

# The Friend Who Stepped Out

## Introduction

Jesus' commitment to us was so great that He was willing to step out of heaven and come to earth for us. He was willing to step out of the Garden of Gethsemane and into a fate He fully understood.

## The Garden of Gethsemane is...

### 1. A Place Where Spiritual Battles Take Place.

*"On reaching the place, He said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." 46 Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation."*  
- Luke 22:40,46

Why do battles take place where we pray?

- a) Prayer helps us see things clearly.
- b) Prayer gives a chance to be more honest.
- c) Prayer allows us to settle issues in our lives.
- d) Prayer gives us God's own strength.

Don't begin to pray about your weakness at the time of temptation – pray before it comes!

\* Prayer is the work – Ministry is the Prize \*

### 2. A Place Where Loneliness is Felt.

*"He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed."*  
- Luke 22:41

Jesus would sense loneliness twice in the next 24 hours:

- a) The loss of His friends.
- c) The loss of His Father.

Loneliness is sensing the spirit of one you love pulling away from you.

### 3. Gethsemane is Where Honesty is Expressed.

*"He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me..."*  
- Luke 22:41,42

The "cup" Jesus prayed for the Father to take away from Him represented three things He had never experienced.

- a) He would bear our sins upon Himself. - 2 Corinthians 5:21
- b) He would be separated from the Father. - Matthew 27:46
- c) He would experience death. - Matthew 27:50

### 4. Gethsemane is Where Submission is Required.

*"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."*  
- Luke 22:41,42

The only way to get rid of your cross is to die on it.

#### How do we know the difference between Testing God and Trusting God?

Testing God: Ask and then argue. Fight for our way, our rights.

Trusting God: Ask and accept.

Testing God: Interested in my will.

Trusting God: Interested in God's will.

Testing God: I feel stress.

Trusting God: I feel strength.

### 5. Gethsemane is Where Strength is Received.

*"An angel from heaven appeared to Him and strengthened Him."*  
*"And He rose from prayer..."*  
- Luke 22:43  
- Luke 22:45

Jesus went to the cross saying:  
No Reserve, No Retreat, No Regrets!

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