



ENGAGE GUIDE

SUNDAY'S SERMON // SUNDAY, APRIL 10

MATTHEW 26:31-56 // WHEN YOU ARE ALL ALONE, IS CHRIST ENOUGH?

SERMON RECAP:

What's your story? When you are all alone, is Christ enough? Jesus chose to do the right thing knowing the cost. Under intense pressure, he drew closer to the Father as others withdrew from him. Jesus' pursuit of his purpose was superior to any relational loss he faced.

THE LEAD IN:

1. Have you gone through something in your life where you felt isolated, withdrawn from others, and alone? Was it from a mistake you made or for choosing the right thing?

GETTING INTO THE TEXT:

2. Read Matthew 26:31-46. Jesus faced isolation, doubt, and rejection from even those closest to him. Where did he draw his strength from? For deeper study, discuss why in verse 31 Jesus would have quoted the prophecy from Zechariah 13:7.
3. Gethsemane was a garden where olives were pressed to extract their oil. Within this garden, Christ is under immense pressure (v. 42). How does Jesus use his time in the garden and how does that affect the events in the following hours (confrontation and arrest in the garden, abandonment by his disciples, trial, flogging, and crucifixion)?

GOING DEEPER:

4. In today's culture, how could pursuing God's plan for your life lead to immense pressure from others? What practices have you developed in your life to build reliance upon the Lord rather than upon what others think of you?
5. Jesus was abandoned, let down, and outright betrayed by multiple men who were in his closest circle. Have you experienced a relational strain with someone in your Oikos that has required you to forgive rather than hold onto resentment? Were you able to forgive? What is that relationship like today?

PRAYER:

6. Pray for strength for each other to cling fast to the Father in times of pressure and trial knowing that he alone provides peace and rest and knows

NEXT SUNDAY // SUNDAY, APRIL 17

JOHN 19:28-30; HEBREWS 12:1-2

SCRIPTURE: READING ABOUT GOD

Take time to read and become familiar with this passage before hearing it preached next Sunday.

- What words were used/repeated/emphasized in this passage?
- Where else in Scripture are these words described/illustrated?
- How does this passage describe God?
- In your own words, summarize this passage, trying to identify the main theme.

PRAYER: COMMUNICATING WITH GOD

Allow your responses to these questions to affect your prayers this week for...

- Yourself
- The Church
- Your Oikos