

March 25, 2018 follow up

## **“Denials”** ***Mark 14:27-42***

*“Peter insisted emphatically, ‘Even if I have to die with You, I will never disown You’” (14:31)*

*“Going a little further Jesus fell to the ground and prayed that  
if possible the hour might pass from Him.” (14:34)*

The Passover is finished, Judas has gone for reinforcements, and Jesus awaits His arrest and subsequent crucifixion. With the little time He has left Jesus wants to warn the disciples one last time about what’s coming up and prays to the Father about the cross. The disciples claim to be ready to stick with Jesus – even die with Him! – whereas Jesus honestly wrestles with His own readiness to stick with God’s plan. Peter does deny Jesus while God ‘denies’ Jesus’ request that ‘this cup might pass from Me.’ Strangely enough, we are better for these denials because God’s ‘no’ always means a better ‘yes’.

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### **“The Disciples Vow Not to Deny Jesus”** **(14:27-31)**

*The Passover meal is over but the air is still heavy from Jesus’ ominous words. What did Jesus say was going to happen?*

**14:18**        one of \_\_\_\_\_ will betray Me

*How did each disciple respond?*

**14:19**        “\_\_\_\_\_ \_ \_?”

*This is still on everyone’s mind no doubt, especially when Jesus makes another shocking statement about His closest company-ions! What does He claim now?*

**14:27**        “You will all \_\_\_\_\_”

*The word Jesus uses here in the Greek is ‘scandalon’. Look up these verses to get a better idea of its meaning:*

**Matt. 5:29**    “If your right eye causes you to \_\_\_\_\_, pluck it out”

**Matt. 11:6**    “Blessed is the man who does not \_\_\_\_\_ on account of Me”

**Matt. 13:21**   “When trouble or persecution comes because of the \_\_\_\_\_ he quickly  
\_\_\_\_\_”

**Rom. 14:21**   “It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your  
brother to \_\_\_\_\_”

**Rom. 9:33**    “See I lay in Zion a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them  
\_\_\_\_\_”

*Why are the disciples going to “fall away”?*

**Matt. 26:31**   “you will all fall away on account of \_\_\_\_\_”

**\* This is used of believers and non-believers. How can Jesus be an offense to both believers & non-believers?**

*While v.27 is ominous, what does Jesus say to encourage His disciples in the next sentence?*

**14:28** "But after I have \_\_\_\_\_ I will go ahead of you into Galilee"

**\* What did Jesus imply here knowing His disciples would abandon Him at the crucifixion events?**

*Peter is greatly pained at Jesus' words and vows his own personal loyalty to Jesus no matter what! Yet it is only Peter who Jesus prophecies the specific details of his fall. What should Peter [and all of us!] need to remember?*

**1 Cor. 10:12** "If you think you are standing \_\_\_\_\_ be careful that you don't \_\_\_\_\_"

### **"God Denies Jesus' Prayer Request"** **(14:32-42)**

*Jesus takes the 11 to an olive grove (John 18:1) aptly known as 'Gethsemane' [which means 'the pressing of oil']. Like pressed olives, Jesus feels the weight of 'the hour' approaching and needs solace and strength. Who does He ask to accompany Him?*

**14:33** \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

*While Jesus has asked these 3 to accompany Him to see things the others have not (5:37; 9:2) what else to these 3 have in common? Review 8:32-33; 9:38; 10:35-36)*

All three \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus

*What does Jesus ask these 3 to do for Him here?*

**14:34, 38** to keep \_\_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_\_

*What did Jesus find them doing 3 times that hour?*

**14:37, 39, 41** they were \_\_\_\_\_

**\* How does it encourage you that Jesus asked people who will fail Him to be with Him in ministry?**

*When Jesus comes back the first time and finds them sleeping, who does He single out?*

**14:37** " \_\_\_\_\_"

*This is the only time Peter is addressed as 'Simon' in Mark's gospel after Jesus changed His name in 3:16. Do you think this was intentional on Jesus' part? If so why?*

*What request does Jesus make to God?*

**14:35** "if \_\_\_\_\_ the hour might pass from Him"

*On what basis could Jesus ask God this?*

**14:36** that \_\_\_\_\_ is possible for God

*Yet, what else did Jesus add to His prayer?*

**14:36** "Yet not what \_\_\_ will but what \_\_\_ will."

*How does Mark describe Jesus before praying?*

**14:33-34** deeply \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
His soul was \_\_\_\_\_ with sorrow to the point of \_\_\_\_\_

*How is Jesus acting after He has finished praying?*

**14:41-42** "The hour has \_\_\_\_\_! Look the Son of Man is \_\_\_\_\_ . . .  
Rise! Let us \_\_\_!"

*While the disciples were not the sharpest arrows in Jesus' quiver, they eventually caught on. Read Acts 4:27-31 and compare their situation and response to Jesus' situation and response here.*

**\* How does Jesus' praying at Gethsemane encourage you in prayer?**

### **Praying the Gospel of Mark**

Here are some suggestions how we can use Mark 14:27-42 for prayer:

**14:27** "You will all fall away . . . but after I have risen . . ."

The resurrection teaches repentance & forgiveness is always available to the child of God.  
Pray for us/those who need restoration

**14:38** "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation"

Pray that we take seriously the connection between our prayer life and our walk with God

**14:36** "everything is possible for You . . . Yet not I will but what You will. . ."

Pray we are willing to trust God's will no matter what

[The Bible verses quoted are from the NIV 1984 edition © International Bible Society]

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