

March 19, 2017

The Last 24 - Mark's Passion

The Garden

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Mark 14:32 - 41

Jesus agonized the night before the cross.

Is 53:12 Heb 13:5 John 14:23

The way out it the way through.

Rom 5:3-5 2 Cor 12:8-9

Peace comes when we surrender to God

Heb 5:7-9 Col 3:15

Facing a “crushing” experience?

Pray

Surrender

Trust

In Matthew 26 verses 38, 40, and 43; Jesus asked for his friends to "watch and pray so that you do not fall into temptation". Jesus, just as we do, valued and desired the help and support of his friends as He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Share a time when you asked someone or when someone asked you to "stand in the gap". How do the support you gave or received help?

Galatians 6:2 tells us to 'Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.'

Jesus asked, but no one seemed to be there for Him in the garden.

Read Matthew 20:18-19.

What do you think was going through the disciples' minds as they heard Jesus prophecy His future?

How do you think you would have responded at that moment?

Praise God, we do not have to go it alone! We are given that promise over and over again in the Scriptures.

Read Matthew 28:20, Romans 8:38-39, and Hebrews 13:5

How does it make you feel to know that God is with you?

How can you keep confidence if you don't actually feel His presence or see Him at work?

Share a time when you could feel God's presence sustaining you.

Even though we have His promise to never leave us, He doesn't always remove us from the difficulties we face. Sometimes He allows us to go through the fire.

Read 2 Corinthians 4:17, Romans 5:3-5, I Corinthians 10:13, and James 1:2-4.

How does God use these difficulties in our lives to mature us?

It almost seems as if it's better for us to walk through difficulties instead of being rescued from difficulties. Why is it so difficult for us to understand that?

In what ways can we prepare ourselves more for the difficulties of life?

Instead of being rescued, the apostle Paul had to walk through.

Read 2 Corinthians 12:3 -10

In what ways are American Christians not like Paul?

How do we get to that points where we accept the possibility that the problem is not going away and that it might be for God's purpose and glory?

What do you think Paul means by "When I am weak, then I am strong?"

How does Isaiah 55:9 come into play when we are seeking God for a rescue?

What extreme difficulty are you facing right now? Will you be at peace if God does not meet you in the way you hope? What will you need to change about your perspective or your attitude in order to let the peace of God overwhelm you?

Steve Brown, founder and President of Key Life Network says: *When temptation comes, the Christian's prayer should always be: "Father, I don't understand the power that is against me for evil, but You do, and You have promised help. I now claim the victory that You have already won for me on the cross." As you encounter temptation, get on your knees and pray.*