

# Gethsemane—[Mark 14:32–42](#)

Topics:

Depression, Despair, Giving Up, Pain, Prayer, Solitude, Sorrow

## Open It

1. \*How have your friends helped you through difficult times in your life?
2. What is it like to have a friend let you down when you really need support?
3. Who has been a faithful friend to you during difficult times in your life?

## Explore It

1. Where did the events of this story take place? ([14:32](#))
2. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do? ([14:32](#))
3. Who did Jesus take with him to pray? ([14:33](#))
4. \*What emotions was Jesus feeling? ([14:33–34](#))
5. What do Jesus' actions at this time tell us about His character? ([14:33–34](#))
6. Why was Jesus so distressed and troubled? ([14:33–34](#))
7. What did Jesus do in response to His deep sorrow? ([14:35–36](#))

8. What “hour” did Jesus pray to “pass from Him”? ([14:35–36](#))
9. What does Jesus’ prayer tell us about His relationship to God the Father? ([14:36](#))
10. \*What distressed Jesus when He returned to His disciples? ([14:37](#))
11. What did Jesus find when He returned to the disciples who were keeping watch? ([14:37](#))
12. How did Jesus instruct the disciples to prevent themselves from falling into temptation? ([14:38](#))
13. \*Why did the disciples have so much trouble praying with Jesus? ([14:38](#))
14. How did Jesus explain the difference between the spirit and the body? ([14:38](#))
15. What caused the disciples to be speechless when Christ returned to them the second time? ([14:40](#))
16. When did Jesus stop praying? ([14:41–42](#))
17. What caused Jesus to stop praying? ([14:41–42](#))

### **Explore It**

1. Why do you think Jesus chose three disciples to pray with Him?
2. What does the fact that God did not grant Jesus’ request teach us about prayer?

3. If Mark's readers were Roman Christians undergoing persecution, what would this section of his Gospel say to them?
4. How does this passage encourage you to react when you feel distressed or troubled?
5. What about Christ's humanity can we learn from this event in His life?
6. What difference does it make that Jesus experienced such despair and pain firsthand?
7. What can we learn about prayer from Jesus' example?
8. When do you need to pray?
9. \*Why didn't the disciples watch and pray with Jesus as He asked them to?
10. What was the difference between the disciples' intentions and their actions?
11. \*What stops us from helping people in need?
12. What human weaknesses make it hard for us to do what God wants?
13. How should you pray when you must face a difficult or painful task?
14. How can we trust God with our extremely difficult circumstances?

15. What does it mean to “watch and pray”?

16. How can we prevent ourselves from falling into temptation?

**Apply It**

1. Who is someone you can ask to help you overcome a weakness?
2. What needs of others will you commit yourself to pray for during this next week?
3. \*How can you support a friend or relative facing a difficult task this week?