



Session 2

BIG IDEA

Soul-Crushing Surrender.

GROUP OPENER

As you have explored the Christian faith, what is something that has shocked you?

GROUP DISCUSSION

- Read this passage: Matthew 26:36-46. Twice out loud, in different versions of the Bible – everyone listens.
- What are some significant observations you have about this text? What stood out? What didn't you like? What was confusing?
- What does this passage teach us about God? How does it change how I see God?
- What does this passage teach us about humanity/ourselves? How would it change how I treat others?
- What does this passage teach us about obedience? How should it affect the way I live?

April 6
WEEKEND

As a Group Discussion:

Four Ways Gethsemane Shocks Us

1. A shock to our doubts
2. A shock to our theology
3. A shock to our desires
4. A shock to our shame

It shocks to our doubts because it shows the reality of the weight of what was in front of Jesus. It is not a story of legend instead, it shows the humanity of that moment.

Think of a moment when something embarrassing happened, and the person who shared the story with you was gladly willing to tell it.

Question:

If you were going to compose a legendary story about yourself, what kinds of things would you share to make people think well of you?

The garden shocks our theology because why would Jesus have doubts and fear if he needed to pray to God? Christians believe that Jesus was both fully God and fully human.

Question:

Where would human nature and divine nature help to explain this shock?

The garden shocks our desires because Jesus denies his desires to honor the desires of God.

Question:

Why is it difficult to allow external authority to override our desires as people?

Read: Galatians 5:16-17

The garden shocks to shame because Jesus lays down his own desires to follow God.

ACTION STEPS

I will statement...

- Based on what God is teaching in this passage, what should I do? Reflect for a minute or two and develop an action statement. Put it in the form, "I Will _____". Make it concrete, simple, and achievable.
- Share your "I Will" statement with the group.