

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: Reaching out to leaders who can change the world.

Feb 2012

LESSON 16 – GOD’S SERVANT – IN TIME OF CRISIS

INTRODUCTION

If you were facing a crisis, what three friends would you ask to support you?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

Note: We’re fortunate to see into the private life of Christ during a crisis. He knew that Judas had gone to get the temple police so He had to solve some issues quickly. In the garden we see Jesus’ prayer of petition as well as His prayer of submission and trust. Old Testament imagery refers to experiencing God’s anger and punishment as “drinking from the cup of his wrath.” (Isa 53:4, 10) In spite of the disciples’ self-confidence, they are about to see their weakness and begin to understand their utter dependence on God. In Jesus’ humanity He reached out for support from his three closest friends who promptly fell asleep. The closest translation of the Aramaic term “Abba” is “daddy”. Jews wouldn’t address God with such an irreverent term but Jesus showed his close, intimate relationship to God.

Read Mark 14:32-36

1. What was Jesus feeling at this point? Why? Luke 22:44
2. If Jesus was God, why was this so hard?
3. What did He ask of his disciples? Why?
4. What were the disciples doing that made them appear insensitive to Jesus’ concerns? Was it all their fault? Lk 22:45
5. What do we learn about Jesus’ relationship to His Father? Luke 22:43-44
6. What can we learn about Jesus’ prayer? (36) John 1:12-13, 2 Cor 12:7-10
7. Do you think Jesus was more concerned about his impending physical trials or the impending alienation and wrath from His father?
8. How did Jesus overcome His distress? How do we?
9. How does Jesus’ death compare to the death of Christian martyrs?

Read Mark 14:37-42

10. Why do you think Jesus initially singled out Peter here? (29-32; 37)
11. What was the disciples’ behavior? How did Jesus respond?
12. How was Jesus’ prayer answered? Psalm 22:29-31

APPLICATION

- Jesus told Peter (38), “Watch and pray.... The Spirit is willing, but the body is weak.” What support do you need from God? From other Christians?
- What decision are you facing where you need to seek acceptance of God’s will?

***Posterity will serve him; Future generations will be told about the Lord
They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn—for he has done it.***

Psalm 22:30-31