



Kevin Loten
The Trial Before The Trial
Mark 14:32-52

1. Spend time in the story of Mark 14:32-52. Read it slowly through three times.
 - The first time listen/look for a word, verse, or phrase that jumps of the page. Be curious about why that sticks out to you.
 - The second time through, listen/read with the question in mind, “Where and how does this passage connect with my daily life?”
 - The third time through, listen/read asking the question, “What is God inviting me (or us) into through this passage?” Discuss your reflections on the reading of the passage.
2. When have you seen a ‘trial’ on the horizon of your life and knew you had to go through it but didn’t want to? What was that experience like for you?
3. How does reading the description of Jesus' emotional state in v32-36 impact the way you view Him?
4. How does the perception of control impact the way you live your life? When has the fight for control during a time of difficulty or trial left you more frustrated than comforted?
5. What things do you look to for comfort during a season of difficulty? At what level do they actually bring you comfort? At what point do they not?
6. If courage is something we need to enter into trials, how does such courage develop in us?
7. Where have you seen God do a bigger work in your life, carrying you through a trial *above and beyond* merely ‘getting you through it’?
8. Knowing that Jesus was let down and abandoned by all his disciples in his hour of greatest need, what are tangibles ways that we can be therefore each other in difficult seasons of life?