

## Matt 26:46-56 Week 96

### Strength to Face the Struggles

Matt 26:46 Rise let us go! Here comes my betrayer!" 47 While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people. 48 Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him." 49 Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. 50 Jesus replied, "Friend, do what you came for." Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him. 51 With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. 52 "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. 53 Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?" 55 At that time Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me. 56 But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled. NIV

- His strength was made even more \_\_\_\_\_ by its contrast with our weakness.  
Last week: Loyalty goes through the fires of life. Integrity is the end result of the victory over the fires of life.
- With the courage of \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus made the ultimate and final act of commitment to His heavenly Father and to those who would one day believe.

Look to Jesus for:

- Who He is: the author and finisher of our \_\_\_\_\_
- For what He did: became \_\_\_\_\_ for us so we could live
- For why He did it: for the \_\_\_\_\_
- For where He is: \_\_\_\_\_ at the right hand of the Father

Matt 26:36-46 gives the pattern and sequence of spiritual \_\_\_\_\_, which may be summarized in the words confidence, sleep, temptation, sin, and disaster.

1. The first step of a believer's falling into sin is \_\_\_\_\_-confidence that he is able to be faithful to the Lord in his own \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Following self-confidence comes \_\_\_\_\_.  
It represents \_\_\_\_\_ to evil and lack of moral and spiritual vigilance.

3. The third step is \_\_\_\_\_, which is Satan's system. He is constantly ready to place it in the way of God's people. As with Jesus, the temptation appeals to one's personal \_\_\_\_\_ and calls for \_\_\_\_\_ against God.

How did He not give into temptation?

- He lived a life of \_\_\_\_\_.
- He lived a life of \_\_\_\_\_.
- He lived a life of \_\_\_\_\_.

4. The fourth step is \_\_\_\_\_.

5. The fifth and final stage in the sequence is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Our nature is to live \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

The way of victory, rather than tragic defeat, is

- \_\_\_\_\_ in God rather than self
- Moral and spiritual vigilance rather than \_\_\_\_\_
- Resisting temptation in God's power rather than in our own, and
- Holding to \_\_\_\_\_ rather than to the rebellion of sin.

Signs of a False Disciple

- A false Christian is motivated by \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_, which for Judas was exhibited most obviously in his greed, because he was a thief.
- A false disciple is marked by deceit and \_\_\_\_\_.
- When a false believer is confronted with a \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ for his association with Christ, his superficial interest in the church and the things of God invariably withers, and he is exposed as the impostor he has always been.

Final thought: Jesus was not speaking about self-defense or the defense of loved ones or friends from an attacker. Nor was He talking about fighting in the armed forces of one's country. He was referring to violently taking \_\_\_\_\_ into one's own hands.