

Sermon Discussion Questions



LOOKOUT
MOUNTAIN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

"GRIEF IN THE GARDEN"

Discuss

Our church is now returning to its study of Mark, after an Advent series in December, followed by a time spent re-committing ourselves to the study of and submission to God's revelation in Scripture, and then a month of learning from the story of Jonah.

The contrast between the obedience (or lack thereof) of Jonah and the perfect obedience of Jesus is striking to say the least. Jonah hated the idea of going to Ninevah and fled in the opposite direction. Jesus was "greatly distressed and troubled" and "sorrowful, even to death," but he submitted to his Father and steadfastly went forward in our place to face God's wrath and judgment.

- 1) In Colossians 1:16-17, we are told that Jesus created all things "in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rules or authorities," and that "in him all things hold together." In the garden of Gethsemane, however, he was in such anguish that his sweat (Luke tells us) was like "drops of blood falling to the ground." (Luke 22:44)
 - Why did Jesus experience such agony of spirit?
 - What does this story reveal about him? What does it reveal about his relationship with the Father? (If time, read Heb. 5:7-9 as you consider your answer.)
- 2) There is much to learn about prayer both from Jesus' own prayer and his instructions to his sleepy disciples.
 - What similarities are there in his prayer in the garden of Gethsemane to the prayer he taught his disciples (what we call "The Lord's Prayer")?
 - How should we pray if we follow Jesus' example of prayer here? You might want to consider the following as you answer this question:
 - ◇ what Jesus said in his prayer as well as (perhaps) what he did not say
 - ◇ his desire to have his disciples pray
 - ◇ his commitment to prayer and what prayer enabled him to do
- 3) As many commentators throughout the history of the church have pointed out, this story is not the story of a triumphant hero, fearless in the face of death. Why is this story nonetheless such a source of great comfort for every follower of Jesus? (If time, look up question 44 in the Heidelberg Catechism.)

DATE: March 10, 2019

SPEAKER: Brian/Aaron

SERIES: The Gospel of Mark

PASSAGE: Mark 14:32-42

Pray

Three in One, One in Three, God of Our Salvation:

We adore you as the one who brings sinners to a knowledge of you and your Kingdom.

Father, you loved us and sent Jesus to redeem us.

Lord Jesus, you loved us and assumed our nature and were tested in every way that we are, yet you did not sin.

Holy Spirit, you loved us and have revealed to us the glories of Jesus.

Help us to persevere in prayer that we may be strengthened for whatever path you have chosen for us.

In Jesus' name, amen.

- based in part on "The Trinity," The Valley of Vision, and Heb. 4:15

PRAY FOR HOME MISSIONS

Widow's Harvest

PRAY FOR WORLD MISSIONS

Becky Chinchen serving with
Amani Ya Juu