

Home Group Discussion Guide

Silence To Speak – Mark 14:53-65; 15:1-5

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The following questions are designed to help groups explore the message above by challenging participants to consider how God is wanting them to apply it to their lives.

The questions are a **guide** to help lead discussion.

Please don't feel that all questions need to be asked, instead respond to the needs of your group. If you have new people in your group, take the opportunity to introduce each other and clarify any expectations that are present in your group (such as confidentiality).

GETTING STARTED

1. If you were falsely accused of something small (like eating the last slice of cake), what is your natural reaction: immediate defence, a joke, or quiet resignation?
2. Gavin mentioned that we don't struggle with justice—we struggle with waiting for it. How would you respond to that statement? Why?

REFLECTING ON THE MESSAGE

Key Scripture: Mark 14:53-65; Mark 15:1-5; Luke 12:11-12; Acts 7:54-60

Consider Mark 14:55-61

1. When Jesus "remained silent and gave no answer", he was refusing to play by the rules of a corrupt system. How can silence sometimes be a more effective testimony than a long explanation?

Consider Mark 14:61-64

2. Jesus remained silent until He was asked directly if He was the "Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One". Why is it important to know when to stop being silent and start affirming the truth?
 - a. How do we know when it is time to shift from silence, to truth?

(Read Luke 12:11-12)

3. Jesus promises that the Holy Spirit will teach us "at that time what you should say". How does this promise help lower our anxiety when we face hostility or "trials" in our daily lives?

RESPONDING TO THE MESSAGE

1. Is there a situation where you have been speaking too much in your own defence and perhaps need to imitate Jesus more?
2. What part of Jesus' example do you need to focus on this week? How will you seek to develop it?
 - *Remaining Silent*
 - *Affirming the Truth*
 - *Trusting Holy Spirit for comfort in delayed justice*

OPPORTUNITY FOR PRAYER

Our Home Groups are the primary place for pastoral care to occur within the Church. We would encourage you to take the opportunity to pray for each other in this space.

