

Sermon Title: The Way of the Cross: The Garden of Surrender

Sermon Scripture: Luke 22:39-46



## **Sermon Discussion Guide (3/22)**

Begin the discussion by checking in with each person present and share prayer requests/praises with the group. Then, have one person offer a prayer for the group making sure to include any prayer requests that were mentioned earlier.

### **Scripture**

Read Luke 22:39-46 out loud. Discuss any initial thoughts you have about these verses.

### **Observation**

What is the significance of the word “usual” in verse 39? Are there other instances in Scripture where you recall Jesus praying before a significant moment or event? (For a starting point, see Luke 6:12-16.)

In what ways does Jesus receive strength during His time of prayer? What do these things reveal to us about how God works within us as we face moments of temptation?

How does verse 44 describe Jesus? How does this verse, along with the rest of this passage, correct or add to your understanding of what prayer can look like?

What instruction does Jesus give twice to His disciples in this one short passage? Why do you think Jesus gives this command multiple times?

## **Application**

Our day to day life of abiding in Jesus affects how we will respond to the big moments of temptation and decision making? Is your current day to day life forming you in such a way that you will be able to choose obedience even when it is hard or costly? Explain your answer.

God may not remove the struggle, but He will always provide the strength to obey. Where in your life are you looking for God to remove a struggle that you are facing? How might God be seeking to give you strength to endure or persevere in the midst of the struggle?

In your life, how have you experienced peace through surrendering to God's will? Have you ever experienced stress or inner conflict through delaying or avoiding an act of obedience that God was calling you to take? Why do you think we often equate peace with avoiding hard things?

Is there a "Gethsemane moment" that you are currently facing in your life? If so, how are you going to navigate this struggle?

## **Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You that You chose obedience to the Father, so that we could be in relationship with You. We confess that we so often desire to do things our way and to avoid struggle. Forgive us for the ways that we try to control our lives. Empower us to follow You no matter the cost to ourselves, form us into people who trust You in all things, and give us the strength to say, "Not my will, but Yours be done." Amen.