

MARK 14:53-72

OBSERVATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE SAY?

1. Who is Jesus brought before? Describe the testimony/charges brought against him.
2. What does Peter do in this section?
3. In what ways does Jesus respond? What does Jesus say that causes the high priest to respond?
4. After Jesus says what he does in verse 62, what does the high priest say about their need for witnesses?
5. What verdict is given to Jesus? How is he treated?
6. Where is Peter? Who speaks to him? What do they say?
7. How does Peter respond to the questions and comments made to him? How are the three accusations and denials similar? How are they different?
8. What does Peter do when he hears the rooster/cock crow?

INTERPRETATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN?

1. What is Peter's motivation for coming into the courtyard? Describe how Peter must be feeling right at this moment in light of his words in vss. 27-32, actions in vss. 43-50.
2. Compare 3:6, 12:13, 14:1,2. What seems to be the plan of the Jewish leadership regarding Jesus? How did they build a case against him?
3. Why did the words of Jesus in verse 62 get such a vehement response? Why do you think that Jesus, for the most part, remained silent?
4. Look up Isaiah 53:7; Daniel 7:13; and Psalm 110:1. How do these verses impact these events?
5. Jesus many times has expressed who he is in Mark. Look up Mark 8:38; 12:35-37; 13:26.
6. Why does Peter deny Christ? What is he feeling and thinking here in the courtyard? Do you think he realized what he was doing? Why or why not?
7. What do you think the servant girls' motivations were? Why does she pursue him and her accusation?
8. Compare the event in the other gospels (Matthew 26:69-75; Luke 22:56-62; John 18:16-18, 25-27). What do you notice from these other passages?
9. Do you think Peter was ever able to forgive himself? Why or why not?

APPLICATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN TO ME/US?

1. What can we learn from Jesus' response here? What should our response be when falsely accused?
2. Where would you have been if you had been one of the disciples of Jesus? What would you have done had you been a Jewish leader of that day?
3. Is this passage teaching us that we should not defend ourselves when falsely accused? Why or why not?
4. What is a moment in your life in which you were most disappointed in yourself? Have

you asked for forgiveness in this? Are you able to forgive yourself?

5. Have your failures in life hindered you from serving Christ? Do they still hinder you from serving Christ? Should they hinder you from serving Christ?
6. What advice would you have for Peter, that is for someone who felt they had failed the Lord?
7. Are you able to take your own advice from question 3?

ACTION PLAN

Spend time personally and with others in coming up with an action plan inspired by your study. What in this passage compels you to desire a change, to move to action, to become more like Jesus? It could be a change in thinking, behavior, character. It could be internal or external. It could be personal or relational. Just don't leave studying the Bible as simply an intellectual exercise.