The Way: The Way of Suffering Part 1 September 12, 2021

Mark 14:32-65

32 And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." **33** And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. **34** And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." **35** And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. **36** And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." **37** And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? **38** Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." **39** And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. **40** And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. **41** And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. **42** Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

43 And immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. 44 Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard." 45 And when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" And he kissed him. 46 And they laid hands on him and seized him. 47 But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. 48 And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? 49 Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." 50 And they all left him and fled.

51 And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, **52** but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

53 And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. 54 And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. 55 Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. 56 For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. 57 And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, 58 "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands." 59 Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. 60 And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" **61** But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" 62 And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." 63 And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? 64 You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. 65 And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophesy!" And the guards received him with blows.

Discussion/Journal Questions

How is everyone doing with the Resolve 2021 goals? How is your time in prayer, Bible, and Christian community going?

Since this past Saturday was the 20th Anniversary of 9-11. What do you remember from that day? Where were you when you heard the news?

Reflect on a time when you were filled with grief or anxiety. What was the situation? How did you manage?

Read Mark 14:32-42 and Luke 22:44. What words are used to describe Jesus' state of mind?

Read Leviticus 16:20-22. On the Day of Atonement, the priests would perform a ritual with a live goat, sometimes called the scapegoat. What does the priest do with this goat? How does this ritual foreshadow Jesus?

Read Isaiah 53:6 and 2 Corinthians 5:21. In your own words, what does it mean that Jesus was made sin for us? What does it mean for us to become the righteousness of God?

Have you ever prayed for God to change your circumstances? What happened?

In the sermon, Sam says that "Loving people is messy." How have you found this to be true in your life?

Who is God calling you to love this week, no matter how messy the relationship is? How can your group pray for you?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?