

Seeing the whole picture.

Luke 22:39-46, Matthew 26:38-39, Mark 14:32-36

How to pray in the face of a major crisis.

Luke 22:39-46

What I do **before the crisis** determines how much strength I will have **in the crisis**.

Luke 22:39-40 & 46, Colossians 4:2, Matthew 6:13, Matthew 7:24-27, 1 Peter 5:6-10

If I'm going to pray like Jesus – my prayers will be:

Brief.

Luke 22:42, Matthew 6:7-13

Brutally **Honest.**

Luke 22:42, Habakkuk 1:2-4, Job 10:2-3, 18-22, Matthew 27:45-46, Psalm 22:1

Shamelessly **Persistent.**

Luke 22:42-44, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Luke 11:5-10 & 18:1-8

Humbly Offered.

Luke 22:42, Galatians 2:21, 2 Samuel 12:13-25, 2 Corinthians 12:8-10, Hebrews 12:2-3

The Key to Courage:

Questions for this weeks' Life Groups

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Do you notice any difference in your prayers when you are facing a major crisis as opposed to when things are going pretty smoothly?

In what circumstances is it easiest for you to pray? When is it the hardest?

When you were growing up, which statement best captures how crisis was handled by the people you lived with? (mark all that apply)

- Oh no, the sky is falling
- God's going to grow us through this
- Don't let anybody know we're in a crisis
- At least we know that God's here
- Ignore it and maybe it will go away
- We need to find out whose fault it is
- Ask, "why is this happening to us?"
- Let's pray about it
- Other _____

Is how you face crisis today any different from your response above?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Psalm 77 is a good example of an honest prayer in the midst of a tough situation. After reading it, answer the following questions:

How do you see Asaph honestly expressing his thoughts and emotions to God in this Psalm?

What helps Asaph gain perspective concerning his situation?

How can you balance being honest with God with not feeling like you're becoming a whiner or complainer?

TAKING IT HOME

The key to courage is giving thanks for the good in the midst of the bad. Take a few moments to think through the good in your life that you are thankful for, Make a list.

Now take some time to talk to God about your list.

2. In 1 Peter 5:7 we're given instructions on how to handle the worry that often accompanies crisis—*"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."* Are there any cares you have that you need to cast on him?

PRAYER FOR MY GROUP: