

Understanding the Agony of Jesus For You

Following Jesus 2026

Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:40-46; John 18:1

Keith Moore, Senior Pastor

"Then Jesus went with His disciples across the Kidron Valley to a garden called Gethsemane. When they had entered the place, He said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, James and John, and began to be deeply grieved with great distress and agony. Then He said to them, "My soul is extremely sorrowful even to the point of death. Stay here and watch with Me. Pray that you may not be tempted."

Then He went a little farther away, about the distance of a stone's throw, knelt on the ground, and fell on His face. He prayed that, if it were possible, this time of agony might pass from Him. "Abba, Father," He said, "everything is possible for You. My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me. Yet do not do what I will but what You will."

He returned to the disciples and found them sleeping. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? So you couldn't watch with Me for even one hour! Watch and pray that you may not be tempted. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

A second time He went off and prayed. "My Father," He said, "if You are willing, take away this cup from Me. Yet if this cannot pass from Me unless I drink it, do Your will and not My own."

Then an angel from heaven appeared to Him and strengthened Him. He was in agony and prayed even more fervently, and His sweat became like large drops of blood falling to the ground.

When He got up from praying, He returned to the disciples and found them sleeping again, exhausted from sorrow, for their eyes were heavy. He said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray so you may not be tempted!"

They didn't know how to respond. So He left them and went off again and prayed a third time, saying the same things as before.

Then for the third time He returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and getting some rest? It's enough! See, the hour has come and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up and let's go. Look, My betrayer is approaching!" (A Harmony of MT 26:36-46; MK 14:32-42; LK 22:40-46; JN 18:1 by Johnston Cheney)

4 Simple Steps to Become a Member of Dogwood Church

1. Trust in Jesus

Turn from your sin and place your faith in Jesus Christ alone as your Savior, Lord, and God.

2. Be Baptized

Follow Jesus in believer's baptism as a public expression of your personal faith in Him.

3. Complete the Belong Class

Join our Belong Class to learn who we are, what we believe, and what membership means.

4. Make the Membership Commitment

After completing the class, sign the Belong/Membership Commitment.