

LESSON #81 – JESUS IN GETHSEMANE

Matthew 26:36-45; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:39-46

Judas had now left to betray Jesus. He was going to tell the Pharisees and other religious leaders of the Jews where they could find Jesus. It was nighttime now. They were afraid to arrest Jesus in the daytime because there were so many people who loved Him. This happens often; those who are ashamed of what they are doing will do it when nobody is looking. But there is someone who is always watching and sees everything we do. That is God. God was watching as Judas betrayed God's Son and He was watching over Him and giving Him strength. As we read about the things which happened to Jesus, you must remember that Jesus suffered very, very much, and it was all for us. How we must love Jesus if we believe these things!

After Jesus had shared the first Lord's Supper with His disciples and He had spoken to them about many things and Jesus had prayed for them, Jesus went with them to a quiet place where they often went to pray. The name of the place was Gethsemane. Jesus said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray." Then He took Peter, James and John along with Him and Jesus began to be very sad and sorrowful. He was so sad that it seemed as if He was going to die. At this time the devil was working to try to tempt Jesus not to go to the cross. The devil knew that if Jesus went to the cross He would defeat the devil and would save many people from their sins. The devil did not want that to happen. Jesus told these three disciples to stay there and He went on a little further and fell to the ground and began to pray. This was the Son of God. He was true God and true man. But Jesus knew that the strength He needed now to be able to bear what was going to happen must come from God. He realized how important prayer was to Him if He was going to obey God's will. How you and I must know that, too.

Jesus prayed these words, "Father, everything is possible for you. Take this cup from Me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." Then Jesus returned to His disciples and found them sleeping. Jesus asked them, "Could you men not keep watch with Me for one hour?" Then He told them to "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." Then Jesus went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done. When Jesus said "This cup" He meant His suffering on the cross and before.

When He came back He found the disciples sleeping again so He left them and went away one more and prayed the third time. Jesus prayed again, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from Me; yet not my will, but yours be done." They God sent an angel from heaven to strengthen Him. And He was suffering so much that He prayed even more earnestly and He began to sweat as though drops of blood were falling to the ground from His face. When He returned to the disciples they were asleep, tired from their own sadness and sorrow. Jesus said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer."

Jesus saw Judas and the soldiers coming to arrest Him. He was ready now to face what He had come to do. Through the power of prayer He had received strength from God to resist the devil's last temptation not to go to the cross to die for His people. What did He say? Did He think of Himself? Did He do what He wanted? No, but He prayed, "Not MY will, but THY will be done!" What a wonderful Savior we have!

Memory Verse: "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation." – Mark 14:38.

Application: Our prayers should be like those of Jesus here. We should pray that God would help us to do what He wants and not what we want. Then we will receive power to serve Him in all things.

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Matthew 26:36-45; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:39-46

Sometimes we all like to brag that we can do something that we have never even done before. Many times we find out too late that it was harder than we thought it was, and we end up getting hurt or looking foolish or both. Jesus had told the disciples that it would not be easy to follow Him. He had told them that before this night was over they would all leave Him. Some of them did not believe Him, but they would learn before this night was over that they must not count on their own strength to serve Jesus. They needed strength and power from God!

Judas had already left to betray Jesus. He had made a deal with the Pharisees. He would take some soldiers with Him to where Jesus was, and he would kiss Jesus to show them which one was Him. They promised to pay Judas thirty pieces of silver.

Now Jesus went with His disciples to a place called Gethsemane. It was a quiet place in a garden where He often went to pray. Jesus told the disciples to sit down while He went to pray. He took Peter, James, and John along with Him. A very important thing for you to remember at this time was that Jesus was also a real man. He knew what was going to happen, and He knew that He was going to have to suffer more than any man had ever had to suffer before. As He thought of that, He knew that He needed strength to go through with everything that God had planned to save His chosen people. He was doing all of this for us! Jesus told Peter, James, and John to stay with Him. He went a little further and began to pray to the Father in Heaven.

Jesus prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from Me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." The "cup" was the suffering which Jesus knew had to be done to take away the sins of His people in the eyes and justice of God. Man's sins had to be paid for or no one would ever go to heaven. Jesus returned to where the disciples were, and He found them sleeping. He asked Peter, "Could you men not keep watch with Me for one hour?" Then He warned them, "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." What important words those are! Jesus was the Son of God and yet He knew that as a true man He needed the strength which only God could give. He needed the strength through prayer. When you are tempted to do something wrong or tempted not to do what God has told you to do, you must pray, and you will receive strength to say what Jesus said, "Not my will, by Thy will be done."

