

Water of Life Community Church
THE WONDER OF GOD
WEEK 11
MATTHEW 26:36-46

ICE BREAKER

PRAYER

WORSHIP

INTRODUCTION

While in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus made His final decision to go to the cross. In doing so, Jesus came against all of hell's power to free people. It is the cross that saves us and delivers us from darkness. Now, the same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in all who trust in Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. READ MATTHEW 26:36-40.

- a. What "cup" was Jesus referring to in verse 39? (See Jeremiah 25.) What insight does this shed on the Lord's Supper, which Jesus and His disciples had just left?
- b. How does this garden scene compare with the first garden scene in the Bible; the Garden of Eden? What temptations were presented in both?
- c. How did both gardens lead to death? How did the implications of each death differ?
- d. Do you think it was the physical pain Jesus dreaded most, or something else?
- e. Why do you think Matthew included the detail that Jesus fell facedown to pray? What does that indicate about the nature of prayer and the inward sentiment of Jesus that night?
- f. Why do you think Jesus asked the disciples to go with Him? What might Jesus have wanted them to see and learn as a result? What did it reveal about the power of His presence?
- g. How does understanding that the cross is the will of God impact the way we view the crucifixion? How does it impact the way we view Jesus' prayer in the garden?

2. READ 1 PETER 3:18 AND 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18.

- a. How would you summarize 1 Peter 3:18 in your own words?

b. In what way is the cross the most extraordinary display of the power of God in your life?

3. READ ROMANS 8:11.

a. Why is knowing the constant presence of God's Spirit a powerful deterrent to giving in to the temptations that come with our struggle with sin?

b. Why does having the Spirit guarantee our future bodily resurrection?

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME

The following four points of application were made in this week's message: 1. The Spirit of the Living God is in you. 2. There is nothing you cannot do, no battle you cannot fight. 3. There is no journey you cannot take. 4. There is no pressure you cannot overcome...if you allow His Spirit to manifest His presence in you. Which of these statements stands out to you the most personally today? Why?

Where do you long to experience God's power in your life right now? Based on today's passages, what do you need to do?

GOING DEEPER/WEEKLY CHALLENGE

REFLECT

- How do you see the power of the Christ move in your life today?

RESPOND

- Pray for someone else who doesn't know Jesus to receive the gift of the Cross today.

Also ... Subscribe to our e-devotionals by texting "edevotional" to 67076; or go to wolgroups.com and click on the eDevotional button for daily testimonies relating to this week's theme.

MEMORY VERSE

Romans 8:11, New American Standard Bible (NASB)

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

NOTES