



First Baptist Church of Cypress
PRAYING THROUGH ADVERSITIES
MARK 14:32-52

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Good morning church! Turn in your Bibles to Mark 14 and let us read about how we can Pray Through Adversities. Jesus visits this garden called Gethsemane to pray with his disciples often. Gethsemane means "oil press" and referred to a garden filled with olive trees on a slope of the Mt. Of Olives.

Mark 14:32-52,

"And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." 33 And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. 34 And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." 35 And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. 36 And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you.

Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." 37 And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? 38 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." 39 And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. 40 And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. 41 And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 42 Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

43 *And immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. 44* Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard." **45** *And when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" And he kissed him. 46* And they laid hands on him and seized him. **47** *But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. 48* And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? **49** *Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." 50* And they all left him and fled. **51** *And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, 52* but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

1. We pray for UNDERSTANDING and TRUST in God's Will. (v 33-37)

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12

- Christ would drink this CUP in the cross as God's ONLY sacrifice for sin.

"For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!"

Romans 8:15

"And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" Galatians 4:6

"Wake yourself, wake yourself, stand up, O Jerusalem, you who have drunk from the hand of the Lord the cup of his wrath, who have drunk to the dregs the bowl, the cup of staggering."

Isaiah 51:17

"For thus says the Lord: "If those who did not deserve to drink the cup must drink it, will you go unpunished? You shall not go unpunished, but you must drink."

Jeremiah 49:12

- Christ was to endure the fury of God over Sin, SATAN, the power of DEATH, and the GUILT of iniquity.

2. We Pray for STRENGTH during SPIRITUAL Battles. (v 38-43)

- Willing SPIRITS are still attached to unredeemed FLESH.

"Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matthew 26:41

- Spiritual VICTORY goes to those who are ALERT in prayer and depend on GOD.
- SELF-confidence and SPIRITUAL unpreparedness lead to spiritual disaster.

"Sin is wrong, not because of what it does to me, a spouse, or child, or neighbor, but because it is an act of rebellion against the infinitely majestic God."

— **Jerry Bridges**

3. We Pray CONTINUALLY as God's Plan is UNFOLDING. (v 44-52)

- God was sovereignly using the SINS of humans to accomplish His gracious PURPOSES.
- God conquered SIN through SIN.

*"He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. 8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people 9 And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth." **Isaiah 53:7-9***

*Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors, yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors." **Isaiah 53:12***

What do we learn from this?

We learn this was not a peaceful protest or a calming way of policing. This was filled with sinful hypocrisy and conspiracy. It was a violent threat to Jesus and his followers. Prayer helps us understand and Trust in God's will as Jesus prayed for God's will to happen no matter what. Jesus teaches his disciples to pray during Spiritual battles. When you have physical battles and struggles, realize you will most likely be in a spiritual battle as well. Jesus did not resist the arrest but willfully gave himself over to conquer sin with sin. We must continue to pray and keep the faith that God helps us in times of adversity. God gives us a significant purpose of identity, sustained evidence that He is God who died for the sins of the world, and we have a story to tell as we encounter Jesus.