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<sup>32</sup>And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." <sup>33</sup>And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled.

<sup>34</sup>And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." <sup>35</sup>And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

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<sup>36</sup>And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." <sup>37</sup>And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? <sup>38</sup>Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." <sup>39</sup>And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words.

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<sup>40</sup>And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him.

<sup>41</sup>And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>42</sup>Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand." —Mark 14:32-42 ESV

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## Scene I: Serenity

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And he came out and went, as was his custom, to the Mount of Olives, and the disciples followed him. —**Luke 22:39** ESV

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## Scene II: Fervency

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And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. —**Luke 22:44** ESV

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To pray fervently, we must...

## Embrace the Struggle

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We struggle when...

God's purposes include our pain.

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We struggle when...

God's pauses interrupt our plans.

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**We struggle when...**

**God's provision limits our progress.**

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**We struggle when...**

**God's power is not evident in our problems.**

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**We struggle when...**

**God's promises don't bring us pleasures.**

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<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. —Ephesians 6:10-12 ESV

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**To pray fervently, we must...**

**Express the Request**

If possible, the cup might pass from him. (Matt. 26:39)

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**To pray fervently, we must...**

**Enable the Surrender**

Your will be done. (Mark 14:36)

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Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good. —1 Peter 4:19 ESV

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<sup>21</sup>And Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen. <sup>22</sup>And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith." —Matthew 21:21-22 ESV

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"For most of us the prayer in Gethsemane is the only model. Removing mountains can wait." —C.S. Lewis

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### Scene III: Lethargy

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<sup>11</sup>Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

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<sup>13</sup>Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. —Romans 13:11-14 ESV

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## Scene IV: Dependency

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<sup>41</sup>And he came the third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. <sup>42</sup>Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand.”

—Mark 14:41-42 **ESV**

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“When we cannot trace God’s hand we can trust His heart.” —Charles H. Spurgeon

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