

CHRIST'S
GETHSEMANE PRAYER
Matthew 26:36-46

**We can learn much when we listen to our
suffering Savior in the Garden of Gethsemane.**

I. THE CIRCUMSTANCES (36-38)

A. A PERSONAL HORROR (36-38a)

1. The Terms: Grieved, distressed, crushed
2. The Situation
 - a. A dear friend moving away
 - b. A sacrificial Lamb moving toward slaughter

B. A PLEA FOR HELP (38b)

1. Remain here
2. Keep watch

II. THE PRAYER (39, 42, 44)

A. PERSONAL

1. His Custom - See Luke 22:39
2. His Posture - Falling on His face
3. His Father - "My Father" and see also Mark 14:36
4. His Tears - Note Hebrews 5:7

B. PURPOSEFUL

1. Potential: If it be possible ...
 - Jesus makes no demands but offers a request
2. Particular: Let this cup pass from me

C. PLYABLE

1. "Yet not as I will, but as You will." (39)
2. "Your will be done." (42)
3. He does not ask for God to change His will but to accomplish it

D. PASSIONATE

1. His Fervor - Luke 22:44
2. His Commitment (43-44)

III. **THE INSTRUCTION** (40-41)

A. THE DISCIPLE'S PROBLEM (40)

1. They disappointed the One who was counting on them
2. They were insensitive to Christ's distress
3. Their failure led to further loneliness and isolation for Jesus

B. THE DISCIPLE'S PERIL (41)

1. Temptations Abound
 - a. Conditions: An approaching crisis or trial of their fidelity
 - b. Commands: Alertness and prayer are essential
2. Devotion vs. Discipline
 - a. Though devoted (the spirit is willing), we are often not disciplined (the flesh is weak).
 - b. Noble aspirations do not always produce godly actions

IV. **THE COURAGE** (45-46)

A. THE CONFLICT

1. Christ has been to the battlefield and won
2. With bloodstained clothes, Jesus greets his slumbering disciples

B. THE CRISIS

1. The betrayal has happened (45)
2. The betrayer is a hand (46)

C. THE CALM

1. Resolve: Let us get up and be going
2. Readiness: Because Jesus has prayed and submitted to God, He is ready for all that awaits.

V. **SOME OBSERVATIONS**

- A. We should humbly seek to engage others in prayer on our behalf (38)
- B. Our goal in prayer must be God's will and not our comfort (39, 42)
- C. How well we pray for others is a good indication of our spiritual vulnerability (40-41)
- D. We must not let our disappointment with others keep us from committed prayer (43-44)
- E. When we have properly prayed we will be prepared for whatever comes. (45-46)

CONCLUSION: May we committed to praying like Jesus!

Feel free to use these notes for personal study.
If you wish to use them for any other purpose please seek permission from Pastor Circle.