

A dramatic, low-angle shot of Jesus walking on water. He is seen from behind, wearing a blue robe and a brown sash. The sea is dark and turbulent, with white-capped waves crashing around him. The sky is a mix of dark, stormy clouds and a lighter, hazy glow near the horizon. The overall mood is one of divine power and mystery.

Following JESUS

Part Five

Introduction...

- Today's session will be quite instructional and inspirational.
- We will be looking at the Prayer life of Jesus Christ and how that can be a blessing to us.
- The depth and principles of His way and style of prayer will be of great benefit to the genuine Believer.
- A major part of the key to a victorious and successful spiritual life is **prayer**.





Open Heavens...

- One of the first glimpses we have of Jesus' prayer life comes from the moment of His Baptism:
- *21 When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened.*
- *22 And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased." Luke 3:21*



Open Heavens...

- We see by revelation something incredible about our LORD
- The Heaven opened whilst He prayed.
- His realm of prayer was not just verbal or verbal but heavenly
- Prayer is supposed to connect us with the spiritual realm
- There are three mentions here; The Father, The Spirit and The Son
- We come to the Father by the Spirit in the Name of the Son
- Prayer involves the voice of God

By The Spirit...

- *Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,*
- *2 being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.*
- *3 And the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.”*
- *4 But Jesus answered him, saying, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’”*
- *5 Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.*
- *6 And the devil said to Him, “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. 7 Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours.”*
- *8 And Jesus answered and said to him, “Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’” Luke 4:1-8*



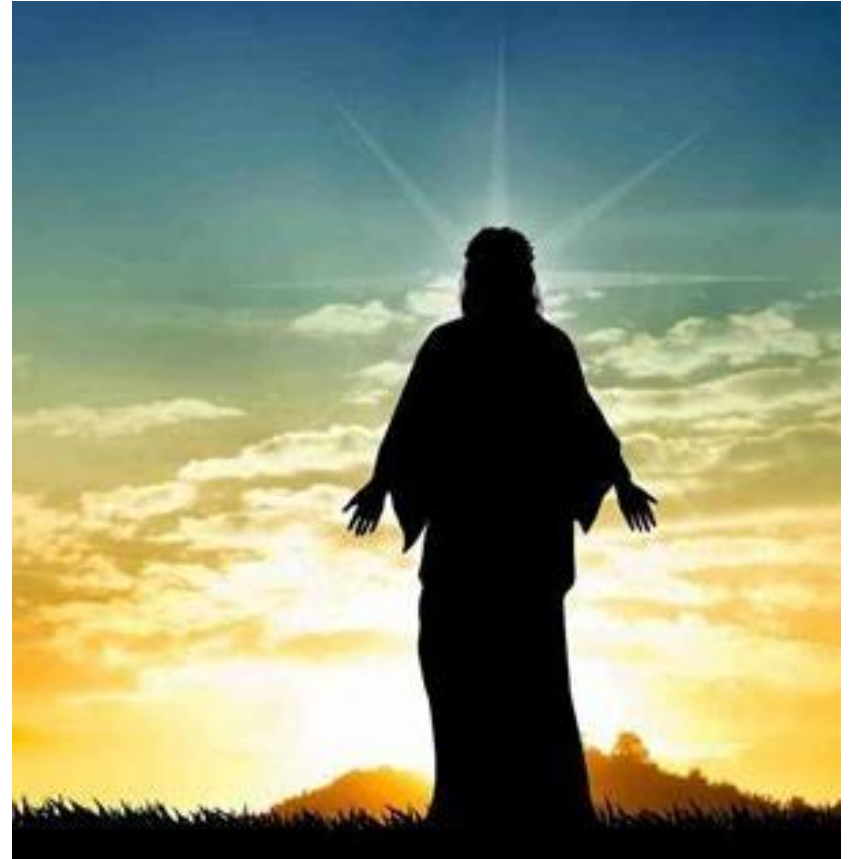


Fasting...

- Prayer allows the Spirit to fill you with the life and energy of God
- Prayer allows the Spirit to lead you into places we wouldn't necessarily go ourselves
- Prayer and Fasting are siblings
- Prayer attracts fasting
- Fasting attracts prayer
- There is a beginning and end of every test or temptation
- True prayer elevates you to where you will attract the attention of the kingdom of darkness
- Jesus' prayer life was at the beginning and end of His earthly ministry
- True prayer engages the WORD of God

In the Power...

