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MARK 14:32-42

THE OBEDIENT SON



THIS WEEK'S **focus**

If we could choose to do only the things we want to do, life might be more fun. Unfortunately, life is more complicated than that. We will all face hard times sometimes. Preparing for the hard stuff helps us get through those times, even if it doesn't make the hard stuff go away. When we don't get a chance to prepare, the hard stuff feels even harder. On the night before He was arrested, Jesus took His disciples with Him to prepare for the ordeal He was about to go through. He was honest with God and submitted to His authority, but the disciples missed the chance to do the same that night. This week, we'll learn that obeying God in tough times is more doable and likely when we prepare.



CENTRAL **truth**

Jesus is our greatest example of obedience to God.



EXPLORE

scripture

MARK 14:32-42

MARK 14:32-34

32 Then they came to a place named Gethsemane, and he told his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” **33** He took Peter, James, and John with him, and he began to be

deeply distressed and troubled. **34** He said to them, “I am deeply grieved to the point of death. Remain here and stay awake.”

MARK 14:35-36

35 He went a little farther, fell to the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. **36** And he said, “‘Abba’, Father! All things are possible

for you. Take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, not what I will, but what you will.”

MARK 14:37-42

37 Then he came and found them sleeping. He said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Couldn’t you stay awake one hour? **38** Stay awake and pray so that you won’t enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” **39** Once again he went away and prayed, saying the same thing. **40** And again he came and found

them sleeping, because they could not keep their eyes open. They did not know what to say to him. **41** Then he came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The time has come. See, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. **42** Get up; let’s go. See, my betrayer is near.”

DAILY devotions

MEMORIZE MARK 14:36

7 ARROWS FOR BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



What does this passage tell us about humans?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?



What does this passage demand of me?

day 1

MARK 14:32-34

DWELL

Jesus invited these three men to participate in a very special moment, both for His sake and for theirs. He let them see His emotion and gave them a glimpse into His struggle. Later, after Jesus ascended into heaven and things got hard for them, they would have this memory to look back on and draw strength from. They would know Jesus understood them and that He had felt what they would be feeling. His instructions in the garden would be forever in their minds when needed: stay awake and pray.



Whom did Jesus need more than anyone else when He was upset? How do you know?



What do we need from each other when we are upset?

MEMORIZE

Write Mark 14:36 on a few sticky notes, and put the notes in places you will see them throughout the day. When you see one, stop and read it out loud.

PRAY

Thank God for letting us witness Jesus's humanity so we can better appreciate the sacrifice He made in obedience. Thank God for the forgiveness and new life Jesus's obedience made possible.

day 2

MARK 14:35-36

DWELL

Compared to the template for prayer Jesus gave His disciples when they asked how to pray (see Matt. 6:9-13), the prayer at Gethsemane wasn't very pretty. And that's okay. It was honest. It was also respectful of who God is and who we are. It's perfectly fine for us to tell God how we're feeling and what we want, but we must never forget that He's God and we're not.

← Do you think Jesus showing respect for His Father in this prayer? Why or why not?

↪ What needs to change about your attitude toward prayer for your prayers to be more respectful and honest?

MEMORIZE

Write down Mark 14:36 in a journal or on a note card, and circle any words that feel important. Look at just those words for a few moments, then close your eyes and say them. When you can get them all right without looking, try doing the same thing with the whole verse.

PRAY

Thank God for letting you read Jesus's most vulnerable prayer. Thank Him for the lessons you can learn from Jesus's example. Ask God to bring this prayer to mind when you are stressed and don't know how to pray.

day 3

MARK 14:37-39

DWELL

No one who knows God wants to disappoint Him, but we aren't always willing to do what it takes to avoid it. We think we're strong enough on our own to avoid temptation, but we aren't. It takes serious face time with God to go through challenging circumstances and represent Him well. When it comes to obedience, wanting to do the right thing isn't enough. We have to ask God what that is and let Him give us the strength to do it.

↓ Jesus told Peter how to keep his promise not to deny Him. Why do you think Peter ignored the advice?

→ Jesus prayed the same prayer twice. What can you learn from His example?

MEMORIZE

See how much of Mark 14:36 you can remember by writing it down without looking. Check your work. Add or change as necessary and study it. Practice doing this throughout the week until you get it!

PRAY

Thank God for the insight into human struggle that Jesus gives in this passage. Ask God to remind you that you can't obey Him by sheer will when you're tempted to let your prayer life slide.

day 4

MARK 14:40-42

DWELL

The disciples were embarrassed that Jesus caught them sleeping, but that wasn't enough to keep them awake. They fell asleep again and missed the opportunity to prepare for what was coming. When the soldiers showed up, the men probably understood why Jesus had insisted that they pray. The only way we can avoid being caught unprepared for what comes our way is to make prayer a regular part of our lives. We shouldn't have to be told.

→ What can you do to avoid having to learn lessons from God the hard way?

↶ How does it encourage you to know that Jesus knew everything that was about to happen? How can that change the way you deal with uncertainty as you go about your week?

MEMORIZE

Try singing Mark 14:36 to the tune of a song you know well. Practice singing the verse to yourself as best as you can throughout the week.

PRAY

Thank God for letting us see the disciples make mistakes so we can learn from them. Thank Him for the warning contained in this passage. Ask Him to show you how to prepare for what's coming in your life through prayer.

day 5

JOHN 18:3-11

DWELL

Peter was a passionate advocate, but he was a very slow learner. This wasn't the first time he tried to interfere with God's plan for Jesus's life, and it wasn't the first time Jesus corrected his mistake (see Matt. 16:21-23). No matter how much we love our friends, God loves them more, and His plans for their lives are always best, even if we disagree. For these reasons, we must make sure that the help we give them is the help God wants us to give. The last thing we want to do is interfere with God's plan.

↓ What does Peter's response tell us about his understanding of the situation he was in?

↑ What does Jesus's response tell us about His understanding of the situation He was in? How can you be like Jesus, not Peter?

MEMORIZE

Try reciting Mark 14:36 from memory. Ask a friend or family member to help you by reminding you of any words you've forgotten.

PRAY

Thank God for the opportunity to participate in His plan in the lives of our friends. Ask Him what role He wants you to play in their lives right now. Ask Him not to let you get in His way.