

Week of May 26 - Your Will Be Done

Small Group Lesson 5

Connect

Have you ever been convinced that God wanted you to do something and yet prayed fervently that he would let you avoid doing it?

Verses - Matthew 26:36-46 (CSB)

36 Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he told the disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” 37 Taking along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. 38 He said to them, “I am deeply grieved[a] to the point of death. Remain here and stay awake with me.” 39 Going a little farther,[b] he fell facedown and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

40 Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He asked Peter, “So, couldn’t you stay awake with me one hour? 41 Stay awake and pray, so that you won’t enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

42 Again, a second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this[c] cannot pass[d] unless I drink it, your will be done.” 43 And he came again and found them sleeping, because they could not keep their eyes open.

44 After leaving them, he went away again and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more. 45 Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? See, the time is near. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Get up; let’s go. See, my betrayer is near.”

Footnotes

[a] Literally “My soul is swallowed up in sorrow”
[b] Other manuscripts read “Drawing nearer”
[c] Other manuscripts add “cup”
[d] Other manuscripts add “from me”

Related Verses: *Mark 14:32-40, Luke:22:39-46, John 18:1-12*

Study

As you answer these questions, keep in mind that Jesus knows what is about to occur.

1. Regarding Peter and the sons of Zebedee (James and John), consider:
   a. Why did Jesus tell them how he was feeling? [38a]
   b. Why did they fall asleep anyway? *[consider 41b]*
   c. After waking them up the first time, Jesus told them to pray. ***Why?*** [41a]
   d. In v41a, ***what sort*** of temptation did Jesus have in mind?

2. ***Why*** did Jesus pray at Gethsemane?
   a. Did Jesus' prayers ***change*** anything? If so, **what**?
   b. Why is it important for Christians to know how Jesus ***felt***?

3. What does this tell us about how we should pray? What encouragement do we still have while our flesh is weak? (Romans 8:26-27)

Magnify

Based on today's lesson...

※ Praise God and thank him for being a God who continues to speak to his people, through the Bible, about Jesus Christ his Son our Lord and Savior, and who enables us to know and to trust Jesus, through the power and the work of the Holy Spirit.

※ Thank God for helping us to know how completely human Jesus was during his life among us. Especially as when He was to be nailed to the cross shedding ***"his blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."*** This was no easy thing for Jesus.

※ Ask God to help us to imitate Christ in accepting His will, even and especially when such acceptance and obedience is most difficult for us.