



The Agony of Christ

Mark 14:32-42

Pastor John Sloan

Introduction: History books are littered with accounts of great heroes who stare death in the face and with courage say, "Come, death, I do not fear thee." From Socrates to Stephen, countless folks have approached life's end without even a shred of worry. Why, then, was Jesus so overwhelmed with grief that he said the prospect of his crucifixion almost killed him? And what can we learn about prayer from his example at such a time of crisis?

A Model for Prayer in Suffering

01.

02.

03.

Questions for Further Discussion and Discovery

1. What does Jesus mean when he says his "soul is sorrowful, even to death" (v. 34)?
2. When is the last time you experienced deep anguish in your soul? How did you respond? What did God teach you through that struggle?
3. How do God's wrath and God's love work together? Why is the cross the most arresting picture of these attributes working in harmony?
4. Why did Christ have to suffer?
5. Does God hear the prayers of unbelievers? Why or why not?
6. Should we, in our prayers, repeat the same requests over and over to God? Why is this dangerous? Why is this necessary?