

# Agonizing Prayer

Till Plains 4/2/2022

Join us tomorrow at 9 AM on Zoom for Sermon Essentials to dive deeper into today's message. You can use the link <https://zoom.us/j/285038684> or call 312.626.6799 and enter the ID 285 038 684 to be part of the discussion.

Read: Matthew 26:36-46; Mark 14:32-42; Luke 22:40-46; *Desire of Ages*, Chapter 74, "Gethsemane"

Text: Luke 22:44 And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

## Why Agonizing Prayer?

Reference verse: Matthew 26:38

1. Who and what was Jesus struggling against?

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## *Jesus Agonized for Himself*

2. Why was prayer so critical for Jesus and the universe in the Garden of Gethsemane?

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It was "the sins of men [which] weighed heavily upon Christ, and the sense of God's wrath against sin was crushing out His life," (Ellen White, *Desire of Ages*, 687) that caused the most agony for Jesus.

Reference verses: Mark 14:35-36; Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6

3. How does Jesus' use of the term "Abba" impact to your relationship with the Father?

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## *Jesus Agonized for His Disciples*

Reference verse: Matthew 26:41

4. In what ways does Jesus admonition to the disciples give you encouragement in facing temptation?

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### **The Human Need for Sympathy**

Reference verses: Matthew 26:33, 35, 40; Mark 10:39

5. Why were the sleeping disciples a discouragement to Jesus?

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6. Why did Jesus specifically address Peter?

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7. What should be our attitude towards those who are facing trials and tribulations?

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“The human heart longs for sympathy in suffering. This longing Christ felt to the very depths of His being. In the supreme agony of His soul He came to His disciples with a yearning desire to hear some words of comfort from those whom He had so often blessed and comforted, and shielded in sorrow and distress. The One who had always had words of sympathy for them was now suffering superhuman agony, and He longed to know that they were praying for Him and for themselves. How dark seemed the malignity of sin! Terrible was the temptation to let the human race bear the consequences of its own guilt, while He stood innocent before God. If He could only know that His disciples understood and appreciated this, He would be strengthened.” – Ellen White, *Desire of Ages*, 687-688.

Reference verses: Luke 22:43-44

8. Even though the disciples were overcome by the darkness of the event, how did the Father respond to Jesus' prayer?

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### **Victory Through Agony**

Reference verses: Mark 14:41-42

9. What lessons have you learned about agonizing prayer?

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