

Week 9: Prayer & Betrayal

GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Share a time when you were young when you saw an adult experience pain and hurt. How did it affect you?

Thinking of all the ways Mark has portrayed Jesus in his narrative, in which stories do you find Jesus most relatable?

DISCUSS THE TEXT & THE MESSAGE

Read Mark 14:32-42 and discuss some or all of the following questions.

Discuss the stories of Polycarp and Sophie Scholl. Were you familiar with them before this message? Do you think you would have exhibited this same level of courage?

Do you know anyone (perhaps yourself?) who viewed any suffering they went through as a spiritual experience that brought them closer to God?

Polycarp's quote, "Not my will, but your will be done" echoes this line in the Lord's Prayer: "Thy will be done". How have you grown in surrendering to God's will when it contradicts your own desires?

The teacher points out that the same three apostles who were present at the Transfiguration (Peter, James, and John) were also the only ones present when Jesus prays in agony in the garden. Why do you think this is significant? Examine the implications of them seeing Jesus in His full glory and then His full humanity. How does it affect their faith? How does it affect your faith?

What kind of hope and strength do you find in knowing that Jesus suffered and that His is with you in suffering? Has this message helped you view suffering in a new light?