



“Jesus in the Garden”

Matthew 26:36-46

BACKGROUND

The final days of Jesus’ earthly ministry were indescribably full of pathos and significance.

- *From his buoyant welcome into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday (Matthew 21) to his crucifixion on Good Friday (Matthew 27), and from his resurrection on Easter Sunday (Matthew 28) to his ascension 40 days later (Acts 1), what Jesus accomplished during his last days on earth secured our salvation and eternal hope.*
- *During the next several weeks, we will look at four of the most important scenes from these last days of Jesus on earth:*
 - *The Garden of Gethsemane*
 - *The trial before Pontius Pilate*
 - *The cross on Golgotha*
 - *The empty tomb*



KNOWING GOD

a) Review **Matthew 26:36-46**. One of the cardinal doctrines of the Christian faith is the full divinity and full humanity of Jesus Christ. In this passage the human nature of Christ comes center stage. How does Matthew accentuate the genuine manhood of Jesus?

b) What is the significance of Jesus' prayer in verse 39, "Yet not as I will, but as you will"?

c) How does this episode in the life of Christ give reasons for hope?



GROWING TOGETHER

a) Why do you think Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him into the Garden of Gethsemane?

b) In what areas of your life do you experience the truth of Jesus' words in verse 41, "The spirit is willing, but the body is weak"? How might you, like Jesus, depend more on the help of other people in those areas?



SERVING OTHERS

a) Who do you know that needs someone to walk with them into their suffering? Are you willing to "watch and pray" with that person? If so, what would that look like?

b) What resources do YOU need in order to be a true friend to someone else who is "overwhelmed with sorrow"?

MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin." (Hebrews 4:15)