

Sermon Title: **What Happened @TheGarden**

Preacher: Rev Garry Wynn

Passage: Luke 22:39-46

Intro: Read Luke 22:39-40

Jesus enters the garden of Gethsemane to have some quiet & reflection - to Pray.

Question: Do you ever just want to draw aside to rest, contemplate - to pray?

Reasons for Jesus entering the garden:

1. To get away alone
2. It's where Judas would find Him
3. It was an intentional action to include His Disciples

Questions/Discussion:

1.

a. Consider why Jesus went to the garden and what might have been the conversation during their walk up the Mount of Olives.

b. The garden is a quiet place and offers an opportunity for this small group to be together in close connection if their hearts were heavy. Discuss what the Disciples might learn from this experience.

c. What can we learn from this drawing aside to be together in prayer?

2.

a. Think about the purpose Jesus had to be in a place where He could be found by Judas. By this time, it is dark so think about the fact that Jesus has chosen a place known to Judas. Discuss why Jesus has chosen this garden on this night.

b. Jesus and the Disciples cross over the Kidron Brook (Valley) to continue up the Mount of Olives where Gethsemane is found halfway up. "Kidron" means "murky, dark" and "Gethsemane" means "oil press" = olive oil. Luke 22:44 describes Jesus as "being in agony" or anguish. Matthew 26:38 says, "He began to be sorrowful and troubled" and v38 "very sorrowful, even to death". Consider what Jesus was experiencing and how you have felt when great difficulty is upon you. What do you do? What should you do?

3.

a. Jesus often spent time alone with The Father. However, He often took the Disciples along with Him. What was He modelling and teaching? How might we practice this in our church? How could we make this part of everyday life and family life?

b. We all need a garden place to draw aside with The Father (God). Consider the value of a missional Gathering Group (Northreach Gathering Group) to encourage you in this more intimate time alone with God. Jesus was intentional during this time in the garden. How might a group inspire and motivate you to be intentional and spend time with God? Our groups should be Life-giving. Discuss what this might mean in your context.

4.

a. The text specifically mentions an inner circle of Jesus Disciples. Mark 14:33 states they were Peter, James and John. Garry mentioned a two-fold purpose in this a) Connection and b) Modelling. Discuss what you consider to be any significance of this inner circle. What do we learn from Jesus method of involving others who are identified followers in the process of preparing them for missional ministry?

Read Luke 22:40-46

b. Jesus found the Disciples sleeping on the job three time. How many Christians are asleep spiritually in your sphere of influence and how can we wake up and be alert and on mission together as we do community together?

I trust you have enjoyed either working through this personally or in community with a group of people. As we develop a pattern to worship together, grow together, pray together and experience church together we must **enter in** with intention and purpose.

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-26