



Session 10: Do I Have the Strength?  
Suggested Week of Use: May 7  
Core Passage: Matthew 26:36-46

## News Story Summary

On opening day of the Major League Baseball season, Tony Beasley sang the national anthem in Globe Life Park (Arlington, TX). Doing so marked Beasley's return to coaching (third-base coach with the Texas Rangers) after a year-long battle with cancer. Jeff Banister, the manager of the Texas Rangers, walked with his friend and coworker through the treatments. Banister had bone cancer as a teenager.

In various interviews, Beasley, Banister, and others point to the role Beasley's Christian faith played in how he approached the treatments. He emphasizes that his faith in Christ is the source of his strength and confidence.

(For more on this, search the Internet using the phrase "Tony Beasley Sings National Anthem".)

## Focus Attention

To supplement the Focus Attention idea, share the news story and ask: *How important do you think it was for Beasley to have friend who could walk with him through this experience? How important are friendships when facing a difficulty?* Help the group understand the value of facing a challenge with others.

Explain that the lesson today tells of the night in Gethsemane where Jesus invited his closest friends to pray with Him as He faced the cross. Challenge the group to look for actions Jesus took that we can follow when facing a challenge.

## Challenge

To supplement the Summarize and Challenge ideas, remind the group of the news summary and ask: *How does faith in God and His plans give us resolve to face a challenge?* Lead the group to commit to stay alert in prayer this week *and* be prepared to turn the coming challenges into purposeful victories for Christ.