

the TAKE HOME 11.15.15

Today's Scripture Passage: Matthew 26:36-46

P 702-703 Pew Bible

36 Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." **37** He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. **38** Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." **39** Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will." **40** Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Could you men not keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter. **41** "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the body is weak." **42** He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done." **43** When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. **44** So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing. **45** Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. **46** Rise, let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

Questions for Reflection & Discussion

- Can you think of a recent failure that you can trace back to a lack of prayer on your part?
- How does it encourage you to know that Jesus was overwhelmed, but worked through that in prayer?
- When it comes to prayer, in what ways is your flesh (body) weak?
- Is Jesus waking you up to prayer about something or someone? How will you choose to watch in prayer with Him about this?
- Has Jesus been waking you up to prayer about particular temptations? How can you watch in prayer with Him so you do not fall into these temptations?
- Are you making good use of the spiritual friends that Jesus has placed in your life to help you stay awake to prayer?

Prayer

- Give your latest failures to God; ask Him to redeem them and give you life.
- Ask God to support someone who is overwhelmed right now. Stay with that prayer until you see an answer.
- Ask God for ears to hear what He says about your temptations and the spiritual stamina to pray against the temptations.