

## Small Group Leaders' Guide | Sermon Questions, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Catalyst for Movement: Jesus' Prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-50)

**Sermon Recap:** Travis spoke on Jesus' prayer in the garden and focused on how he used prayer to prepare him for the cross. Highlighting how prayer kept Jesus humble, confident, honest, surrendered, and even prayerful; Travis lifted up the cross-shaped calling of Jesus. We too, through prayer, can go where God wants us to go and do what he wants us to do.

1. Have you ever been surprised by “a twist” that you would have prepared for had you only known?
2. Looking at the passage, what is Jesus' state before he prays? What words does Matthew use to describe him?
3. Dick Woodward said all prayer is will alignment. How do you see that in Jesus' prayer in verse 39 and following?
4. What does Jesus reveal about human nature to the disciples in verse 41? About prayer?
5. Jesus prayed three times for the “cup” of the cross to pass. He dealt with his emotions through prayer. What does this say of wrestling through prayer?
6. Travis said “at some point, ‘our Father’ must become ‘my Father.’” How do you feel about God as your Father?
7. Where do you feel most off-base: honesty before God, humility (humanity) before God, surrender to God's will, or confidence in God's love? Why?
8. What are you avoiding “pray-paration” for in your life right now?
9. Will you spend an hour in prayer this week to seek God's will, be transparent, and receive his strength?