

Lesson February 24: Gethsemane and Arrest

1. Read **Matthew 26:36-46** and **Luke 22:42-44** and answer:

- Where did Jesus go with his disciples after leaving the upper room?
- While most of the disciples waited for him, which three did Jesus take further into the olive grove?

Notes: The word Gethsemane means “olive press”. The olive press was usually in a cave or other sheltered place near the grove of olive trees.

- What did he ask them to do?
- For what did Jesus pray when he went off by himself?
- How many times did he pray this?
- How fervently did Jesus pray? (See **Luke 22:42-44**)
- Did he receive any help dealing with this?
- When Jesus returned to the disciples between prayers, what did he find them doing?
- What did he say to them each time?

Notes: Jesus told the three disciples – “the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak”? (Have you ever said you would do something and then when the time actually came, didn’t live up to your words?)

1. Read **Matthew 26:47-56** and **John 18:2-12** and answer:

- How did Judas know where to find Jesus?
- Who was with Judas?
- How did Judas arrange to identify Jesus?
- When the mob approached, what questions did Jesus ask? (See **Luke 22**)
- What did Peter do in defense of Jesus?
- What was Jesus’ response to what Peter did?

Notes: Consider: What do you think would have been the result if the disciples, like Peter, had tried to defend Jesus?

- When Jesus was arrested, what did his disciples do?
- How did the disciples end up fulfilling Jesus’ words?

2. Read **John 18:12-14, 19-23** and answer:

- After Jesus was arrested, where was he first taken?
- Who was Annas?

Notes: Annas was the father-in-law of Caiaphas. The Jews considered Annas the “real” high priest because the Roman procurator had removed Annas and installed Caiaphas as the “High Priest” sanctioned by Rome.

- When questioned about his teaching, who did Jesus say to ask?

- When struck by one standing nearby, what did Jesus say?
- Where was Jesus then sent?

3. Read **Matthew 26: 57-68** and answer:

- When Jesus arrived, who had assembled with Caiaphas?
- What were they looking for?
- After many false witnesses, two finally came forward and accused Jesus of what?

Notes: Jesus remaining silent in spite of the false charges brought against him frustrated those who were trying to find something to accuse Him of. What was it that caused Jesus to finally answer? (the penalty for lying under oath was death)

- What question did the High Priest finally ask Jesus under oath?
- How did Jesus answer? (See **Daniel 7:13-14**)
- What did the High priest think of Jesus' answer?
- How did the others react?

4. Read **John 18:15-16 and Matt 26:69-75** and answer:

- How did Peter get into the courtyard of the High Priest?
- What other disciple was there in the courtyard also?
- Who accused Peter of being a disciple causing him to deny knowing Jesus?
- How adamant was Peter's final denial?
- What happened immediately after the third denial?
- What did Peter do at that point? Why?

Notes: Note that it was servants who accused Peter of being with Jesus, not Roman soldiers. What does that tell us about Peter's frame of mind at that time? Note that Peter realized his failure and immediately repented.

5. Read **Matthew 27:1-10** and answer:

- Having made their decision about Jesus, where did the council send Jesus?

Notes: The Jewish council had no authority to carry out the death sentence they intended to impose. Roman law trumped their own "law".

- What was the reaction of Judas to the condemnation of Jesus?
- What did Judas attempt to do?
- How did the chief priests answer his request?
- What did Judas do with the money?
- What was done with the "blood money"?
- What happened to Judas? (See **Acts 1:18-19**)

Notes: Where Peter repented after his failure, Judas was seized with remorse, but did not repent – when he couldn't try to “make it right” by returning the money, he killed himself.

The passage in Acts is apparently referring to what happened when Judas was cut down from the noose (body had swelled after death).

- What prophecy did this fulfill? (See **Zech 11:12-13**)