A crown of thorns made of dry, brown branches with sharp red thorns is positioned in the upper right. Below it, a simple wooden cross is visible. The background is a textured, brownish-grey surface. A black, ribbed fabric is draped across the bottom left and middle right.

ROAD
To the
CROSS

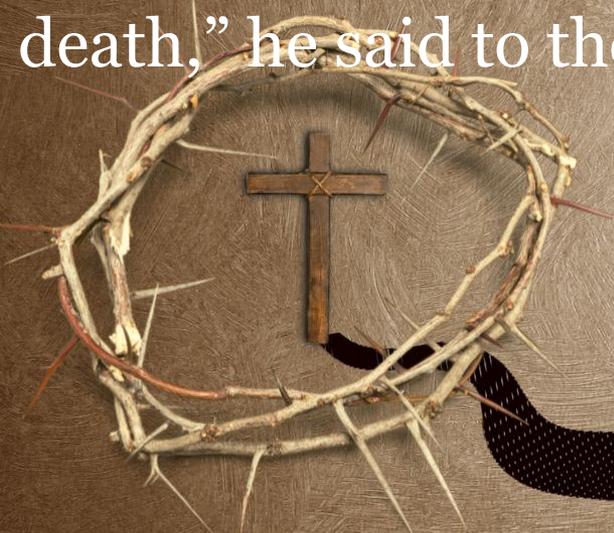
The Final
Days of Jesus

Main Point

- ❑ Fully living for God, involves fully submitting to God

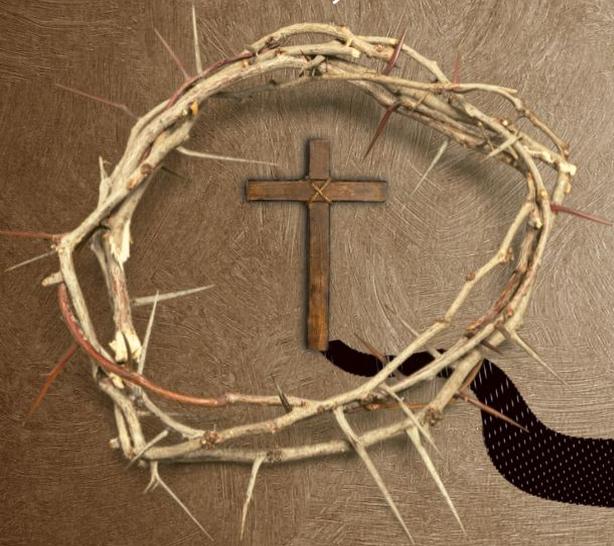


“They went to a place called Gethsemane, and Jesus said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” He took Peter, James and John along with him, and he began to be deeply distressed and troubled. “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death,” he said to them. “Stay here and keep watch.”



Mark 14:32-34 NIV

“Going a little farther, he fell to the ground and prayed that if possible the hour might pass from him. “*Abba, Father,*” he said, “everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.”



Mark 14:35-36 NIV

Sorrow

- ❑ Jesus is distressed and overwhelmed
- ❑ Prays to the Father
- ❑ Wants this to happen another
- ❑ Fully submits to the will of the Father

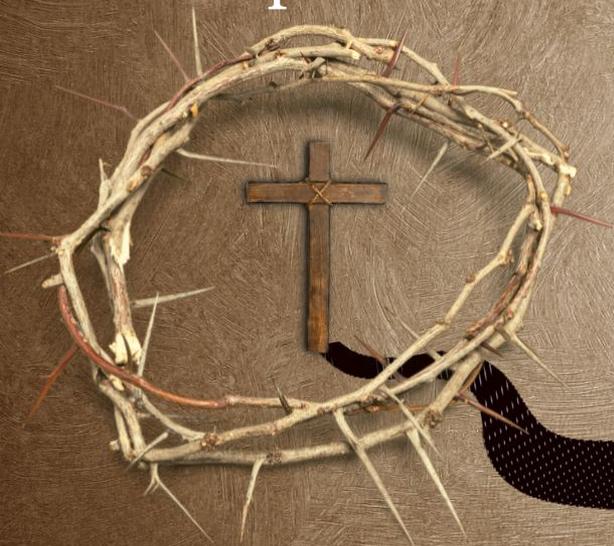


For Us

- ❑ Submitting to God's will may come with difficulties
- ❑ We are supposed to do things God's way
- ❑ Jesus gives us the example



“Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. “Simon,” he said to Peter, “are you asleep? Couldn’t you keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”



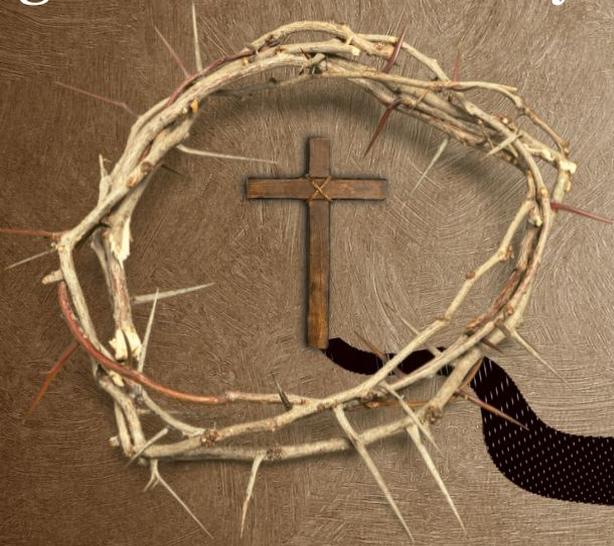
Mark 14:37-38 NIV

“Once more he went away and prayed the same thing. When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy. They did not know what to say to him.”



Mark 14:39-40 NIV

“Returning the third time, he said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners. Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!”



Mark 14:41-42 NIV

Weakness

- ❑ Keep spiritual watch
- ❑ On their own the disciples are weak



For Us

- ❑ Intentions and mindset aren't enough without God
- ❑ Weakness is ok, but we have to recognize it



“Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders.”



Mark 14:43 NIV

“Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: “The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard.”
Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, “Rabbi!” and kissed him.
The men seized Jesus and arrested him. Then one of those standing near drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.”



Mark 14:44-47 NIV

“Am I leading a rebellion,” said Jesus, “that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled.”



Mark 14:48-49 NIV

Betrayal

- ❑ Judas gives a signal
- ❑ Jesus offers no resistance
- ❑ The betrayal had to happen



For Us

- ❑ Be watchful that our actions don't betray others or God
- ❑ Understand that we may feel betrayed at some point



“Then everyone deserted him and fled. A young man, wearing nothing but a linen garment, was following Jesus. When they seized him, he fled naked, leaving his garment behind.”



Mark 14:50-52NIV

Abandonment

- ❑ Everyone leaves Jesus in the garden
- ❑ The crowd only wanted Jesus
- ❑ This was about self preservation



For Us

- ❑ Things will be difficult at times
- ❑ Don't abandon God even if others do



Closing

- ❑ Seek God and His will for you continually
- ❑ When the difficulties come remember that God is there with you
 - ❑ In sorrow, in weakness,
In betrayal, and in loneliness

