

## **Sermon Outline**

### **“The Agony of Jesus in the Shadow of the Cross”**

Matthew 26:30-46

Kevin Rogers

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**Main Idea:** Jesus agonized in prayer as he anticipated the cross, where he would die and bear the wrath of God for sin. His agony awakens us to the depth of his love for us, so we worship him with joy, seek him in our sorrows, and live for his glory with renewed wonder and zeal.

#### **Main Points of the Story:**

1. Jesus predicts the disciples' abandonment.
2. Jesus reveals his agony.
3. Jesus agonizes in prayer.
4. The disciples disregard Jesus.
5. Jesus' agony turns to resolve.

#### **Main Points of Application:**

1. Jesus' agony awakens us to the cost of our redemption.
2. Jesus' agony calls us to alert prayerfulness.
3. Jesus' agony comforts us in ours.

#### **Fellowship Starters:**

1. Read Matthew 26:36-46
2. How does this passage deepen your understanding of what Jesus would do on the cross? Spend time thanking him for what he endured for you.
3. We can all be like the disciples at times, failing to recognize the significance of our temptations and the need to pray. How can you relate?
4. Read Isaiah 53:3-6. Jesus is known as the Man of Sorrows. How does this comfort you in your own grief and sorrow? How does watching Jesus agonize sinlessly help you understand how to process your own feelings of distress or help you help others in theirs?
5. Find out what burdens others are carrying and share your own. Take time to pray for one another.