

Kingdom Reclaimed
Matthew 26:30-46
Study Guide**Big Idea: When Falling Back is Moving Forward.**

1. Has there ever been a time in your life when falling back meant moving forward? Share with the group. Include any impressions or thoughts from the sermon.

2. Read Matthew 26:30-35. Why do you think Jesus told them that they would all fall away? Notice the over-confidence that Peter had in himself. Why do you think it was important for the disciples to learn a lesson in weakness?

3. Read 2 Corinthians 12:9:

“But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”

What do you think Paul is saying here? How is this a reality in our own lives? How does it change the way we think and act?

3. Read Matthew 26:36-46.

How did Christ experience Gethsemane? Discuss:

- a. A lonely place
- b. A battleground
- c. A place of surrender

Have you experienced something similar in your life?

How do you think the deep temptations and battles in your life can bring good for you? Discuss.

Message Slides

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I. A Lesson in Weakness (v.30-35)

³⁰And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹Then Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ ³²But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” ³³Peter answered him, “Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.” ³⁴Jesus said to him, “Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” ³⁵Peter said to him, “Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!” And all the disciples said the same.

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A. Knowing God’s will vs. Ignorance

B. Cowardice vs. Courage

C. Pride vs. Humility

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Acts 5:40-42

⁴⁰and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴²And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

2 Cor. 12:9a

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

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2 Cor. 12:9b

Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

II. A Lesson in the Crushing (v.36-46)

³⁶Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here, while I go over there and pray.” ³⁷And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.” ³⁹And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.” ⁴⁰And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, “So, could you not watch with me one hour? ⁴¹Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ⁴²Again, for the second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” ⁴³And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. ⁴⁴So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again. ⁴⁵Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Sleep and take

your rest later on. See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴⁶Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

A. It's a Lonely Place

³⁸Then he said to them, “My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me.”

B. It's a Battleground

⁴¹Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

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Hebrews 12:3-4

³Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. ⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

C. It's Surrender

^{39b} “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”

^{42b} “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.”

⁴⁴So, leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words again.

D. It's Power

⁴⁶Rise, let us be going...

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