

TAKEAWAY



THE RADICAL KING

Jesus on trial

In line with our goal to be a church of disciples who make disciples, this session is focussed on action, so that we are 'doers of the word' and not just hearers/people who enjoy a good discussion! It encourages focussed practical outcomes in the lives of the individuals in the group so that our discipleship as followers of Jesus is deliberately pursued.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

You don't necessarily need to discuss these, but be aware as a leader.

To recognise that, just like Caiaphas, we can:

- Try to look better than we really are (illusionary superiority)
- Always want to be in control (authoritarian)
- Like the trappings of religion, rather than a real relationship with Jesus (legalism).

SHARE

How important is your outward appearance to you? Why?

READ

Matthew 26:57-68

DISCUSS

Why was it impossible for Jesus to be given a fair trial? Why didn't the Sanhedrin like Jesus' words? What is the crime of blasphemy? Why did the Sanhedrin find Jesus guilty?

What did Jesus mean when he said, "from now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven"?

The Sanhedrin accused Jesus of blasphemy and rejected Him. Today, people reject Jesus arguing that faith is only for religious people, or that Jesus never claimed to be The Messiah, or saying that they need more proof. How do you respond? Does this bible passage help?

Like Caiaphas, we can focus on outwardly presenting well or rely on religious practices to make us right with God, rather than cultivating a relationship with Him. But, it's also true that without those disciplines (going to church regularly, serving others, praying, bible reading, financial giving, etc.) we can drift away.

Where are you tempted to present yourselves in a better light than you are? What helps you to present yourself honestly to others?

On Sunday it was said that religious practices are supposed to help us with a relationship with God. What are religious practices and which ones do you find helpful?

PRAY & REFLECT

If appropriate, pray about some of the responses from the discussion questions.

Reflect on Jesus and all that He endured so that we might have a relationship with Him. You may find it helpful to play a song to help focus on who Jesus is and our relationship with Him.

On Sunday we sang: <https://youtu.be/cIYPeWYx4qI?si=kn09h9-EMy35Dz4g>

TRY OUT

Commit to trying something over the next few weeks that will help strengthen your relationship with Jesus.

If you'd like to explore more, try reading about all the trials of Jesus in various gospel accounts

Event	Type	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Pre-trial hearing with Annas	Jewish	27:12	14:53-54	22:54	18:13-24
Sanhedrin trial with Caiaphas	Jewish	26:57-68	14:55-65	22:66-71	18:28
Roman trial with Pilate	Civil trial	27:11-14	15:1-5	23: 1-7	18:29-40
Trial with King Herod Antipas	Crown Court			23: 8-12	
Roman verdict with Pilate	Civil verdict	27: 15- 26	15:6-15	23:13-25	19:1-16