**The Gospel of Luke**

**Lesson 22** Luke 22:39-62 Jesus Prays/Arrested/Peter Disowns Jesus!

**Questions:**

1. What important truth did you learn from the lecture, and how does it apply to your life?
2. Read Wiersbe pages 137-145.

What mistakes had Peter made by attacking Malchus with his sword in the garden? In what ways did Jesus demonstrate his grace as events unfolded?

1. Read Read Luke 22:39-46 along with Mark 14:32-42 and the article below entitled, “Why did Jesus ask God to “let this cup pass from me”?”

The gospels contain an account of the time the disciples and Jesus spent in the Garden of Gethsemane, just before Jesus was arrested. In the garden Jesus prayed to his Father three times, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will”—the KJV says, “Let this cup pass from me” (Matthew 26:39). A little later, Jesus prays, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done” (Matthew 26:42). These prayers reveal Jesus’ mindset just before the crucifixion and His total submission to the will of God.

The “cup” to which Jesus refers is the suffering He was about to endure. It’s as if Jesus were being handed a cup full of bitterness with the expectation that He drink all of it. Jesus had used the same metaphor in Matthew 20:22 when prophesying of the future suffering of James and John. When Jesus petitions the Father, “Let this cup pass from me,” He expresses the natural human desire to avoid pain and suffering.

Jesus is fully God, but He is also fully human. His human nature, though perfect, still struggled with the need to accept the torture and shame that awaited Him; His flesh recoiled from the cross. In the same context, Jesus says to His disciples, “The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak” (Mathew 26:41). In praying, “Let this cup pass from me,” Jesus was battling the flesh and its desire for self-preservation and comfort. The struggle was intense: Jesus was “overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death” (Matthew 26:38), and Luke the physician observed that Jesus was sweating blood—a sign of extreme anguish (Luke 22:44). If anything shows that Jesus was indeed fully man, this prayer is it.

Jesus knew of what was to come (see Mark 8:31). The agony He faced was going to be more than physical; it would be spiritual and emotional, as well. Jesus knew that God’s will was to crush Him, to allow Him to be “pierced for our transgressions” and wounded for our healing (Isaiah 53:5–10). Jesus loves mankind, but His humanity dreaded the pain and sorrow He faced, and it drove Him to ask His Father, “Let this cup pass from me.”

Jesus’ prayer to “let this cup pass from me” contains two important qualifications. First, He prays, “If it is possible.” If there was any other way to redeem mankind, Jesus asks to take that other way. The events following His prayer show that there was no other way; Jesus Christ is the only possible sacrifice to redeem the world (John 1:29; Acts 4:12; Hebrews 10:14; Revelation 5:9). Second, Jesus prays, “Yet not as I will, but as you will.” Jesus was committed to the will of God, body, mind, and soul. The prayer of the righteous is always dependent on the will of God (see Matthew 6:10).

In Gethsemane, Jesus conquered the flesh and kept it in subjection to the spirit. He did this through earnest prayer and intense, willful submission to God’s plan. It is good to know that, when we face trials, Jesus knows what it’s like to want God’s will and yet not to want it; to act out of love yet dread the hurt that often results; to desire righteousness and obedience, even when the flesh is screaming out against it. This conflict is not sinful; it is human. Our Savior was “fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God” (Hebrews 2:17). He had come “to seek and to save the lost” (Luke 19:10), and He accomplished His mission, even though it meant drinking the cup of suffering to the bitter end.[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Provide answers for the following by comparing Luke 22:39-46 with Mark 14:32-42**

1. Who did Jesus take with him into the garden of Gethsemane? What did he ask them to specifically pray about? Why do you think he asked them to pray this way?
2. Describe Jesus’ emotional state.
3. What did Jesus do to gain strength in this dark hour? What lesson do you learn from this?
4. What does Jesus call His Father (see Mark 14:36) and what does Romans 8:15 tell us we can do as a child of God?
5. What did Jesus request of his Father?
6. **Thought question.** What does the “cup” that Jesus mentions represent (see article above)? What do you learn about this cup from the following verses?
   * Isaiah 51:17
   * Isaiah 53:4-5
   * Jeremiah 25:15
7. Who appeared to strengthen Jesus? What do you learn from this and the verses below regarding prayer?
   * Proverbs 15:29
   * Psalm 145:18-19
   * 2 Corinthians 1:3-4
8. Will believers ever have to face the cup of God’s wrath (1 Thess. 1:10)?
9. Read Luke 22:47-53 along with Mark 14:43-52 and John 18:1-11.
10. From all three accounts, who came while Jesus was speaking and who was with him?
11. In what two ways does Judas identify Jesus as the one to be arrested? (Give verses   
    from Luke and Mark)
12. How does Jesus respond? How does Jesus’ tender identification make the betrayal   
    even worse?
13. How did Jesus show his care for and protection of the disciples (See John’s account)?
14. What two ways did Jesus reveal his divine power (See John’s account)?
15. Peter is the disciple who struck the high priest’s servant. How did Jesus respond to Peter and what does this say about Jesus’ resolve at this point (See John’s account)?
16. What main lesson do you learn from Jesus’ response to his arrest given the divine power he exhibited (1 John 3:16)? (Hint: Was his submission involuntary or voluntary?)
17. Read Luke 22:54-65 along with Mark 14:66-72 and John 18:15-18 and 25-27.
18. What happened to all of the disciples as Jesus was arrested (Mark 14:50) and how was this a fulfillment of prophecy (Zechariah 13:7; Matthew 26:31)?
19. Who followed from a distance and what does this express about him (both positive   
    and negative)?
20. From the different accounts, who accused Peter of being one of Jesus’ followers?
21. Just as the rooster crowed, Luke’s account states that Jesus looked straight at Peter.   
    What do you think Jesus’ look conveyed to Peter? Do you think his look was one of condemnation or of mercy and understanding? Explain your answer.
22. Read Matthew 10:32-33. What do you learn from these two verses? What are some ways that we too deny Christ?
23. Remember that this incident with Peter happened before the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit provides divine power to live the Christian life and face all manner of fearful and trying circumstances. What do you learn from the following verses regarding one of the roles of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit?

* Philippians 4:13
* Acts 4:31
* Romans 8:11, 37

1. What is the greatest truth you have learned in this lesson? How does it change the   
   way you live?

1. “Why did Jesus ask God to “let this cup pass from me”?” Got Questions Ministries, accessed October 25, 2022, [https://www.gotquestions.org/let-this-cup-pass-from-me.html] [↑](#footnote-ref-1)