

**For the Sake of Others**  
**“The Gift of Self-Forgetfulness”**  
**March 27, 2022**

**Mark 14:32-42**

32 And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." 33 And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. 34 And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." 35 And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. 36 And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." 37 And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? 38 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." 39 And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. 40 And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. 41 And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 42 Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

**Big Idea** - When surrender becomes our posture, our wants will concede to God's will.

**Summary** - This is the second in Justin's series "For the Sake of Others". In this message, he stressed the importance of starving the sinful desires inside ourselves in order to serve both God and others more completely (**Philippians 2:3,4**). Jesus is our example here as he anticipates the cross and the prospect of facing the full wrath of God in order to make salvation possible for all mankind.

Our Scripture for the morning, **Mark 14:32-42**, recounts the experience of Jesus and His disciples in the Garden of Gethsemane. In looking at the disciples, we see their inability to grasp Jesus' agony and His hope for their support as He faces his coming trial. Their desire is to find physical rest in the moment and they are unable to watch and pray as Jesus asks.

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They also miss that they, too, will need God’s strength in the hours and days to come. In spite of Jesus’ three reminders, they are blind to the importance of His example and His call to them to pray.

As we look at Jesus, we see His agony and sorrow as he begins to feel the full weight of what is about to happen, not only physically but spiritually, in His separation from His Father. We see Him face the anguish, sorrow, and terror of the moment. However, in this time He is not seeking physical rest but spiritual rest. In his three prayers, we see His pleading with the Father becomes the rest He needs, as reflected in His statement: “yet not what I will, but what you will.”

In considering this Scripture passage of scripture and the idea of self-forgetfulness, there are several applications for us:

1. A surrendered life transforms our will into our willingness.
2. A surrendered life exchanges our control for God’s control.
3. A surrendered life releases our preferences for God’s purposes.

**Suggested Questions**

1. What does Philippians 2:3,4 say about how we should view others?
2. Luke says that Jesus was “sorrowful even unto death” as he went to Gethsemane. What do you think that he was going through during this crucial hour?
3. What lessons were the disciples missing as they slept through this hour? How might things have been different for them had they watched and prayed? How are we often like them in our response to such times in our lives?
4. Justin shared three applications of surrender. Do you see a need for these in your life? If so, what do you need to surrender to God this week and what practical steps can you take to do this?