

Good News, Great Joy, All People
“Drawing Strength in The Darkest Hour”
Luke 22:39-56
Growth Group Discussion Guide

Opening Question (get everyone involved in discussion):

- ❖ Begin your time together with a moment of silence, then pray and ask for God’s Spirit to shape us through his word.

1. Read Luke 22:39-56, and discuss the following.

- Why did Luke say that he went to the Mount of Olives “as was his custom”? What is he referring to? (Luke 21:37, John 18:1-2)
- Why did Jesus Take his disciples with Him? What was the one thing He asked them to do?
- How does prayer help us avoid temptation?
- Jesus refers to “drinking the cup”. Take a look at these passages: Isa 51:17,22; Jeremiah 25:15-28, Psalm 75:8. What is the OT significance of cup?
- Take a look at the “anguish” Jesus is experiencing physically as He is praying. What does this tell us about the struggle Jesus had as he faced the cross? What do you think is the greatest concern for Christ as He is about to go to the cross.
- With what question are the Jewish leaders preoccupied? Why?
- Look at the disciples in verses 47-50. They ultimately gathered their strength from a different source. What are the weapons that believers are told to use (2 Corinthians 10:3-6, Ephesians 6:17-18)
- Reflect back and share if you have ever been tempted to draw strength from a different source?
- Pastor Erik said that our communion with God will give us strength to stand when temptation comes.
 - Have you seen that true or false in your own life?
- Think about the church corporately for a second....How can the church be tempted by the same temptation the disciples were tempted by? What are the results?
 - Jesus answers their question, while also targeting the common people, in the parable we’re considering today.
- **Application:** As we look at the strength that Christ was able to display, we see that it came out of his communion with his father.
 - What does it look like for you to communion with your Father today?
 - What strength do you need these days?
 - Take a look at Christ in verse 51. He shows love to his enemy. He heals the soldier who was coming to abuse him. Is there an enemy that you know you need to forgive? Pray that God would give you the strength to forgive your enemies like Jesus has forgiven you.

Prayer:

- Pray about the things that have already been shared.
- Take a moment to share, and pray for any other needs that exist among your group members.