

The Last Supper and Peter's Denial

CHARACTERS: Peter, John, Jesus, Voice of Zechariah

SETTINGS: Various places at and near Jerusalem

RUN TIME: 3 minutes

SCRIPTURES: Mark 14

Before you begin: Think about Peter's personality and the fact the writer says Peter spoke emphatically. How will Peter sound different in this segment compared to the other segments?

PETER: On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him

JOHN: Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?

PETER: So he sent two of us disciples, telling us

JESUS: Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.

PETER: We left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told us.

JOHN: So we prepared the Passover.

PETER: When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve.

JOHN: While they were reclining at the table eating, he said

JESUS: I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me.

JOHN: We were saddened, and one by one we said to him

PETER: Surely not I?

JESUS: It is one of the Twelve, one who dips bread into the bowl with me. The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.

JOHN: While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying

JESUS: Take it; this is my body.

PETER: Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, and they all drank from it.

JESUS: This is my blood of the¹ covenant, which is poured out for many. I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God.

PETER: When we had sung a hymn, we went out to the Mount of Olives.

JESUS: You will all fall away, for it is written:

VOICE OF ZECHARIAH: I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered

JESUS: But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee.

PETER: (*emphatically*) Even if all fall away, I will not.

JESUS: I tell you the truth, today—yes, tonight—before the rooster crows twice you yourself will disown me three times

JOHN: But Peter insisted emphatically

PETER: (*emphatically*) Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.

JOHN: And all the others said the same.

Gethsemane

CHARACTERS: Peter, John, Jesus

SETTINGS: Various places at and near Jerusalem

RUN TIME: 1-2 minutes

SCRIPTURES: Mark 14

Before you begin: Jesus describes himself as "overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death". Have you ever been so sad you wanted to die? What were the circumstances? How did you act or speak? If you have not felt like that: What might cause you to feel overwhelmed with sadness in your life? Under what circumstances would you be that sad?

PETER: We went to a place called Gethsemane,

JESUS: Sit here while I pray.

JOHN: Jesus took Peter, James and I along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled.

JESUS: My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch.

PETER: Going a little farther, he fell to the ground.

JESUS: Abba, Father, everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.

PETER: (ashamed) Then he returned found us sleeping.

JESUS: Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.

PETER: Once more he went away and prayed the same thing.

JOHN: When he came back for the third time, he again found us sleeping, because our eyes were heavy.

PETER: We did not know what to say to him.

JESUS: Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!

Jesus Arrested

CHARACTERS: Peter, John, Jesus, Judas

SETTINGS: Various places at and near Jerusalem

RUN TIME: 2 minutes

SCRIPTURES: Mark 14

Before you begin: What do you think Judas was thinking as they approached Jesus and the disciples? Was he afraid, nervous? Was he wanting to just get it over with? Was he expecting a miracle? How will what Judas is thinking influence how you play his part? When Peter (we know this from another gospel) uses his sword, what might Judas be thinking?

The scripture says a crowd came. Will they be silent? Noisy? Joking around? Serious?

JOHN: Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared.

PETER: With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders.

JOHN: Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them:

JUDAS: The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.

PETER: Going at once to Jesus, Judas said

JUDAS: (*kissing Jesus*) Rabbi!

PETER: The men seized Jesus and arrested him.

JOHN: Then one of those standing near drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

JESUS: Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled.

JOHN: Then everyone deserted him and fled.

PETER: A young man, wearing nothing but a linen garment, was following Jesus.

JOHN: When they seized him, he fled naked, leaving his garment behind.