

Sermon Discussion Questions: March 29, 2026

The Resolute Shepherd

Sermon Series: Learning the Way of Jesus

Passage: Mark 14:26-42

1. Crisis and Self-Revelation

The sermon begins by suggesting that crises reveal what is truly inside of us. Can you think of a time when a crisis exposed something in your heart—either encouraging or discouraging? What did it reveal about what you rely on most?

2. The Limits of Willpower

Peter was confident in his own resolve but quickly failed, even falling asleep when asked to pray. In what areas of your life are you most tempted to rely on your own willpower or discipline to define your identity or faithfulness? What happens when that resolve runs out?

3. Identity and Performance

The sermon highlights how Peter's identity (friend, disciple, faithful follower) was tied to his performance. How does performance (success, consistency, moral behavior) shape your sense of identity before others or before God? How can you tell when it's becoming a burden rather than a gift?

4. Jesus in the Garden

Jesus experiences deep anguish in Gethsemane yet ultimately submits to the Father's will. What stands out to you most about Jesus' emotional struggle and obedience in this passage? How does seeing His willingness to suffer for you change the way you view your own struggles or suffering?

5. From Self-Reliance to Trust

The sermon argues that what we need most is not more resolve, but trust in Jesus' resolve for us. Practically speaking, what does it look like in your daily life to "watch Jesus" and rely on Him instead of yourself—especially in moments of temptation, failure, or crisis?