- *13 Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.*
- *14 Then Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region.*
- *15 And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. Luke 4:13-15*
- Every temptation as an expiry date.
- It is like there are seasons to spiritual warfare
- The result of true prayer is POWER
- You receive divine energy to operate in more of the authority and power of God.
- Prayer advertises you and promotes what the Spirit is doing through your vessel
- Jesus did not have an Instagram account, yet news about Him spread. Allow God to promote your life in the right season. Remember Jesus did not have this attention a year ago!



He Withdrew...

- ¹⁵ *However, the report went around concerning Him all the more;*
- *and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities.*
- ¹⁶ **So** *He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.*
Luke 5:15-16
- When God's hand is upon your life, He does His own advertising
- The more the crowds, the more the prayer
- The more activity in your life, the more you need to withdraw
- The wilderness represents 'the filling station'
- Prayer is enhanced by less distraction
- Less is more...
- The word 'often' represents a rhythm and regularity
- Our Lord was on His own.
- True prayer does not need an audience.



All Night...

- *Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray,*
- *and continued all night in prayer to God.*
- *¹³And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles:
Luke 6:12*
- Mountain tops are like our retreat centres today. Usually cooler and were deserted so little disturbance
- He prayed ALL Night!!
- We are called to be like the Lord
- He prayed and talked with God all night
- To be like God, we spend time with God
- Accurate discernment comes from much prayer
- Making permanent decisions must emerge from prevailing prayer.



Alone...

- ***18 And it happened, as He was alone praying, that His disciples joined Him, and He asked them, saying, “Who do the crowds say that I am?” Luke 9:18***
- He was alone praying...
- Jesus had a lot of people around Him, yet He was able to separate Himself from them
- Jesus did not carry Himself as a spiritual demigod because His disciples were able to join Him where He was praying
- The spiritual atmosphere was so charged (my opinion) that Peter was able to have a revelation straight from Heaven about Jesus being the CHRIST!
- He was natural and real and could engage in conversation straight from prayer.



Transfigured!

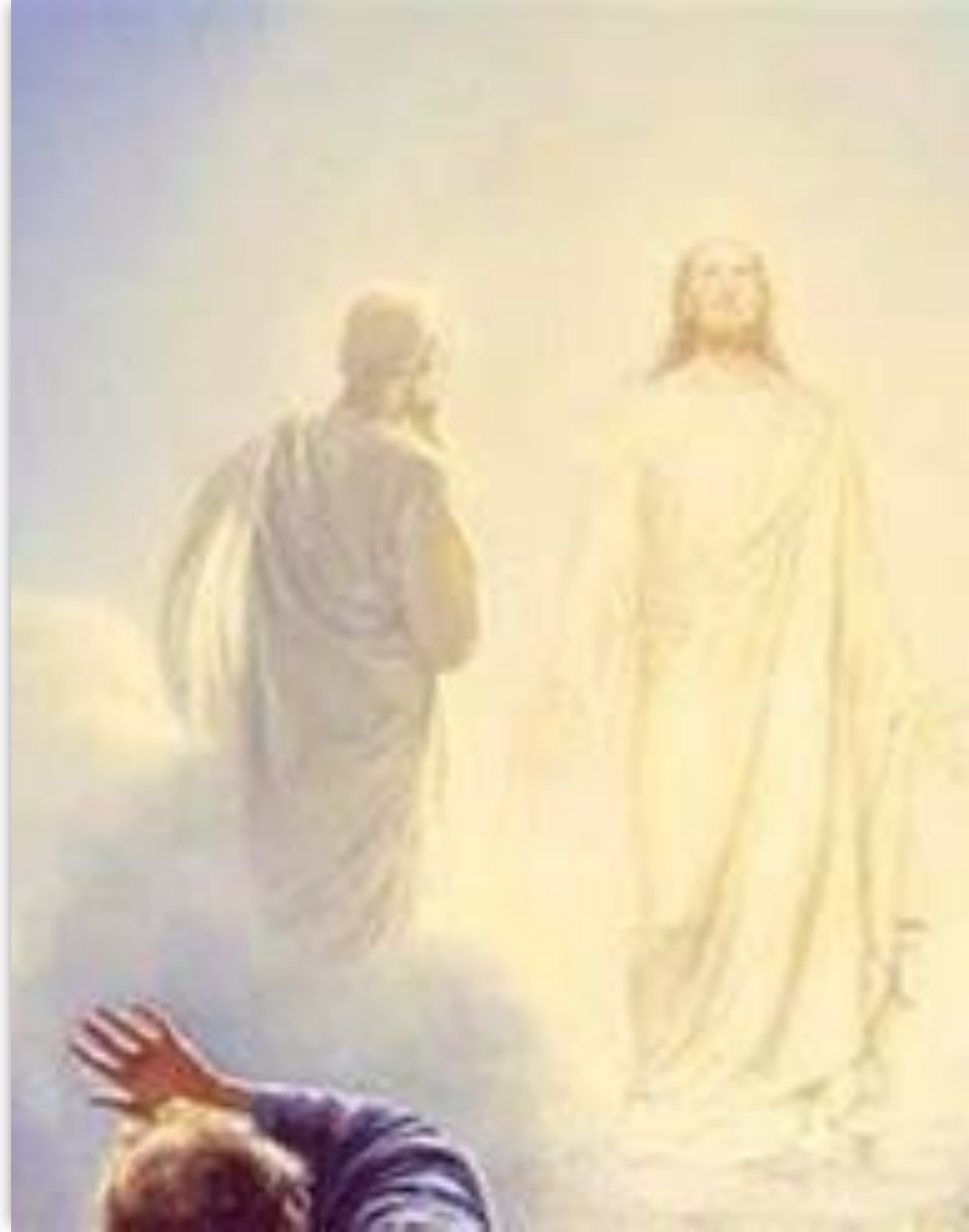
- *28 Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray.*
- *29 As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.*
- *30 And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah,*
- *31 who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.*

