

LIFE GROUPS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. When have you prayed to God and He said, “no” to you? What was your response to the Lord at that time?
2. Read Matthew 26:36-39. Gethsemane means “oil press.” What significance does this meaning have for what Jesus faced?
3. In verse 38 it describes Jesus as being “sorrowful” and “troubled” (in the NIV). This means Jesus was “astonished,” “terrified with surprise” and “horrified.” What brought about those feelings in Jesus?
4. What stresses you out? How do your stressors compare to Jesus’?
5. In verse 39, what was Jesus asking for? Do you think what Jesus asked for was out of line?
6. Since Jesus was as holy and divine as God the Father, why would Jesus need to submit to the Father?
7. Read Matthew 26:40-44. Jesus pleads with God the Father numerous times to provide another way. What does Jesus’ prayer, though the Father said, “no” to him, teach?
8. Why did Jesus ask Peter, James and John to go with him while he prayed? How did Peter, James and John handle the responsibility Jesus gave them to keep watch and pray?
9. How does the Holy Spirit use these three men later on in church history? How does the reality of God’s grace in their lives encourage you?
10. Read Matthew 26:45-46. What did Jesus do even though the Father, in essence, said, “no” to him? If God the Father told his sinless Son “no,” why are we surprised when God tells us “no?”
11. What should our response be to God when he says, “no” to us?
12. Read Mark 9:21-24. What comfort and encouragement do these verses bring you?
13. How are you doing with watching and praying as a Christian? What needs to change?



When God Says, “No!”

Matthew 26:36-46

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