

Community Group Discussion Questions

Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church | Sunday, March 17, 2024

The Beginning of the End: A Series in Mark | "Denial, Denial, Denial"

Read Mark 14:66-72

1. The sermon stated that self-preservation is "the antithesis of self-denial." In what areas of your life do you find yourself most tempted toward self-preservation over self-denial? What are the driving motivations behind that?
2. Which of the three practical rhythms for self-denial (service, solitude, Sabbath) resonates with you the most? Which one feels most challenging? Discuss practical ways your group could spur one another on in these rhythms.
3. Have you ever, like Peter, experienced a moment of self-denial failure? What did you learn from that experience about the necessity of God's grace? How can we extend that same grace to others?
4. Brandon said, "the longer you're with Jesus, the deeper the relationship gets, the more the world can say: 'they've been with Jesus!'" What specific actions, habits or attributes mark someone who has clearly "been with Jesus"?
5. Why is self-denial actually positive and life-giving, rather than merely sacrifice? How have you experienced paradoxical joy or freedom through denying yourself for Christ's sake?