

### **Mark 14:53-72 Home Group study questions**

*Please feel free to select or adapt the questions you think will be most helpful for your group in the time available. Be aware that group members with particularly sensitive consciences will already feel very keenly their failings, wretchedness and unworthiness before Jesus. They will not need much (or any!) external help to feel the weight of these things; they will need help to see the faithfulness and love of Jesus in this passage and to feel reassured of his mercy. Some people will be at the other end of the spectrum and will need to be actively encouraged to dwell on their weakness and the hostility of sinful human nature towards God! Try to steer a path between the two extremes and be quick to move onto Jesus' grace if you sense that a group member with a tender conscience is really struggling and feeling overwhelmed.*

1. What do the religious leaders show us about human nature and ourselves in verses 53-65?
2. How do verses 53-65 depict Jesus in contrast to the religious leaders?
3. How might we respond to these things and indeed to Jesus himself?
4. What does Peter show us about ourselves in verses 66-72?
5. How do verses 66-72 depict Jesus in contrast to Peter?
6. How might we respond to these things and to Jesus himself?
7. How does Jesus show grace and bring reassurance to failed disciples like Peter in the wider context of Mark 14?