

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

APRIL 7, 2021

MATTHEW 26:36-46

INTRODUCTION:

1. In the last hours of His life, Jesus spent time in the garden of Gethsemane.
 - a) Jesus fought a battle against sin. But it was in Gethsemane where Jesus fought a battle with Himself. Jesus said no to what He wanted and yes to what God wanted. (cf. Heb. 5.7-9)
 - b) You will never see His love for God and for man more than in Gethsemane.
2. Jesus believed in the power of prayer. (Matt. 14.23; Luke 6.12; 18.1)
3. Before He faced the most horrific time in His life, Jesus prayed. [Read Matthew 26.36-46]
 - a) **MATTHEW 26.36:** *“Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane.”*
 - b) **MATTHEW 26.37,38:** *“And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee.”*
 - c) **MATTHEW 26.39:** *“He went a little bit farther and fell on His face, and prayed...”*
4. There are three components to the prayer offered by Jesus.

I. FEELINGS

- A. **MATTHEW 26.39:** *“O My Father...”*
 1. Jesus shared His feelings with His disciples. (Matt. 26.38)
 2. Jesus was horrified at the thought of His suffering and death. (Luke 22.44)
- B. Have you prayed with deep emotions?
 1. Have you ever argued with God? Cried to God? (Heb. 13.5; James 1.6-8)
 2. Paul had deep sorrow over those who were lost, and expressed those emotions in prayer to God. (Rom. 9.1-3; 10.1)

II. FATHER

- A. **MATTHEW 26.39:** *“O My Father...”*
 1. In Mark’s account, Jesus uses a term of endearment. (Mark 14.36)
 2. Jesus is the only One who had the right to address His Father as Papa.
- B. When we pray, we are addressing our heavenly Father.
 1. **MATTHEW 6.9:** *“In this manner, therefore, pray: “Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.”*
 - a) In context, Jesus first teaches us how not to pray. (Matt. 6.5-8)
 - b) Address God with respect, and remember He is your Father.
 2. How does a father react when his children come to him? (Matt. 7.7-11)

III. FAITH

- A. **MATTHEW 26.39:** *“O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”*
 1. Jesus prayed believing that God could rescue Him from the cross. (Heb. 5.7)
 2. Jesus prayed believing that whatever God decided would be for the best. (Matt. 26.39)
- B. What does it mean to pray in faith?
 1. We are promised that God will hear and answer our prayers. (1 John 3.22; 5.14,15)
 - a) Why then do we not always receive our requests? It is not *“according to His will”*
 - b) Jesus’ will was not aligned with the will of God. *“Not as I will, but as You will”*
 2. **JAMES 4.15:** *“Instead you ought to say, ‘if the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.’”* What does it mean when we say, *“Your will be done”*? (cf. James 1.6)
 3. To pray in faith is to believe that God knows what is best. (Matt. 7.11)