# Gospel of Mark Weekly Talk Ideas | Sean McGever

## Mark Chapter 14

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| Scripture suggestion, basic overview, and background:Since Mark is the shortest gospel, I will cover one story from Mk 14 in the Fall (this one) and then another in the Spring. In my club, the following week we will go through the cross (Mk 15). Typically, in YL we do a “sin” talk before the cross talk. Common texts for “sin” talks are stories like the Rich Young Ruler, the Woman Caught in Adultery, the Prodigal Son, etc. But, since we are allowing Mark to direct our gospel progression, we are looking in the chapter before the cross story to see what Mark thinks is important to say right before the cross. As it turns out, Mk 14:32-42 covers much of the same ground and even *more* than our typical sin talks in YL. This passage covers not only the consequences of sin, but also the weight, feeling, and experience of sin before death. This is significant because it is difficult (especially for young people) to connect with the consequences of “death” here and now; we can, however, connect with the weight, feeling, and anxiety sin brings here and now – we all feel this, all of us. 1. Jesus takes Peter, James, and John to a garden to pray (v.32-33a)
2. Jesus’ feelings during prayer at this moment (33b-35)
	1. Distressed
	2. Troubled
	3. Very sorrowful (even to death)
3. Jesus’ prayer (36)
	1. Abba = Father / Papa / Daddy
	2. Jesus’ human anguish cries out: Remove this cup from me
	3. Jesus’ human obedience cries out: Not what I will, but what you will
4. Jesus’ friends let him down repeatedly (37-42)

Passages about the consequences of sin: Rom. 3:23, 6:23, Isa. 59:2, Gen. 2:17, Jn. 3:16, Isa 53:6 |
| Possible main point(s):* Anxiety, worry, distress, trouble, and sorrow often are a result of our sins (or the sins of others done to us). Jesus took these consequences upon himself so you could be freed from the weight of these.
* When Jesus felt the weight of our sin, he turned to God in prayer. Will you turn to God in prayer tonight?\*Note: Jesus’ prayer was answered via God’s being with Jesus in His darkest hour, not by removing the cross.
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| What this shows us about Jesus:* Jesus truly felt the weight of our sin, even though He had never sinned.
* Jesus was fully human, he had intense human feelings just like we do, even feelings that felt deadly.
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| What this has to do with our life:* Our anxiety, worry, sorrow, trouble, and distress do not have to be our own. Jesus experienced them on our behalf.
* Our sins (and the sins of those done to us) often bring intense feelings that God wants to experience with us.
* Our sin has eternal consequences (death) and present consequences (including anxiety/sorrow).
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| Relevant technical details:* *Gethsemane* (v.32) = A hilly garden area about a half mile outside the wall surrounding of Jerusalem.
* *Greatly distressed and troubled* (v.33) = Very troubled, upset, distressed, sad (nearly to the point of death).
* *My soul is very sorrowful, even to death* (v.34) = Anguished, surprised, overwhelmed (to the extreme, perhaps to the point that might bring death).
* *If it were possible, the hour might pass from him / not what I will* (vv.35-36) = It might appear that Jesus was trying to get out of His impending torture and crucifixion, however this is not what these phrases mean. Jesus’ will and the Father’s will are always the same and Jesus knew his purpose in coming to earth. Jesus is experiencing his full humanity in these phrases, He cannot just ignore them because He is Divine – here we see an intimate confluence of Jesus’ divinity and humanity.
* *Abba* (v.36) = An Aramaic word which means “Father” but in an intimate sense, not unlike what a young child says when they cry out for their “daddy.”
* *Remove this cup* (v.36) = This meant the “cup” of God’s wrath due to disobedience (i.e. sin). The prophets spoke of this cup (Isa. 51:17, 22, Jer. 49:12) and Jesus said only He could drink this cup (Mk. 10:38). This is the key link between this passage and a typical YL sin talk.
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| Possible illustrations:* *Kleenex box*: Describe a time when you were extremely sad/overwhelmed because of consequences you had to face.
* *Fall on your knees* (v.35): This is an act of desperation. Consider telling of a time when you were so desperate that you were physically weak and could do nothing to help yourself. Tell this story from your knees possibly.
* *Cup* (v.36): Have a cup and “pour” into it your “sins.” Show that Jesus took our cup himself. Consider giving it to someone else (a leader) to show that we do not have to undergo the consequences ourselves.
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*For more details, see ylhelp.com*

Mark 14 (ESV)

**The Plot to Kill Jesus**

**14**It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, **2**for they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people.”

**Jesus Anointed at Bethany**

**3**And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. **4**There were some who said to themselves indignantly, “Why was the ointment wasted like that? **5**For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor.” And they scolded her. **6**But Jesus said, “Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. **7**For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. **8**She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. **9**And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her.”

**Judas to Betray Jesus**

**10**Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. **11**And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him.

**The Passover with the Disciples**

**12**And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, “Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?” **13**And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, **14**and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ **15**And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us.” **16**And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

**17**And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. **18**And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.” **19**They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, “Is it I?” **20**He said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. **21**For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”

**Institution of the Lord’s Supper**

**22**And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” **23**And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. **24**And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. **25**Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

**Jesus Foretells Peter’s Denial**

**26**And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. **27**And Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.’ **28**But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” **29**Peter said to him, “Even though they all fall away, I will not.” **30**And Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” **31**But he said emphatically, “If I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And they all said the same.

**Jesus Prays in Gethsemane**

**32**And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” **33**And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. **34**And he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch.” **35**And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. **36**And he said, “Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.” **37**And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? **38**Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” **39**And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. **40**And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. **41**And he came the third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. **42**Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

**Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus**

**43**And immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. **44**Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, “The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard.” **45**And when he came, he went up to him at once and said, “Rabbi!” And he kissed him. **46**And they laid hands on him and seized him. **47**But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. **48**And Jesus said to them, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? **49**Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled.” **50**And they all left him and fled.

**A Young Man Flees**

**51**And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, **52**but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

**Jesus Before the Council**

**53**And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. **54**And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. **55**Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. **56**For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. **57**And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, **58**“We heard him say, ‘I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.’ ” **59**Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. **60**And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?” **61**But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” **62**And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.” **63**And the high priest tore his garments and said, “What further witnesses do we need? **64**You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?” And they all condemned him as deserving death. **65**And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, “Prophesy!” And the guards received him with blows.

**Peter Denies Jesus**

**66**And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, **67**and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, “You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus.” **68**But he denied it, saying, “I neither know nor understand what you mean.” And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. **69**And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.” **70**But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean.” **71**But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know this man of whom you speak.” **72**And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, “Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.