April 1 – Mark 14:53-72, Jesus before the council; Peter's denial

Share Highs & Lows from your day

Read the following text together and then talk about the questions listed.

- Mark 14:53-65 (Jesus before the council)
 - \circ $\,$ We read that Jesus has been put on trial and people are making claims about him.
 - Have you ever had anyone say you did something that wasn't true?
 - If yes, how did that make you feel? What was the situation?
 - Have you ever passed along information about someone that may or may not have been true? It's called gossip...and we are all guilty of it sometimes.
 - When people are stressed or anxiety filled, we often look for things that are new information or will give us some type of advantage...only checking afterwards to see if what we've learned is true.
 - Many people had heard that Jesus had done amazing things and had a large following. Their immediate thought was that he wanted power and wanted to be a ruler in the country, threatening the power they had.
 - Do you think Jesus was looking to gain authority over people/government?
 - Can you think of any examples that back up your reasoning?
 Check out Mark 8:27-30
 - Reading further in the passage we get to Mark 14:61 where the high priest asks Jesus if he is the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?
 - What is Jesus' response?
 - Do you think Jesus should have responded this way?
 - How did the high priest respond?
 - In today's world, do you think we rush to judgement about people/ideas?
 - Why?
 - Have you ever been very vocal while making a judgement, only to later-on wish you could have acted differently?
- Mark 14:66-72 (Peter's Denial)
 - Peter was one of Jesus' closest friends. Seeing Jesus being given a sentence of death and being tortured must have been one of the most awful things to witness.
 - What do you think Peter was thinking about when someone claimed he had been with Jesus?
 - If Peter would have said "yes" (that he had been with Jesus) what do you think would have happened to him?
 - Do you think Jesus wanted Peter to suffer the same fate that was ahead of Jesus?
 - I think Peter's world was in a state or chaos and perhaps all he could think about was saving himself in that moment.
 - Do you feel any chaos in your life right now? How do you feel?

Closing

- As we seek to follow Jesus during this time of uncertainty, how can we specifically be praying for:
 - our friends? our family? our confirmation small group? People around the globe?
- Spend time praying with one another. Ask the people with you if they have specific prayer requests.
 - Things to be thankful for
 - Things we are struggling with