Luke 9:28-31



Divine Energy...!

- He took the disciples up on a mountain to pray
- This was probably not the first time He did this with them
- We need to be inspiring others to the place of prayer
- As He Prayed...
- Divine energy is generated when we pray!
- Our physical bodies and environment can be touched through our prayer
- Prayer translates us into another realm when we pray
- Unspeakable things happen when we pray
- Heaven speaks when we pray
- Prayer connects with Heaven that already knows our future.



Teach Us...

- *Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place,*
- *when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."*
- *² So He said to them, "When you pray, say:*
- *Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.*
- *³ Give us day by day our daily bread.
⁴ And forgive us our sins,
For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.
And do not lead us into temptation,
¹But deliver us from the evil one.
Luke 11:1-4*



Teach Us...!

- ...as He was praying in a certain place...
- Something about how Jesus prayed, provoked a hunger for prayer in His disciples
- Prayer is contagious
- Hang around prayerful people and you will catch the 'bug'
- Its amazing that our Lord is so accommodating with hungry souls!
- Whatever you ask, He is ready to answer
- The depth of the Lord's prayer is tremendous



Our Father...

- The prayer starts with OUR FATHER
- Prayer is not private even when you are on your own
- You are logging unto cosmic Zoom conference the moment you kneel to pray
- Prayer is connecting to a vast matrix of prayers past, prayers present and prayers to come.
- There is no time in the presence of the Lord
- You are stepping into eternity when you pray from your heart
- You are connecting to spiritual webpages as you begin to pray
- Hallowed, Holy, Holy, Holy
- There is something ultimately purging and cleansing about the presence of God
- You just begin to repent and forgive and worship spontaneously



