



# CONNECTION GROUPS

## THE GENIUS OF JESUS #1

- This week we read about Mary. She loved Jesus sacrificially (Mark 14:3-9). Through Mary's actions, the world witnessed what Jesus means to her (see Mark 14:9). Mary's story is one of dozens of personal stories in the gospels. The Gospels are intended to provoke a response to Jesus. Take some time to share with your group what Christ means to you and how you arrived at that conclusion?
- This Summer we have going through our series "The genius of Jesus" through the Gospel of Mark. Has the Lord used this summer series to encourage your understanding and/or relationship with Christ? If so How?
- Mary's sacrifice in Mark 14:3-9 is reminiscent of Mark 8:34-36. This is a central passage of the gospel of Mark. What did Jesus say in Mark 8:34-36? What does the word "cross" imply? What would lead someone to take up their cross to follow Christ?
- 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2 was written to elaborate on what it means to take up your cross. Jesus is the ultimate example of taking up your cross. How did 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:21-25 describe Jesus's actions? What were the results of Jesus' actions?
- In 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:12,15-16 we are encouraged to take up our cross. In your own words what does Peter say? How does this passage apply in your context today? What cross do you bear?