

Sermon Outline

In Mark 14:32-42 we are shown 2 reactions to the coming of the hour of Jesus' suffering.

I. Jesus responds with watchfulness.

A. Jesus calls a prayer meeting
(vs. 32, 33a, 34b).

B. Jesus sees the hour so He is immensely troubled by its arrival (vs. 33b-34a).

C. Jesus prays repeatedly (vs. 39, 41).

1. If it is possible (v. 35a) (and all things are) (v. 36a):

a. Let this hour pass from me
(v. 35b).

b. Take this cup from me
(v. 36b).

2. If it is not possible, Your will be done rather than Mine (v. 36c).

D. Jesus sees the disciples' need to be on guard (vs. 37-38, 40-41a).

E. Jesus understands the hour so He recognizes its arrival (vs. 41b-42).

II. The disciples respond with sleepiness.

A. They fail to remain awake (v. 37).

B. They fail to watch and pray:

1. So they fall into temptation (v. 38a).

2. So they let the weakness of their body overcome the desire of their spirit (v. 38b).

3. So they lack spiritual understanding (v. 40).

4. So they are unprepared for the hour (vs. 41-42).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, May 22, 2016

Passage: Mark 14:32-42

Memory Passage: Mark 14:36

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 14:32-42.** Compare & contrast 14:32-42 with the other 2 times Mark records Jesus praying (cf. 1:35, 6:46).
- (b) Why did Jesus separate Peter, James, and John from the other disciples and keep them close while He prays?
- (c) How would you expect these men to act in this situation given their former statements (cf. 10:35-40 & 14:29-31)?
- (d) Would it be a legalistic application to say that since Jesus “went a little farther/went away” to pray our prayer lives should be marked by pulling away from other people and distractions? Why or why not? What might pulling away accomplish?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 14:32-42.** Jesus uses three strong and rare words to describe His emotional state (translated in the ESV as “greatly distressed,” “troubled,” & “sorrowful”). Why are these emotions just now beginning (“began to be” in v. 33)?
- (b) What did Jesus expect these three men to do when He commanded them to “remain here and watch?”
- (c) To what does “the hour” refer? To what does “this cup” refer?
- (d) What do you learn about Jesus from His prayer? What do you learn about Jesus’ view of His Father?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 14:32-42 & Heb. 5:7-10.** Did God answer Jesus’ prayer? Explain.
- (b) According to Heb. 5:7, why did God hear Jesus’ prayer?
- (c) Explain how Jesus “learned obedience through what He suffered” (Heb. 5:8), and what it has to do with Jesus’ person & work as God incarnate.
- (d) Upon what condition are believers brought into salvation through Jesus’ perfection (Heb. 5:9)?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 14:32-42.** For what reason does Jesus command Peter, James, and John to “watch and pray” (v.38)?
- (b) To what do “spirit” and “flesh” refer in v. 38, and how does the weakness of the flesh affect the willingness of the spirit?
- (c) What was the physical cause of the disciples’ sleepiness? What was the spiritual cause of the disciples’ sleepiness?
- (d) To what does the “it” refer in Jesus’ phrase, “It is enough” (v. 41).

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 14:32-42.** Since Jesus knew His death was the Father’s plan, was His prayer a sign of weakness? Explain.
- (b) In what ways are you strengthened and encouraged by Jesus’ distress, trouble, and sorrow over the prospect of His suffering & death and the way He expressed these emotions?
- (c) What part might waiting have had in causing Jesus’ emotional distress? What part does waiting play in your life’s turmoil, and how does Jesus’ prayer and response to His own emotions provide counsel for handling the stress of waiting?
- (d) Considering the importance of being on guard and staying awake (cf. Mark 13:6, 9, 23, 33-37; 14:34, 37, 38, 40-41), write down at least 4 specific and concrete ways in which you will fight against spiritual laziness and sleepiness.
- (e) Meditate on the connection between Jesus’ obedience and His character, person, & work. How does your obedience both reflect and flow from your status as a believer? Is obedience important since salvation is by grace through faith? Explain.

DATE: May 22, 2016

PASSAGE: Mark 14:32-42

Sorrow & Sleepiness in Gethsemane