

SERIES: NEXT STEP

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, February 24-25, 2024

SERMON: The Steps We All Need to Take

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 26:36-56 NIV

[36] Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray."

[37] He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled.

[38] Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

[39] Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

[40] Then he returned to his disciples and found them sleeping. "Couldn't you men keep watch with me for one hour?" he asked Peter.

[41] "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

[42] He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done."

[43] When he came back, he again found them sleeping, because their eyes were heavy.

[44] So he left them and went away once more and prayed the third time, saying the same thing.

[45] Then he returned to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Look, the hour has come, and the Son of Man is delivered into the hands of sinners.

[46] Rise! Let us go! Here comes my betrayer!"

[47] While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived. With him was a large crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests and the elders of the people.

[48] Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him."

[49] Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him.

[50] Jesus replied, "Do what you came for, friend." Then the men stepped forward, seized Jesus and arrested him.

[51] With that, one of Jesus' companions reached for his sword, drew it out and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear.

[52] "Put your sword back in its place," Jesus said to him, "for all who draw the sword will die by the sword.

[53] Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more than twelve legions of angels?

[54] But how then would the Scriptures be fulfilled that say it must happen in this way?"

[55] In that hour Jesus said to the crowd, "Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I sat in the temple courts teaching, and you did not arrest me.

[56] But this has all taken place that the writings of the prophets might be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

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WE NEED:

1. The _____ of our Heavenly Father.

2. The _____ of others.

- **Matthew 26:36** He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled.
- We need people to _____ in.
- We need people who will "_____."

3. To _____ to the Father.

- **Matthew 26:39** Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

4. To fulfill _____ and _____ plan.

Lagniappe

Today we recognize, honor, and thank Darlene Drivon for her service at FBC.

In 1984 Darlene started attending FBCCov where she immediately began volunteering in our children's department. In 2004 we divided the children's ministry responsibilities into children and preschool – soon after that, Darlene became our full-time preschool minister where she has served faithfully for over 19 years.

We will honor Darlene in our weekend services - and with a reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the Sunday 11:00AM Worship/Connect Group hour.

Please join us for this “drop-by time” to thank Darlene for her faithful service and wish her “happy retirement.”

Brief Congregational Meeting:

Darlene gave us advanced notice of her retirement, and we have been working to fill this position. We are asking for a brief **Congregational Meeting** during Wednesday Evening Bible Study – **March 13th @ 6:45** - to hear the recommendation from our Personnel Team for the new team member.

Waylon