



THE BETRAYAL AND ARREST OF JESUS

If you have a pattern of having someone share their *Story of Faith* (life before Jesus, encountering Jesus, life since/lately with Jesus) and/or sharing *Evidences of God's grace*, begin with that, followed by a time of thankful prayer for Christ's work in the individual's life/the grace in your lives.

OPENING COMMENT

John 18 marks a transition in the gospel of John from primarily focused on Jesus' teaching to the events leading to his death and resurrection. Jesus has prepared his disciples for what is going to happen and he now he steps out in obedience to the plan of God. The example that Jesus sets before us as he intentionally follows God's plan is both a challenge to imitate and a reason to celebrate.

READ THE TEXT: John 18:1-12

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what ways does Jesus show that he has authority in this passage?
2. What is the significance of the "cup" that Jesus mentions in vs 11? (also see Luke 22:42, and Isaiah 51:22)
3. Do you think it would make a difference if Jesus wasn't in control?



4. How does the example of Jesus intentionally going to the cross change or inform how you view his death?
5. What was the purpose that Jesus had in going to the cross? How does Jesus explain that?
6. How do the two reactions of Judas and Peter act as a warning for our spiritual lives?
7. What are some practical steps we can take this week to be sharing the gospel with those around us?
 1. What are some ways that we can begin a spiritual conversation with someone? How have you in the past?
8. What does it look like practically to follow Jesus' commands relying on his power and strength?

CONCLUSION

As followers of Jesus Christ we imitate his example, we follow his commands, and we rely on his strength. As Jesus boldly approaches the suffering of the cross, we see not only his willingness to follow God's commands, but his determination to do so. As we seek to live as his representatives, may our lives reflect the undaunted faithfulness that Jesus himself displays.

SHARE & PRAY

- Share how you can pray for each other in light of this study.
- Conclude by spending some time praying for one another, for the areas of growth and grace you are seeking, and the needs among you.