Jesus went away a second time and prayed the same thing. Again, He came back and found the disciples sleeping. He left them and went away once more and prayed the third time saying the same thing. His sweat dropped to the ground in drops like blood because Jesus prayed so hard. Then God sent an angel to strengthen Him. When He returned again to where the disciples were, He found them still sleeping, tired from their own sadness and fear.

Jesus could have been angry with them, but He was not. He forgave as Jesus is always willing to do. He knew what lay ahead, and He knew that He must go through it alone for all of them would leave Him. He could do it now for the power of God was His. The Devil could not stop Him, nor could sinful men. He had come to give His life for His sheep as the Good Shepherd. He had come to free His people from the slavery of sin as the Lamb of God. This He would shortly do.

He said to the disciples, "Look, the hour is near, and the son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer." Jesus could see the torches of the soldiers coming in the darkness of the night. Jesus was ready to give His life to pay for the sins of His people, for your sins and mine. Thanks be to God that Jesus said those wonderful words, "Not My will, but Thy will be done!"

Jesus in Gethsemane (Continued)

Name: _____ Date: _____

MEMORY VERSE

“If it is possible, may this cup be taken from Me. Yet not as I will, but as You will.” – Matthew 26:39

APPLICATION

Jesus knew the strength which He needed could be found in prayer. How much more do we need the strength which only God can give to resist temptations every day of our lives?! Jesus was willing to suffer because He knew that God was going to save His people through His suffering. God wants us to show the world His love, mercy, and strength when we have to suffer for any reason. Do not grumble and complain when you are hurt, sad, afraid, or angry about something. Say as Jesus did, “Not my will, but Thy will be done.” Trust God to do what is best for you. Remember, Jesus did all this for you!

QUESTIONS

Fill in the blanks with the words at the bottom.

1. Jesus told His disciples very plainly, and He also tells us that it will never be _____ to follow Him and to serve Him.
2. The strength and power that you and I need to stand up for Jesus can only be found in _____.
3. Judas had made a deal to _____ Jesus to the Pharisees and soldiers for thirty pieces of silver.
4. Jesus went with His disciples to a quiet _____ called Gethsemane to pray.
5. Jesus knew the time had come for Him to _____ many things for His people so that He could open the door to heaven and eternal life.
6. When Jesus found the disciples sleeping, He told them to watch and pray so they would not enter into _____.
7. Jesus prayed so hard and seriously that His sweat dropped to the ground like huge drops of _____.
8. Jesus was not only the Son of God, but He was also a true _____ so that He could take man’s place and be punished for man.
9. God sent an _____ down from heaven to help Jesus and to give Him the strength which He needed.
10. Jesus had many followers as He preached and performed miracles, but when the time came for Him to give His life for sinners, He knew that He would be left _____ by all of them.

angel
prayer
alone
man

easy
blood
temptation

suffer
garden
betray

Class 5 Memorization	<i>HC Q+A:</i>		<i>Scripture:</i>	
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LESSON #81 – JESUS TELLS OF THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM AND THE END OF THE WORLD

Read Matt 24; Mark 13:1-37; Luke 21:5-38

In these chapters Jesus speaks about two things; the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple and the end of the world. Certainly the disciples and the Jews believed that Jerusalem would never be destroyed, or that if it was, it would be the end of the world, and the Kingdom of God would come. Jesus teaches the disciples and us a very important lesson. Jesus had already taught them about the work of the Church. They did not yet understand that it was God’s will to save His people through the preaching of His Word through the Church. Many things would have to happen before the world would end. The Gospel of Jesus Christ would be “the power of God unto salvation to all who believed,” and it must be preached in all nations as a witness to the grace, glory, and love of God. Those who truly believe in Jesus as their Savior and Lord have an important task to do until Jesus returns. Though Jerusalem would be destroyed, Jesus would keep all of His promises to those who believed.

QUESTIONS

1. The temple was the center of the hope of the Jews, for it represented to them the presence of God. What does Jesus tell them is going to happen to the temple? _____
2. What two questions do the disciples then ask Jesus? _____
3. Jesus goes on to explain to them that the two things will not happen together. Which one will happen first?

4. Jesus speaks first in a general manner about some of the things which will happen during his first and second comings? List some of them. _____

5. What assurance does Jesus give them about the success of the Church? _____

6. After speaking in a general way about the tribulations which will occur, Jesus then speaks of the destruction of Jerusalem which would be fulfilled in about 40 years. At this time, the Roman armies would completely destroy Jerusalem. According to Matthew 24:21, how bad were these days going to be? _____
7. Would those who believe have to worry about being lost? _____
8. These things have all happened and are happening. What signs will show that the coming of Jesus is about to take place? _____
9. Read Luke 21:26. Will believers be upset when these things happen? _____
Why or why not? _____
10. What was Jesus doing during these last days? _____

QUESTION TO THINK ABOUT

Should we be thinking very much about the end?