

## **COMMITTED OR COMPLACENT?** *(Mark 14:32-52; 66-72)*

*Many times, people make presumptuous statements about following Jesus. Sometimes we make commitments we don't follow through with. In this passage, Jesus reveals to us where we find our strength for maintaining our commitments.*

### **I. THE COMMITMENT OF JESUS AND THE COMPLACENCY OF THE DISCIPLES (vv. 32-42)**

1. Mark tells us Jesus' prayer specifically took place in Gethsemane.
  - Jesus left most of the disciples at the gate, but took three inside.
2. Jesus was in deep anguish.
  - He knew what was coming, but as He looked deeply into the cup He must drink, He was overwhelmed with astonishment and horror.
3. What did He see as He looked into the cup?
  - He saw a cup full of sin.
  - He saw a cup full of wrath.
4. Jesus prayed.
  - He submitted to the Father.
  - What helped Him walk to the cross? A life of dependent prayer.
5. Jesus took the inner circle of disciples for a reason.
  - He didn't need company; they needed to learn.
  - Trusting and obeying God are ongoing struggles.
6. We will experience many Gethsemanes: difficult decisions, tough choices – challenges to our commitments.
  - How do we deal with them? Persistent, dependent prayer.
  - A daily dependent prayer life is a discipline.
  - Prayer is a battle.

### **II. PETER'S PLUNGE (vv. 43-52; 66-72)**

1. Judas' kiss triggered the sting.
2. Peter had had enough. John tells us it was Peter who grabbed a sword and cut off Malchus' ear.
  - Peter had taken a fleshly measure to deal with a spiritual conflict.
3. Through His example, Jesus revealed how we are to handle betrayal and persecutors:
  - He responded in love.
  - He refused to depend on his natural strength.
  - He remained dependent on the Father.
  - He resigned to go alone if He had to.
4. Peter denied his identity with Jesus.

*Have you been ashamed or afraid to say the name of Jesus? If so, now what? First, realize there is forgiveness even in this. Second, follow the example set by Jesus: He trusted in the Father and let God take care of the consequences.*