

# THE DIFFERENCE HOUR

Matthew 26:36-46 Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.”<sup>37</sup> He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled.<sup>38</sup> Then he said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

<sup>39</sup> Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “[Abba, Father,” he said, “everything is possible for you. (Mark 14:36)] My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

<sup>40</sup> Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?” he asked Peter.<sup>41</sup> “Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.”

<sup>42</sup> He went away a second time and prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.”

<sup>43</sup> When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.<sup>44</sup> So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

<sup>45</sup> [When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. “Why are you sleeping?” he asked them. “Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.” (Luke 22:45-46)]<sup>45</sup> “...Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.<sup>46</sup> Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer!” NIV  
(Parallel passages: Mark 14:32-42, Luke 22:39-46)

## Lessons

- Everything is possible.
- Not all things are possible within the realm of God’s will. God may not answer you by giving you the outcome you desire.
- Somehow, it still helps.

1 Peter 5:7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. NIV (Also: Ps. 55:22)

- Jesus prayed. That is profound.

John 8:58-59 “I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!”<sup>59</sup> At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

Colossians 1:16-18 For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.<sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.<sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. NIV

John 1:1-17 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth...<sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

- Jesus prayed for an hour. (The first time he went out from the disciples.)

THE DIFFERENCE HOUR: Pray for one hour this week.

Jesus prayed by himself sometimes

Mark 1:35; Matthew 14:22-24; Luke 5:16; Luke 9:18

Jesus prayed with others sometimes.

Luke 9:28-29 (Disciples: Acts 1:14; 12:12; 16:13-16)

Jesus prayed for others.

Matthew 19:13; Luke 22:31-32

Jesus prayed in times of anguish.

Matthew 26:36-46

Jesus prayed spontaneously.

Luke 3:21-22

Jesus prayed often.

Luke 5:15-16

Jesus prayed all night at times.

Luke 6:12

Sometimes Jesus prayed with his face to the ground.

Matthew 26:39 (Daniel: Dan. 6:10; Peter: Acts 9:40; Paul: Acts 20:36; Disciples: Acts 21:5)

### **Some ideas for prayer:**

#### God

Thanks and praise

Sharing your heart and feelings

#### People

Family

Church family

Coworkers

Neighbors

Friends (old and current)

#### Areas

Health (physical, emotional, mental)

Finances

Marriages / relationships

Parenting

Spiritual growth

#### Leaders

Government

Church

Work