

James Series Going Deeper

Week 14

5- Day Devotional “Discerning God’s Will In Daily Life”

The Foundation is James 4:13-17 but a deep look at Mark 14:13-16 reveals to disciples of Jesus how to follow and discern the will of God in daily life. This 5-Day Devotional breaks down those amazing truths.

Week 14 5-Day Devotional Summary

WHEN EVERYTHING LOOKS OUT OF CONTROL

A Five-Day Devotional Through Mark 14:13–16

Key Passage

“And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, ‘Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, “The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?” And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us.’ And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.” — Mark 14:13–16

This five-day devotional will walk through five powerful truths hidden inside this seemingly simple passage. First, when everything appears to be falling apart, Jesus is still completely in control. Second, God often gives us the next step instead of the entire plan. Third, discernment is not knowing everything but recognizing what God has told us to pay attention to. Fourth, our obedience often discovers what God has already prepared. Fifth, we can be participating in something far greater than we understand.

Week 14, DAY 5

WE CAN BE PARTICIPATING IN SOMETHING FAR GREATER THAN WE UNDERSTAND

Scripture

Read Mark 14:12–25.

Focus

What feels like a small act of obedience may be carrying enormous kingdom significance.

Teaching

Peter and John thought they were preparing dinner.

That is what the assignment looked like.

Find the man. Follow him. Speak to the homeowner. Enter the room. Prepare the Passover.

They had no idea what was really about to happen.

They thought they were preparing to remember the Exodus. They were preparing the room where Jesus would reveal the greater Exodus.

They thought they were preparing a meal about the blood of a lamb. They were preparing the table where the true Lamb of God would speak about His own blood.

They thought they were preparing an old covenant celebration. Jesus was about to speak about His blood of the covenant poured out for many.

They thought they were setting a table. Heaven knew they were preparing a room that the church would remember for thousands of years.

This is one of the greatest lessons in the passage: you can be obedient to God while having absolutely no understanding of the full significance of your obedience.

We tend to believe something is important only when it feels important.

But the kingdom of God often moves through ordinary acts of faithfulness.

One prayer.

One invitation.

One conversation.

One act of forgiveness.

One small group.

One person disciplined.

One child taught.

One room prepared.

One next step.

You may not know what God is building through your obedience. You may not know who will be affected. You may not know what will grow from the seed. You may not know why this small act matters.

But obedience does not require full understanding.

Peter and John were not asked to understand everything. They were asked to prepare the room.

The man carrying the jar may have thought he was simply walking through the city. The homeowner may have thought he was simply opening his house. Peter and John may have thought they were simply preparing a meal.

But God was moving every ordinary act toward the redemption of the world.

That is the quiet power of providence.

God is often doing something far greater than the people involved can see.

Going Deeper

Never underestimate what God can do through simple obedience.

The kingdom is full of people whose names we do not know. Someone opened a house. Someone prepared food. Someone gave. Someone prayed. Someone invited. Someone served. Someone obeyed.

And history moved.

Our obsession with being seen can cause us to miss the beauty of hidden faithfulness.

Not every important assignment comes with a platform.

Sometimes the assignment is simply to prepare the room and trust God with what happens inside it.

Reflection

What small act of obedience have you been tempted to dismiss as insignificant? Where has God called you to faithfulness without showing you the outcome? Would your obedience change if you truly believed God could be doing something much greater than you understand?

Today's Action

Do one small act of obedience today without worrying about whether anyone sees it or whether you understand its importance. Prepare the room. Set the table. Serve the person.

Pray the prayer. Make the call. Leave the results with God.

Prayer

Jesus, keep me faithful in the small things. Forgive me for measuring obedience by visibility or immediate results. Help me believe that You can use ordinary acts of faithfulness in ways I may never fully understand. Give me joy in preparing the room and trusting You with what happens inside it. Amen.

FINAL REFLECTION

Before the disciples arrived, the room was ready. Before Judas betrayed Jesus, Jesus knew. Before the enemies moved, the hour had already been appointed. Before the disciples understood the plan, they were already participating in it.

And while everything appeared to be falling apart, everything was unfolding just as Jesus had said.

When everything looks out of control, Jesus is still Lord of the story.

Sometimes He will not give you the entire plan. He will simply tell you to go into the city.

Then watch.

Then follow.

Then obey.

Because somewhere ahead of your obedience, God may already have a room furnished and ready.