

GROWING IN MY COMMITMENT (Mark 14:32-42)

The EXPERIENCE Bible Study

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Understanding Gethsemane

1. Gethsemane is the place of "pressing". It's the place where Jesus feels the weight of his impending death.
2. Gethsemane is the place of intense struggle and inevitable suffering – it's the place where commitment is revealed.
3. It's also the place where failed faith is recovered

Significance of Gethsemane

1. The place where realities, priorities & truth are exposed: a) Peter's denial of Jesus 3-times (8:31-33; 34-38; 14:29); b) James & John requested places of honor when Jesus comes into his kingdom (10:37); c) Jesus warns that "you will all fall away" (14:27)
2. The place that draws us into an ***opportunity of participation.***

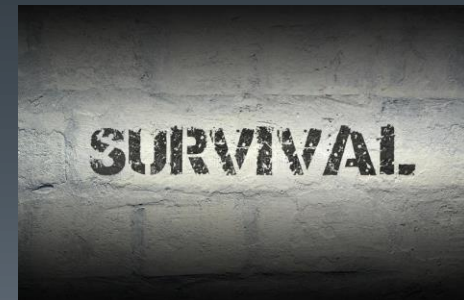


Gethsemane Revelations

1. Staying committed is a challenge – failure is a reality in the life of the disciple.
2. Delay, combined with weakness, takes a toll on our spiritual strength – Jesus' prayer implies that constant need for prayer is necessary in the life of the disciple.
3. Our inability to respond in moments of weakness is highlighted

How To Survive Gethsemane

1. Commitment to discipleship living is found in one's willingness to commit to PRAYER!
2. A *prayerless* life is a *powerless* life! The weaknesses of life & our inability to stay committed are addressed and prepared for through regular prayer.





The Good News Found In Gethsemane

1. Christians can pick themselves up and start again even if they have lapsed in their commitment – Jesus placed no *blame* on them!
2. Peter, James & John reminds us that confidence in *our power & success* can fail when it is put to the test.
3. Regular prayer acknowledges our dependence on God's Spirit to sustain us *AT ALL TIMES!*

Commitment To Giving

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Commitment To Growing



Commitment To Prayer

Heavenly Father, Your power is unbridled and unrestrained. We have *experienced* it first-hand in our lives but there have been times when we have *fallen victim* because of our failure to stay committed. Tonight, we *renew* ourselves to You. We renew our *commitment to the calling* on our lives as Your disciples. Help us in those moments when our strength is waning by *jumpstarting* our spirits. In Jesus name, Amen.