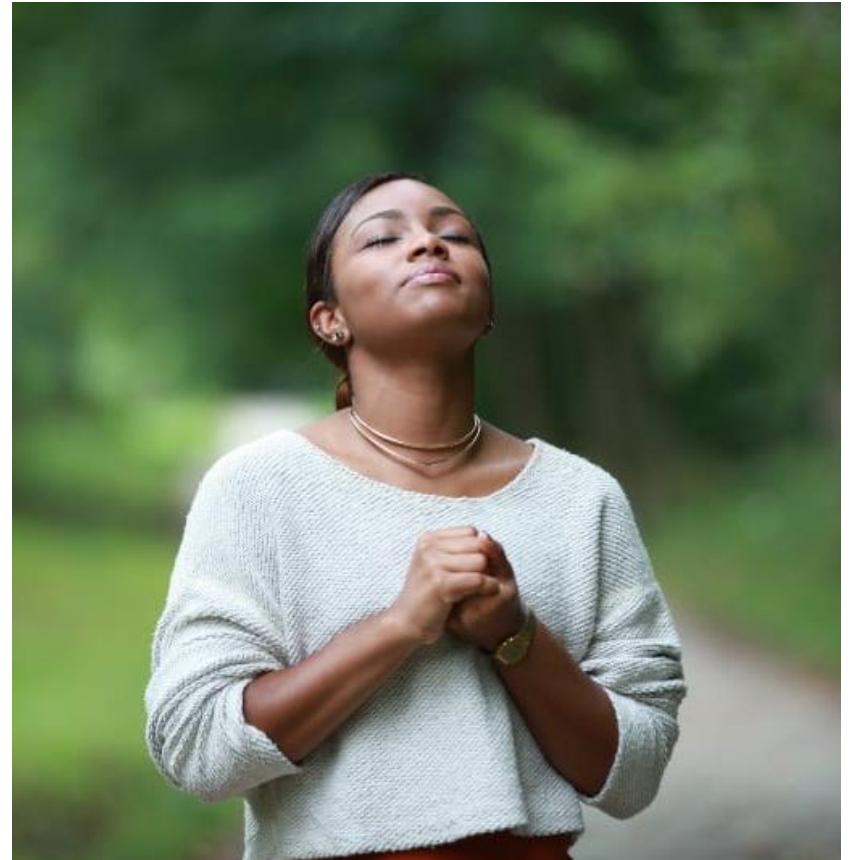


Holy Holy Holy!

- *In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.*
- *² Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one cried to another and said:*
- *“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!”*
- *⁴ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.*
- *⁵ So I said:*
- *“Woe is me, for I am undone!
Because I am a man of unclean lips,
And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips;
For my eyes have seen the King,
The LORD of hosts.” Isaiah 6:1-5*

Your Will Be Done..

- ***Your Kingdom Come...***
- Prayer makes you 'full' of GOD
- You become overwhelmed with God's heart and agenda
- Prayerful people carry a burden for God's Will on Earth
- God's heartbeat becomes your heartbeat
- You see people the way God sees them
- You become full of God's Love and tenderness for others
- Your eyes are opened to see the Kingdom of God in ways you didn't see before.
- In His Light you see LIGHT!
- You will begin to waste hours on God
- You bring your alabaster box to Him



In the Fourth Watch..

- *22 Immediately Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to the other side, while He sent the multitudes away.*
- *23 And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there.*
- *24 But the boat was now in the middle of the sea, tossed by the waves, for the wind was contrary.*
- *25 Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea.*
- *26 And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear.*
- *27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid."*
- *Matthew 14:22-27*



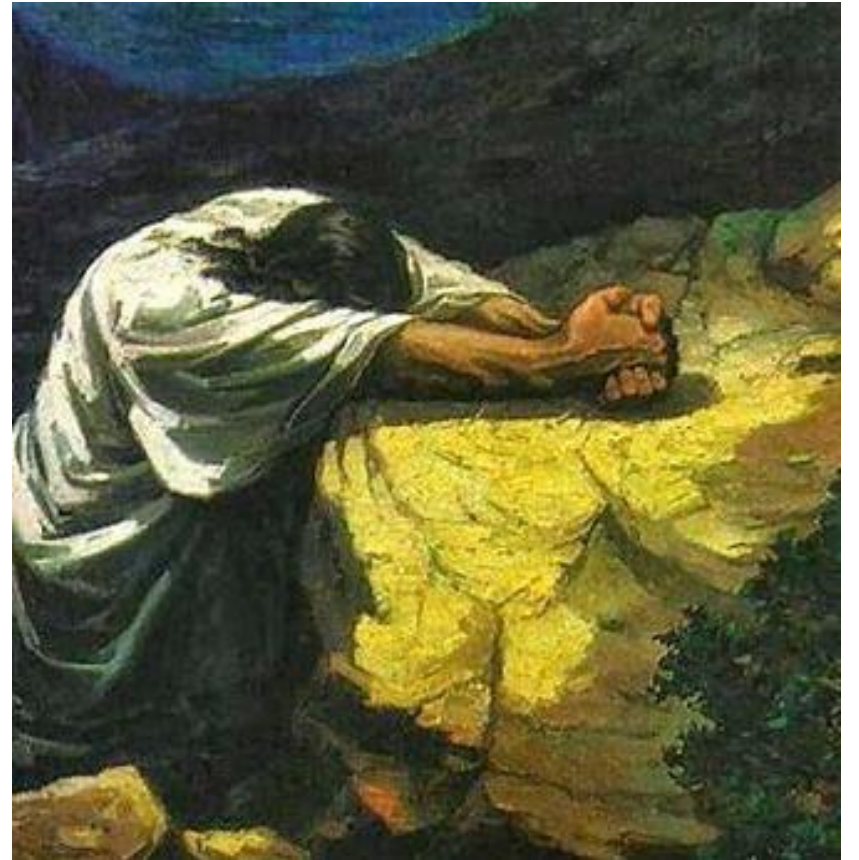
12 Hours...?!!

