

In the Garden of Gethsemane: Jesus Prays, Judas Betrays, and Jesus is Arrested

When Jesus' time had finally come, he went to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray. It is there, during the season of Lent, that we begin following Jesus on his road to the cross, through the first two stations in the traditional Stations of the Cross. Join us as we discuss the long history of this tradition and the Scriptures that teach us about the events in the Garden of Gethsemane: Jesus' prayer, betrayal by Judas Iscariot, and arrest. Together, we'll reflect on Jesus' humanity, what it cost him to embark on this journey on our behalf, and what it teaches us about our faith as we follow Jesus.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Why do you think the Stations of the Cross begin in the Garden of Gethsemane?
- What about Jesus' character stands out when you think about him in the garden, praying to God the Father as the disciples fell asleep nearby? What about his betrayal and arrest?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [*In the Garden of Gethsemane: Jesus Prays, Judas Betrays, and Jesus is Arrested*](#)

READ [Matthew 26:31-56](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In Segment 1, host Scott Hoezee described a “sad rhythm,” which he compared to a heartbeat: Jesus repeatedly predicting his suffering and death, only for his disciples not to understand but to grasp for power. Do you think that sad heartbeat still exists in the church today? Why or why not?
- In segment 2, Scott and host Darrell Delaney discussed the physical and spiritual reasons the disciples kept falling asleep while Jesus prayed. What do you observe about these circumstances?
- How might it be beneficial for us to witness Jesus' humanity in the agony of his prayer ([Matthew 26:36-46](#))?
- As you reflect on the account of Judas' betrayal of Jesus, in what ways might you relate to Judas? How about with Peter, who drew the sword and cut off a man's ear? What resonates with you about Jesus' experience?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Matthew 16:21-28](#), [Isaiah 53](#), [Hebrews 4:14-16](#), [Luke 22:39-53](#), [Mark 14:32-52](#), [John 18:1-14](#)

CONCLUSION

Studying the accounts of Jesus' agonizing prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, Judas betraying him with a kiss, and his subsequent arrest reminds us of Jesus' humanity. In awe, we reflected on what it cost Jesus to save us and how following the Prince of Peace requires humility and repentance. Close your time of reflection as Scott closed the episode: with a prayerful heart, ask the Holy Spirit to keep you on the narrow way to eternal life that alone leads to a new creation in the kingdom of God.

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