

TAKEAWAY

JUST DO IT

Finding our place in the Master plan

WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO?

Sunday 20th October 2019

INTRODUCTION

On Sunday, at 10:30 and The Six, we considered a common question that occurs when we think about doing God's will – What if I don't want to?

READ

Matthew 26:36-45

EXPLAIN

*It says Jesus was sorrowful and troubled. Those are much more gentle words than the original Greek suggests - literally it says He was in agony and He was horrified or shocked.

*When Jesus prays he says to God, "Can this cup be taken from me?" The cup is the thing that makes this different from any other death. In the ancient world, the cup could just mean a horrible ordeal, but it could also mean judgement. Here the cup is symbolic of God's judgement.

DISCUSS

1. Why might Jesus be in agony and horrified at this time in particular?
2. How does Jesus respond when faced with something He doesn't want to do? How might this inspire or motivate us? (Note - he's 1. honest and 2. chooses God's way anyway)
3. A lot of things in our culture encourage us to say, "My will be done, not yours!" Why do you think this is? What are the problems with this approach to life?
4. What do the disciples bring to the story? How are we like them?
5. Even when the disciples bring nothing to help or support Jesus, He is still willing to die for them – and to experience the abandonment of the Father. How might this encourage us?
6. Does this story move you? It should! It's hard to be neutral about what Jesus sacrifices and does for us. How does it make you feel?
7. How would you summarise this passage in your own words? How might it shape your decision making?

