



WINTER/SPRING 2026 // WEEK 9

GrowGroup Questions

Sermon Based Groups // March 29, 2026

Pastor Pat Finley // Luke 22:39-46

The Garden of Gethsemane



Introduction

This Sunday our message is brought to us by Pastor Pat. As we move into Holy week, we see the Last Supper has spiraled down and Jesus has put an end to it. The disciples now go to the Mount of Olives and Jesus is burdened to pray. Here scripture records some of Jesus' most candid moments.

We encourage you to take some time to read through the questions on the following pages and jot down your thoughts before meeting with your group. Many people also find it helpful to use these questions as a guide for taking notes during the sermon. The purpose of these questions is to spark reflection and encourage meaningful conversation. Remember, you don't need to work through every single question each week—focus on the ones that are most helpful for you and your group.

Getting Started

Transition into group discussion.

- 1) Open group discussion with prayer.
- 2) Choose someone to read the passage(s) aloud for the group.

Study Questions *(Suggested time: 30-40 min)*

1. Leaving the upper-room we see a different side of our Savior. There is nervous tension, turmoil, and agony and yet without sin. What does this tell us about these emotions? When might these feelings cross the line into sin?
2. Up to this point Jesus has been fearless in the face of demons, the religious establishment, and even Satan himself. If the account of Gethsemane were fiction, how do you suppose it would have been written?
3. Pastor Pat gave three possible reasons why Jesus was in agony: the weight of sin, the wrath of God upon Him for our sin, and abandonment by His Father. Which of these is hardest for you to understand?
4. In Luke 22:42, Jesus prayed for the cup to be removed from Him, or in other words, *if there is another possible way for humanity to be pardoned please make it so*. His request was not denied but rather

explained that these things *must* happen. (See also Romans 5:19) Can you think of anything in your life that you prayed wouldn't happen but did anyway to God's glory?

5. Consider this statement, *what a slur it is to say that God doesn't care about you*. Do you or someone you know struggle with thinking God doesn't care about them? How would you help someone through it?

Personal Spiritual Exercises

Scripture Focus: take some time this week to read Christ's final days before the crucifixion in each of the gospels. Pray for understanding.

Prayer *(Suggested time: 10-15 min)*

A meaningful part of "coming together" is being open and genuine about our lives. For some, praying in a group may feel very natural, while for others it may feel new or uncomfortable. If you would prefer not to pray aloud, you're welcome to pray silently and simply say "Amen" when you're finished, signaling the next person to pray. Whether spoken or silent, every prayer is part of this shared time in God's presence.

1. Consider coming by the church this week to pray, maybe come with a friend from your group.
2. Take a few moments to think about a prayer request. What are you currently going through that you are still waiting to see how God is going to be glorified? Consider making a prayer request.

But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes[m] we are healed. *Isaiah 53:5, NKJV*