



## **SMALL GROUP GUIDE: THE TRIAL**

John 18:12-27

### **Key Takeaways:**

1. Jesus willingly subjected himself to unjust questioning and treatment for our sake.
2. Our view of who Jesus is can be challenged during difficult times.
3. Jesus knew Peter would deny him, yet chose to love him anyway.
4. Our past does not disqualify us from God's love and forgiveness.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. The sermon mentions how our view of Jesus can be challenged during difficult times. Have you ever experienced this? How did you respond?
2. Reflect on Jesus' character during his trial. What stands out to you about how he handled the situation?
3. The speaker says, "Jesus experienced the injustice of this world so that we can inherit the righteousness of heaven." How does this impact your understanding of Jesus' sacrifice?
4. Discuss the significance of Jesus telling Peter he would deny him before it happened. How does this demonstrate Jesus' love?
5. The sermon states, "Jesus doesn't choose to call you a son or daughter because he doesn't know your past. Jesus chooses to call you a son and daughter because he knows your past." How does this change your perspective on God's love and forgiveness?

6. What does it mean to you that Jesus knew and loved Peter (and us) even before our past became our past?

**Practical Applications:**

1. This week, when you face a challenging situation, consciously remind yourself of who Jesus is and His love for you.
2. Reflect on any areas of your past that you struggle to believe are forgiven. Spend time in prayer, surrendering these to God and accepting His forgiveness.
3. Practice extending grace to others, remembering how Jesus has extended grace to you despite knowing your faults.
4. Choose a verse from Isaiah 53 to meditate on throughout the week, reflecting on Jesus' sacrifice for you.
5. If you've been repeatedly asking for forgiveness for a past sin, practice accepting God's forgiveness once and for all this week.
6. Share with the group next time how applying these lessons has impacted your daily life and relationship with God.