

Sardis Community Church

March 20, 2022

Sermon Discussion Questions

Mark 14:1-26

1. Mark sets the scene as Passover approaches. What themes do you notice from the Exodus and Passover in Israel's Scriptures to what Mark is telling us about Jesus? Why do you think that Jesus chooses Passover as festival where he will go to the cross as opposed to other festivals (for example, the Day of Atonement)?
2. In verse 4, those present in the room (including the disciples) became very angry at the woman who poured perfume on Jesus. Mark uses language of those present being "indignant" and that they "rebuke" the woman, which is some of the strongest language in Mark. Why do you think they react in this way and what do you make of Jesus reply? What do you think are the implications of this for our discipleship to Jesus?
3. In verse 7, Jesus says, "the poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want." What do you think are the implications for discipleship to Jesus here and what instruction does this give to the church today? Where do you see our community at Sardis taking this call seriously, and where might we have room to grow?
4. Contrary to the poor widow at the temple, the unnamed woman at Bethany has significant financial resources. Jesus seems to tell his disciples that they model the right kind of devotion that God is after, despite many of the men in the story, including the disciples, getting mixed up in power, wealthy, and status. What do you see as the motivation for these women and why do you think they understand more than the men in the story?
5. What was the most surprising part of the story this week? What are you taking with you into this coming week as a practical step of following Jesus? Did you learn anything new about Jesus, or catch a different perspective on God's character through this story?