

POWER HOUR

3/22/2026

Lesson Text:
Mark 14:32-52

Background Scripture:
Psalms 75:6-8, 88:1-18

Devotional Reading:
Jeremiah 25:15-29, Matthew 6:9-13 &
Mark 10:32-34

“JESUS PREPARES FOR DEATH”

NLT TRANSLATION

Golden Text: “Abba, Father,” He cried out, “everything is possible for You. Please take this cup of suffering away from Me. Yet I want Your will to be done, not Mine.”
Mark 14:36 NLT

Time: between A.D. 26 and 30

Place: Jerusalem

Mark 14:32-52 NLT

32 They went to the olive grove called Gethsemane, and Jesus said, “Sit here while I go and pray.” **33** He took Peter, James, and John with Him, and He became deeply troubled and distressed. **34** He told them, “My soul is crushed with grief to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with Me.” **35** He went on a little farther and fell to the ground. He prayed that, if it were possible, the awful hour awaiting Him might pass Him by. **36** “Abba, Father,” He cried out, “everything is possible for You. Please take this cup of suffering away from Me. Yet I want Your will to be done, not Mine.” **37** Then He returned and found the disciples asleep. He said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Couldn’t you watch with Me even one hour? **38** Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation. For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak.” **39** Then Jesus left them again and prayed the same prayer as before. **40** When he returned to them again, He found them sleeping, for they couldn’t keep their eyes open. And they didn’t know what to say. **41** When He returned to them the third time, He said, “Go ahead and sleep. Have your rest. But no—the time has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. **42** Up, let’s be going. Look, my betrayer is here!” **43** And immediately, even as Jesus said this, Judas, one of the twelve disciples, arrived with a crowd of men armed with swords and clubs. They had been sent by the

leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders. **44** The traitor, Judas, had given them a prearranged signal: "You will know which one to arrest when I greet him with a kiss. Then you can take him away under guard." **45** As soon as they arrived, Judas walked up to Jesus. "Rabbi!" he exclaimed, and gave him the kiss. **46** Then the others grabbed Jesus and arrested him. **47** But one of the men with Jesus pulled out his sword and struck the high priest's slave, slashing off his ear. **48** Jesus asked them, "Am I some dangerous revolutionary, that you come with swords and clubs to arrest me? **49** Why didn't you arrest me in the Temple? I was there among you teaching every day. But these things are happening to fulfill what the Scriptures say about me." **50** Then all his disciples deserted him and ran away. **51** One young man following behind was clothed only in a long linen shirt. When the mob tried to grab him, **52** he slipped out of his shirt and ran away naked.

INTRODUCTION

It was no accident that Jesus' betrayal and arrest was on the first night of the Feast of Unleavened Bread—the Passover. It marked a defining moment of the nation of Israel, when God judged Egypt and freed His people from enslavement. This marked them as His people. As defining as that moment was, it foreshadowed a greater redemption. Jesus became the true Passover Lamb. His death covered all who turn to Him from any nation. He provided redemption from sin and death at a great cost. The perfect Lamb drank the cup of God's wrath to save the world from sin (John 3:16).

1. The prayer of Jesus (Mark 14:32-42). Jesus knew how His earthly life would end (Mark 8:31-32; 10:32-34), yet that did not make it easier to face. Jesus' prayer revealed the anguish He felt. His anguish was not just due to the physical suffering He would face! No, Jesus' sorrow came from the knowledge that He would drink the cup of God's wrath (Mark 14:36). Jeremiah likened God's wrath to a cup of wine that would cause the people to go mad, stagger, and vomit. Their enemies would destroy them (Jeremiah 25:15-16, 27). Psalm 75:8 described the cup of God's wrath as God's certain judgment, His anger

poured out on the wicked. Words cannot describe how great a trial it would have been for Jesus, who had experienced perfect communion with the Father, to drink from His cup of wrath. He alone in humanity did not deserve God's wrath, yet He willingly drank the cup by dying on the cross in our stead. Although He prayed for the cup to pass, He submitted to the will of the Father. Mark's language mimics that of the original Passover. That solemn celebration was a night of watching (Exodus 12:42) and waiting for God's redemption. Jesus told His disciples to watch. However, they were unable to watch. They fell asleep, waking only at Jesus' command when His betrayer arrived.

2. The betrayal of Jesus (Mark 14:43-52). Jesus was not surprised when Judas arrived with the crowd. He knew from the beginning that Judas would betray Him (Mark 14:18-21; John 13:18-20). This fulfilled Scripture, and He was in control of the situation and could have stopped it (John 18:4-6). Still, He drank the cup of God's wrath.

PRACTICAL POINTS

It is sometimes appropriate to be deeply sorrowful (Mark 14:32-34).

We should worship Jesus for what He willingly endured for our sake (vss. 34-36).

We should pray earnestly and directly, yet we must submit to God's will (vss. 35-36).

We should pray that we may not enter into temptation (vss. 37-42).

Difficulty and temptation will come to all of us (vss. 39-42).

We cannot truly discern the hearts of others (vss. 43-49; vss. 18-19).

We should never doubt what Jesus has said (vss. 50-52; vss. 27-31).

CONCLUSION

If you have ever experienced the death of a spouse, child, or friend, you know the pain is often unbearable. Even when we have time to prepare, the loss of an aging parent or grandparent can be overwhelming. Jesus was not wishing death upon Himself. Rather, He was feeling the weight of what was coming. Because Jesus experienced sorrow, we know that it is not sinful for us to feel sorrow at times.

QUESTION(S)

1. As a man, what did Jesus experience as He faced His death?
2. Why did Jesus bring Peter, James, and John farther than the others?
3. How was this prayer unique?
4. What was Jesus referring to when He prayed about "this cup"?
5. Why did Jesus pray that not His will but the Father's will be done?
6. Why might Jesus have called Peter "Simon"?
7. What do we learn from Judas arranging a sign to identify Jesus?
8. How did Peter initially respond to Jesus' arrest by the mob?

Next week, we are thankful for the sacrifice our Lord and Savior endured for us. **"Jesus Bears God's Wrath" Mark 15:16-39**

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