



## SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of February 25, 2024

### Sermon Text Luke 22:39-46

***[39] And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. [40] And when he came to the place, he said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." [41] And he withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and knelt down and prayed, [42] saying, "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done." [43] And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. [44] And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. [45] And when he rose from prayer, he came to the disciples and found them sleeping for sorrow, [46] and he said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation."***

### Discussion Questions

1. In our passage this week, we see a side of our Lord that we are not used to seeing. No longer poised, in control and confident, we find Him in the garden, desperate; His soul in anguish. How does it make you feel and what goes through your mind when you see Jesus struggling in His humanity? What does this tell you about how well Jesus understands your struggles?
2. Jesus knows what is going to happen in the garden, as well as the ensuing events that will lead to His crucifixion. What would you do if you were in Jesus' position? Would you run? Or would you willingly choose the unimaginable suffering in order to save those who reject and hate you? Why is it important for us to know that Jesus willingly chose the path of suffering?
3. Knowing the severity of the trials that the disciples would soon experience, Jesus instructs them to pray. When you face desperate times, why is prayer the best and only option? What do you think Jesus meant by "*pray that you may not enter into temptation*".
4. Jesus prays, "*Father if you are willing, remove this cup from Me*". What "cup" was Jesus referring to, and do you think Jesus really wanted the Father to remove it from Him? Describe (as best you can) the inner turmoil that raged within Jesus. What do you think helped Him stay the course?
5. When Jesus arises from prayer, He finds His disciples "sleeping for sorrow". What was Jesus' response and what does this tell you about His patience, understanding, and grace? But as we heard in our sermon, "*grace does not stay silent in moments of great need.*" In spite of our weariness and sorrow, what does Jesus instruct us to do? Why do you think prayer is so important that he repeats it twice in this story?