

Before the Sanhedrin—[Mark 14:53–65](#)

Topics:

Blasphemy, Confession, Death, Evidence, Fear, Messiah, Persecution, Punishment, Silence, Testing, Witnessing

Open It

1. *When was the last time you were misunderstood or misinterpreted?
2. What do you think is good or bad about capital punishment?

Explore It

1. Before whom did Jesus have to stand trial? ([14:53](#))
2. Who followed Jesus as He was being led away? How? ([14:54](#))
3. *What did the men of the Sanhedrin want to do to Jesus? Why? ([14:55](#))
4. Why did the Sanhedrin have such a difficult time convicting Jesus? ([14:55–59](#))
5. *What testimony did some witnesses bring against Jesus? ([14:57–58](#))
6. How did the high priest try to get Jesus to answer the questions put to Him? ([14:60](#))
7. *What was Jesus' response to all the accusations against Him? ([14:61](#))
8. How did Jesus use silence during all the testimony against Him? ([14:61](#))

9. What did the high priest finally do in an attempt to speed up the trial? ([14:61](#))
10. When did Jesus choose to speak? ([14:62](#))
11. What did Jesus tell the Sanhedrin? ([14:62](#))
12. Why did the high priest respond with such shock to Jesus' testimony? ([14:63–64](#))
13. What did the Sanhedrin consider blasphemy? ([14:64](#))
14. To what punishment did the Sanhedrin sentence Jesus? Why? ([14:64](#))
15. How did the people in the courtroom abuse Jesus after He was sentenced to death? ([14:65](#))

Get It

1. Why do you think Peter followed Jesus “at a distance”?
2. What emotions do you think Peter felt as he was following Jesus?
3. When have you ever felt that circumstances had gone beyond your control?
4. What should we do when circumstances are beyond our control?
5. *How do you think Jesus felt during His trial? Why?

6. Why do you think Jesus chose to remain silent throughout the initial testimony against Him?
7. What can we learn about dealing with stress and fear from Jesus' example?
8. *What can we learn about dealing with false accusations from Jesus' example?
9. What difference does it make to you that Jesus will one day return?
10. What do we learn about Jesus from this trial?
11. How can we live our lives blamelessly as Jesus did?

Apply It

1. *How do you want to react the next time you are falsely accused or tricked?
2. What specific steps can you take this week to entrust your circumstances to God?