**“Conflicted – When God says No”**

Going deeper in Mark 14:32-42

**INTRODUCTION** – Jesus has just finished telling the disciples that they will all stumble badly and deny or reject Him. Even in that Jesus has given them words of hope by reminding them that He will lead them into Galilee after the cross and resurrection. They arrive at the Mount of Olives and then this happens.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.* 32 Then they came to a place called Gethsemane and He said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” 33 He took Peter, James, and John with him and He begin to experience intense anxiety and distress. 34 He told them, “I am so overwhelmed with sorrow that I feel like I could die right now. Stay here and keep vigil with me. 35 Going a little further he fell to the ground and prayed that if it were possible that he might not have to go through this. 36 “Dad, you are the Father of all and all things are possible for you. Take this cup away from me. But please, not what I want, but what you want.” 37 He came back and the disciples were sound asleep. He said to Peter, “Simon, are you sleeping? Aren’t you strong enough to watch for one hour? 38 Stay alert and pray so you don’t fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.” 39 Again he went back and prayed the same prayer. 40 When he returned, he found them asleep again. They just couldn’t keep their eyes open and they really didn’t have an excuse. 41 He came back a third time. “Are you still resting and sleeping? Enough. The hour has come; The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of sinners.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. Why Peter, James, and John?

2. What did Jesus need from his friends? What did he receive?

3. God the Father’s answer to God the Son is, “No.” Have there been times in your life that God’s answer was, “No?” What helped you?

4. Why do you think Jesus called Simon rather than Peter? Remember what name Peter means.

5. What has been your Gethsemane?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Ask the Lord Jesus to strengthen you for whatever He has for you this week.

\*Ask the Lord Jesus to keep you alert so you can see what He is doing in your week.

\*Ask Him to give you the strength and faith to seek his will for you daily.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Gethsemane is the place of wrestling with our will versus God’s will. Will you choose God’s will in your life this week? What will that mean in practical terms?