesus?
- Before he was sentenced to crucifixion, what two trials did Jesus endure? Despite the corruption and the many illegalities present in these trials, what does John want his readers to keep in mind? Reference verses 4, 8-9, 14.
- Who is Annas and what did he hope to accomplish at Jesus' arraignment? What two things did Annas question Jesus about? How does Jesus answer?
- If Caiaphas was the high priest that year (verse 13), why is Annas also called high priest (verse 19)?
- What is John referring to in verse 14? Reference John 11:47-53. Discuss how God used Caiaphas' murderous intent to accomplish his perfect redemptive will.
- What do we learn about Peter prior to this passage and from the other Gospel accounts? What does Peter do after his futile efforts to defend his Teacher from arrest? Rather than testify to the truth, what did Peter do instead? Reference verses 18, 25.
- Though formerly courageous and sincere in his love and devotion to Jesus, why did Peter deny his Master? Have there been times that you, like Peter, have been overcome with fear and denied your Lord? Discuss how the gospel restores us in those times of guilt and shame.

- Discuss how Jesus is the true and better substitutionary, sacrificial lamb who was bound and suffered on the cross in our place.
- How does this passage encourage you to declare and demonstrate the gospel in your community and spheres of influence?