

▼ **The Looming Cross - Part 2**

Rocklyn Clarke Sr. - Sunday July 21, 2019

© 2019 Life Church Ministries, Inc.

<http://www.LifeChurchBoston.org/>

▼ **Read the Passage: Matthew 26:1-16**

- Mark 14:1-11
- Luke 7:36-50
- John 12:1-11

▼ **Determine Sermon's Purpose (what listeners should do)**

- Understand that Jesus fully expected to be crucified.
- Understand what it took for the leaders to feel compelled to kill Jesus.
- Understand the significance of Mary's actions.
- Understand the likely impact of Jesus' embrace of the cross .

▼ **Understand that Jesus fully expected to be crucified.**

▼ **Matthew's 5 Sections:**

- Matthew 1:1 - 7:29
- Matthew 8:1 - 10:42
- Matthew 11:1 - 13:58
- Matthew 14:1 - 18:35
- Matthew 19:1 - 25:46
- Matthew 26:1 - 28:20

▼ **Jesus' predicts his death multiple times:**

- Matthew 12:38-41 - Sign of Jonah
  - Matthew 16:1-4 - Sign of Jonah
  - Matthew 16:21-28 - After Peter's Confession of Christ
  - Matthew 17:9-13 - After the Transfiguration
  - Matthew 21:33-46 - Parable of the Tenants
  - Jesus warns the disciples one last time that he will be crucified.
  - Jesus fully expected to be crucified. It wasn't an accident.
- ▼ **Crucifixion was a Roman method of execution for rebels. Jesus' actions would not normally have brought him to the attention of the Roman governor. It took the Jewish leaders to make that happen.**
- Think about having a local Boston Crime result in a federal civil rights, hate crime, narcotics, or terrorism charge.

- Judas' betrayal will allow the leaders to arrest Jesus away from the crowds.
- Embrace the cross! - Luke 9:18-25
- ▼ **Understand what it took for the leaders to feel compelled to kill Jesus.**
  - Jesus operates in miracle, signs, and wonders.
  - Jesus teaches without deferring to other Jewish leaders.
  - Jesus has the admiration of the people.
  - No one can beat Jesus in a verbal confrontation.
  - Publicly arresting Jesus could cause a riot.
  - Faithfulness to the Kingdom can get you in trouble! (Write this down)
- ▼ **Understand the significance of Mary's actions.**
  - Jesus interprets Mary's actions in light of his impending crucifixion.
  - Mary's actions are reported in 3 gospels: Matthew, Mark, John. Luke 7 appears to describe a different event.
  - Mary's action of costly devotion to Jesus sets an example for us.
  - Embrace costly devotion! (Write this down)
- ▼ **Understand the likely impact of Jesus' embrace of the cross.**
  - Jesus' expectation that he will be crucified flies in the face of his disciples' expectation of political power in God's Kingdom.
  - Jesus' embrace of the cross and acceptance of Mary's act of devotion may have been too much for Judas.
  - Jesus can identify with us in all of our trials - including betrayal.
  - Don't betray Jesus through disillusionment! (Write this down)
- **Review**
- ▼ **Discussion:**
  - Jesus embraced his calling to go to the cross. What does embracing the cross look like in your life?
  - Have you ever gained enemies as a result of following Jesus? Discuss.
  - What do you think about what Mary did? Should she have devoted those resource to the poor instead of to Jesus? What does extravagant devotion look like in your life?
  - Consider the way Jesus was betrayed by one of twelve key leaders. What does that mean for your own life of following Jesus?