

## SMALL GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Watch the video summary of the **August 24, 2014 Sermon** (3.5 minutes), "The Question of Loyalty."  
Please read the sermon passage (Matthew 26:30-56) together out loud.

### Small Group Questions (Matthew 26:30-56)

#### Sermon Outline:

REMAIN LOYAL TO CHRIST . . .

1. **Even in the midst of shallow devotion** (30-35)
  - a. It's not enough to sing hymns in the upper room. It must be real in the streets of Jerusalem.
  - b. Many "disciples" fall away because of Jesus. True disciples must stand firm.
2. **Even in the face of personal suffering** (36-46)
  - a. In Eden, Adam did his own will. In Gethsemane, Jesus did the Father's will.
  - b. The center of God's will is our safety--even if it costs us our life.
3. **Even in the center of heightened opposition** (47-56)
  - a. Peter tries to do-in his own strength-what he has already been told (numerous times) is NOT God's will. He takes up a sword to try to keep Jesus from the cross.
  - b. Jesus "drinks the cup" of his own death as he embraces the will of God.
  - c. The will of God must remain firmly connected with the Word of God.

### Small Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: We often lament the lack of devotion of people around us; but what about you? Are you more or less devoted to Christ today than you were a year ago? Consider these areas: personal convictions, obedience to share Christ (evangelize), attitudes, TV and entertainment choices? personal devotional life? prayer life? Are you the same with the church "gathered" (upper room) as you are when you are "scattered" (streets of Jerusalem)?
2. Based on #1, above: It is getting more difficult for disciples to remain devoted to the name of Jesus Christ "in the streets" of America. How is that statement true for you?
3. Based on #2, above: Jesus has a will: he would rather not go to the cross if there is another way. But he submits his will to that of the Father's. How have you had to submit your will to the will of the Father?
4. Based on #3, above: Are you willing to make this statement to this Life Group: "Please tell me where you see me blindly resisting God's will while convincing myself that I am committed to God's will"?
5. Based on #3, above: Jesus bases his resolve to face the cross by knowing and quoting Scripture. Which passages of Scripture have TAUGHT you and COMFORTED you when you faced a temptation to turn away for Christ? How can we pray for you?