

Lesson 15 — A PRAYER OF AGONY — Luke 22:39-46

1. Read Luke 22:39-46. (a) Why do you think the Lord told the disciples to “pray that they would not enter into temptation?” (b) Who ministered to our Lord in verse 43? (c) How does this encourage you when going through agonizing times? See Hebrews 1:14.
2. (a) What is the context of this prayer? (In other words, what comes before and after it?) (b) How does the context help you better understand our Lord’s prayer in verse 42?
3. Matthew 26:36-46 and Mark 14:32-42 also describe Christ’s prayer in the garden. Read these accounts and note the similarities, as well as the differences, between these accounts and Luke’s account.
4. (a) How is the “cup” described in the following verses? Isaiah 51:17,22, Jeremiah 25:15-17, 27-29, Ezekiel 23:31-34, and Habakkuk 2:16. (b) How do these verses help you understand what Christ prays in Luke 22:42?
5. In verse 42, Jesus prays for the Father’s will. (a) Does this condition apply to our praying? (See 1 John 5:14-15. (b) What are some other conditions for God to answer our prayers? Jeremiah 29:12-13, Matthew 7:7-11, Matthew 21:22, John 14:13, John 15:7, James 1:5-6, James 4:3, James 5:16, 1 John 3:22. (c) Which of these conditions do you think most often hinders God from answering your prayers? (d) What will you do about it?
6. (a) Who else relinquished her will to God’s? Luke 1:34-38. (b) What might have happened if Jesus and Mary had refused to do the will of God? (c) What will happen if you refuse to do the will of God? (Answer this question from Scriptures)
7. When you are going through a trial, do you react like the disciples (verse 45) or like the Lord (verses 42, 44)?
8. (a) What “cup” (or suffering) has God called you to today? (b) Can you honestly pray “not my will but Yours be done?” (c) What keeps you from praying that prayer?
9. Write a prayer of thanksgiving to Jesus for His willingness to go to the cross. (b) Also, write a request for how you might make necessary changes after pondering question 5.