- Note that the meeting ended before the evening
- Jesus waited back to dismiss the crowd
- He then went up unto a mountain before the evening
- When evening came, he had been praying for some time already
- Jesus prayed until midnight. Another six hours
- He is still in prayer until He walks on water to meet His disciples around 3am!
- So, in total, our Lord was probably in prayer for about 11-12hours!!
- No wonder He can walk on water by 3am!!
- This just illustrates the prevailing and persistent nature of Jesus prayer life
- If we are going to model our lives after Jesus, then we must copy His prayer life too!!



Gethsemane

- ³⁶ Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples,
- “Sit here while I go and pray over there.”
- ³⁷ And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed.
- ³⁸ Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.”
- ³⁹ He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying,
- “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You *will*.” Matthew 26



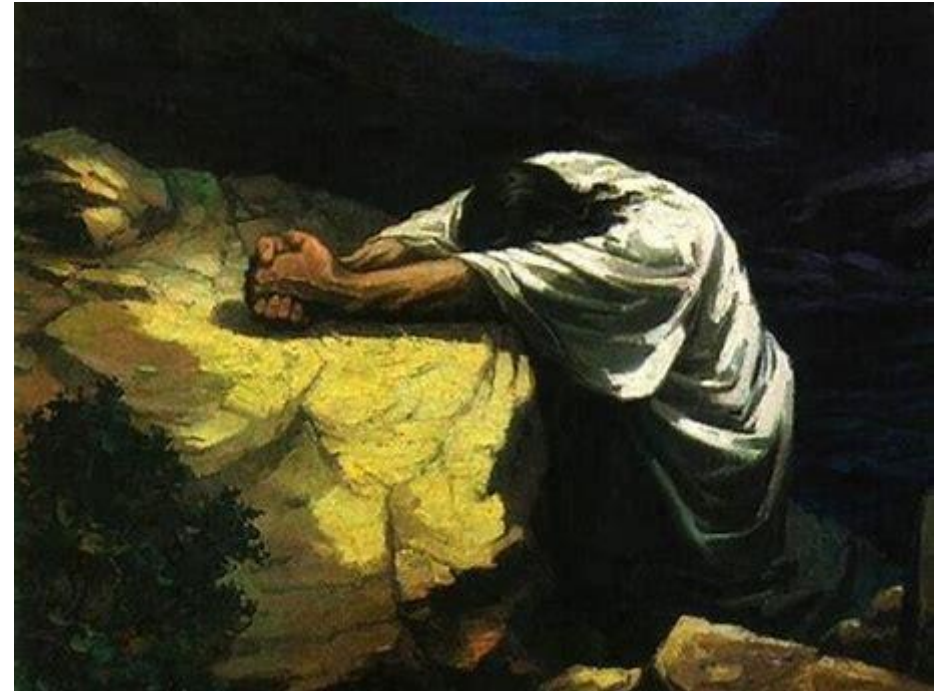
Gethsemane

- *41 And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed,*
- *42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not My will, but Yours, be done."*
- *43 Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.*
- *44 And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.*
- *45 When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow.*
- *46 Then He said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation."*
Luke 22



Gethsemane

- Jesus leaned on His Disciples to accompany Him in prayer
- A spiritual journey He was to make alone.
- The disciples slept off!
- He came to wake them twice which means corporate prayer is important.
- An Angel came to strengthen Him
- Maybe in Heaven we will find out who took the place of the disciples in prayer!
- Gethsemane was Golgotha
- The victory was won at Gethsemane!!



REFLECTIONS

