



Jesus arrested

Mark 14:43-52




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⁴³ Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders.

⁴⁴ Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard."



⁴⁵ Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁴⁶ The men seized Jesus and arrested him. ⁴⁷ Then one of those standing near drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁴⁸ "Am I leading a rebellion," said Jesus, "that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me?"



⁴⁹ Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled." ⁵⁰ Then everyone deserted him and fled. ⁵¹ A young man, wearing nothing but a linen garment, was following Jesus. When they seized him, ⁵² he fled naked, leaving his garment behind.



Personal reflection

* When have you ever been blamed for something you did not do?

* What did/does it feel like to be wrongly accused?



Explore the passage

1. Who was Judas? (14:43-44)
2. Who accompanied Judas to Gethsemane? Why? (14:43-44)
3. How did the religious leaders treat Jesus? (14:43-46)
4. Why did they bring a large, armed force to arrest Jesus? (14:43-48)
5. How did Judas greet Jesus? Why? (14:44-45)



Explore the passage

6. In what way were Judas' actions contradictory? (14:44-45)
7. How was Jesus' response to this situation different from that of his followers? (14:48-50)
8. What is significant about the fact that Jesus' followers deserted him? (14:50-52)



Understand it

1. What do we know about Judas from this passage?
2. What kind of person was Judas?
3. In what way was Judas hypocritical?
4. In what way is Judas a negative example to all of us?
5. In what ways are we like Judas in the way we treat Jesus?
6. How do you think Jesus must have felt about the fact that his disciples deserted him?



Understand it

7. When are you most tempted to compromise your commitment to Jesus?
8. How can we prepare for times when our dedication to Jesus is tested?
9. How does Jesus' perseverance in this situation encourage you to endure your difficult situations?
10. How can you lean on Jesus when you go through very distressing and frightening experiences?



Apply it

1. What can you do now to prepare for times when your dedication to Christ is tested at work, at home, or around neighbours?

2. What friend can you support through a difficult situation? How?