

## **Day 1: The Value of the Gift**

**Reading:** Luke 22:39-46

**Devotional:** We often receive gifts without understanding their true cost. Christmas presents sit forgotten, their value unappreciated. Our salvation is the ultimate gift—free to us, yet infinitely costly to God. Jesus in Gethsemane reveals the weight of what was purchased for us. His anguish, his plea for another way, shows this wasn't a casual transaction. Today, consider: How do you treat the gift of salvation? Is it gathering dust under the tree of your life, or have you fully embraced it? The electricity in your home has a cost, though it seems limitless. Grace is free, but never cheap. Jesus doesn't bleed on us with complaints, but this passage lets us glimpse the price. Spend time thanking God specifically for what His gift cost Him.

## **Day 2: When Jesus Said "No" to Himself**

**Reading:** Matthew 26:36-44; Philippians 2:5-11

**Devotional:** "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Yet not my will, but yours be done." This is the only time in Scripture we see Jesus appeal for the plan to change. Think about that—a plan set before the foundation of the world, and Jesus asks if there's another way. This wasn't theatrical; this was genuine anguish. What made it so difficult? Physical torture, yes. Separation from the Father for the first time in eternity, absolutely. Taking on the sin of all humanity, certainly. Yet Jesus surrendered. When you face paths you don't want to walk, do you fight God or surrender to Him? True peace comes not when circumstances change, but when we genuinely pray, "Not my will, but Yours." What situation are you wrestling with today that needs an open-handed surrender?

## **Day 3: Strengthened by Angels, Sustained by Prayer**

**Reading:** Luke 22:39-46; Hebrews 5:7-10

**Devotional:** Angels ministered to Jesus only at critical moments: after forty days of fasting, during temptation, and here in Gethsemane. Even the Son of God needed supernatural strengthening for what lay ahead. Notice Jesus' repeated instruction to the disciples: "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." Not once, but twice. Prayer isn't just communication; it's our spiritual weapon, our connection to supernatural power. The disciples kept falling asleep, missing the spiritual battle raging around them. How often do we sleep through our own battles? When you wake at 3 AM unable to sleep, have you considered that might be your call to prayer? Perhaps someone needs intercession at that moment. Jesus' solution to anguish wasn't a ten-point plan or frantic busyness—it was prayer and surrender. What would change if you made prayer your first response rather than your last resort?

## **Day 4: The Spiritual Battle We Cannot See**

**Reading:** Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 5:8-11

**Devotional:** Behind the scenes of Gethsemane, a cosmic battle raged. Satan desperately wanted to prevent humanity's restoration to God. While we shouldn't see demons behind every bush, we'd be foolish to ignore the spiritual warfare surrounding significant Kingdom moments. C.S. Lewis wisely noted that Satan's greatest tricks are making us disbelieve in him entirely or become unhealthily obsessed with him. Scripture gives us what we need to know—no more, no less. Our weapon? Prayer. Notice how Jesus specifically tells the disciples to pray so they won't fall into temptation. It's not just about avoiding temptation; it's about being so steeped in God's presence that temptation loses its power. People who work together often start dressing alike, talking alike. What we steep in shapes us. Are you steeping in prayer or in the world's patterns? Today, pray specifically against temptation in your life.

## **Day 5: Awakened for Prayer**

**Reading:** Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**Devotional:** Jesus had to wake the sleeping disciples. They couldn't grasp the gravity of the moment. "If you can keep your head while everyone else is losing theirs, perhaps you don't understand the situation." But here's a challenging question: Have you ever been awakened for prayer? Not by an alarm, but stirred from sleep with someone on your heart? Maybe the Lord still wakes us for intercession. Many of us have experienced wrestling with the future—seeing no path forward or dreading what's coming. Jesus shows us the way through: honest surrender. "Lord, You know what I want, but more importantly, You know what I need." Most times, God doesn't remove the difficult path; He gives us strength to walk it. And the result? We're never disappointed with what's on the other side. Where do you need to stop wrestling and start surrendering? Your anguish won't end until you hold it before God with open hands.