



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **Matthew 26:30-35**

Date: **October 9, 2022**

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the teaching and bible passage this week?
2. Jesus is hours away from his arrest and subsequent crucifixion, and yet he chooses to sing a hymn with his disciples (v. 30). What does this teach us about the priority of worship, especially in the midst of hardship and persecution?
3. There have been several spiritual highs and lows with the disciples so far in Matthew 26. Summarize them. Why is the Christian life often times a series of spiritual highs and lows like this? What lesson is there for the disciples in the midst of this current low?
4. Explain the prophecy Jesus gives in verse 31-32, drawing from Zechariah 13-14.
5. Persecution initially spooks the church (i.e. the disciples fall away) but God ultimately uses it to purify the church. Explain how this works. How does persecution lead to the strengthening of God's people?
6. How does Peter exhibit pride in his responses to Jesus in verses 33 and 35? What is the source of his pride?
7. Even though Peter just exhibited meekness in verses 20-22, we are now told that within only a few hours, Peter will deny Jesus three times. How does this serve as a warning to us? What kind of sober reflection should this provoke in our own walk with Christ about how quickly things can change?
8. Sometimes pride can look spiritual, as it does with Peter here. How can we examine ourselves to discern whether this kind of pride is present in our own lives as we seek to live in obedience to God?
9. How can we seek to kill self-dependent pride in our lives? How can we cultivate greater dependence upon Christ?