

the road to the cross

Week 1 - Recognition

mark 14-16

This week we begin a new series which focuses on Jesus' final week on earth. As we progress through the series, we will gain a better understanding of the true meaning and significance of Jesus' life, and of his death and resurrection. This week we begin the story three days before Jesus' death...

1. Can you think of a time when you have failed to recognise someone for who they truly were? What happened, and what was the outcome?

Read Mark 14:1-9

2. In these verses, we learn about the situation that Jesus is in. List the ways in which Jesus seems to be under pressure at this point in time.

3. Explain in your own words what is happening in verse 3.

- a. What is your initial reaction to this situation?

- b. What is the reaction of the people who are present?

4. How does Jesus respond to the situation?

- a. Imagine you were there, and heard Jesus' reply (verse 8 in particular). Why would this seem a weird thing to say?

5. What is the significance of the actions of the woman?

Read Mark 14:10-26

- 6. What added pressures do we read now exist for Jesus?

- 7. In light of all these pressures, how does Jesus respond?

- 8. What is significant about the meal which Jesus shares with his disciples?

- 9. In the table below, summarise the response of the people we have read about:

<i>Priests</i>	<i>Judas</i>	<i>Disciples</i>	<i>Woman</i>	<i>Jesus</i>

- 10. Looking at the four responses to Jesus, which one are you most like?
 - a. In our attitudes and actions we often fail to recognise Jesus for who he truly is, for what he has done, and for what he will do. What are some areas of your life in which you need to recognise Jesus and the role that he should play?

 - b. How can we be better helping one another to do this?

Pray as a group that God would help us this week to build on our understanding of who Jesus is, and what he has done. Pray that we would recognise his role in our lives, and live in response to this.