

## Gethsemane - Mark 14:32-42

*Topics:* Depression, Despair, Giving Up, Pain, Prayer, Solitude, Sorrow

### Open It

- \* 1. How have your friends helped you through difficult times in your life?
- 2. What is it like to have a friend let you down when you really need support?
- 3. Who has been a faithful friend to you during difficult times in your life?

### Explore It

- 4. Where did the events of this story take place? (14:32)
- 5. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do? (14:32)
- 6. Who did Jesus take with him to pray? (14:33)
- \* 7. What emotions was Jesus feeling? (14:33-34)
- 8. What do Jesus' actions at this time tell us about His character? (14:33-34)
- 9. Why was Jesus so distressed and troubled? (14:33-34)
- 10. What did Jesus do in response to His deep sorrow? (14:35-36)
- 11. What "hour" did Jesus pray to "pass from Him"? (14:35-36)
- 12. What does Jesus' prayer tell us about His relationship to God the Father? (14:36)
- \* 13. What distressed Jesus when He returned to His disciples? (14:37)
- 14. What did Jesus find when He returned to the disciples who were keeping watch? (14:37)
- 15. How did Jesus instruct the disciples to prevent themselves from falling into temptation? (14:38)
- \* 16. Why did the disciples have so much trouble praying with Jesus? (14:38)
- 17. How did Jesus explain the difference between the spirit and the body? (14:38)
- 18. What caused the disciples to be speechless when Christ returned to them the second time? (14:40)
- 19. When did Jesus stop praying? (14:41-42)
- 20. What caused Jesus to stop praying? (14:41-42)

### Explore It

- 21. Why do you think Jesus chose three disciples to pray with Him?
- 22. What does the fact that God did not grant Jesus' request teach us about prayer?
- 23. If Mark's readers were Roman Christians undergoing persecution, what would this section of his Gospel say to them?
- 24. How does this passage encourage you to react when you feel distressed or troubled?
- 25. What about Christ's humanity can we learn from this event in His life?
- 26. What difference does it make that Jesus experienced such despair and pain firsthand?
- 27. What can we learn about prayer from Jesus' example?
- 28. When do you need to pray?
- \* 29. Why didn't the disciples watch and pray with Jesus as He asked them to?
- 30. What was the difference between the disciples' intentions and their actions?
- \* 31. What stops us from helping people in need?
- 32. What human weaknesses make it hard for us to do what God wants?
- 33. How should you pray when you must face a difficult or painful task?
- 34. How can we trust God with our extremely difficult circumstances?
- 35. What does it mean to "watch and pray"?
- 36. How can we prevent ourselves from falling into temptation?

### Apply It

- 37. Who is someone you can ask to help you overcome a weakness?
- 38. What needs of others will you commit yourself to pray for during this next week?

\* 39. How can you support a friend or relative facing a difficult task this week?