**Growth Group Bible Study**

“Encountering Jesus”

Tugging on an Ear

Lesson 11

March 18, 2018

**Reading** John 18:1-11 (Matt. 26:47-56; Mark 14:43-52; Luke 22:47-53)

**Opening Questions**

1. What was your favorite TV show growing up?

2. Have you ever “come on strong” to a non-Christian and regretted it? Or seen this happen?

3. What helps you remember Jesus the most throughout your day (i.e. symbolically, what is your “tug on an ear”)?

**Study**

1. What is the setting of Jesus’ betrayal and the significance of the large number of “enemies” that came to “get Jesus”? (cf. John 18:3 and Mark 14:43)

2. All four gospels record the incident with Peter and Malchus. Do you see a particular significance to that?

3. What prompted Peter to take a sword to Malchus? (John 18:10 with

 Luke 22:31-34)

4. Is there ever an appropriate time for Christians to use violence in the cause of the gospel?

5. What do we see in this passage (and the other parallel passages) that show that Jesus is really in control of this situation and not the “mob”? (cf. Matt. 26:52-56; Luke 22:51)

6. How do we see (and remember!) that Jesus is God in this passage? (see also Luke 22:51)

7. What else did Malchus most likely witness regarding Jesus in Matt. 26:63-64 and Matt. 28:11-15? What kind of impact do you suppose it had on him?

8. What would Malchus’ “tug on an ear” remind him of regarding how Jesus treated an “enemy”? What can we remember from this as to how Jesus wants us to treat our enemies? (cf. Luke 6:27-28)

9. In what way did Malchus get grace and compassion from Jesus? How about Peter? In what ways do we see Jesus’ grace and compassion in our lives?

10. What suggestions do you have for your fellow Christians as to a good “tug on an ear” way of being reminded of and remembering Jesus?

**Application**

1. Think about how you can do better at remembering Jesus this week and see if there is some “tug on the ear” way that you can keep Jesus more in the forefront of your mind and life.