Your Sword or His Cup?

I. Slide1 Announce:
   A. Slide2-4 Dan: Father/Son. Married Couples. Children’s.
   B. Slide5 Outreach Opp: Hope Pak’s.
   C. Slide6 Mother’s Day in 2 Sunday’s: fhfg
   D. Slide7 Pray At The Pole: Nat Day of Prayer. 12-12:30pm this Thurs.
   E. Slide8 Jude Robert Bell: Fri morn.

II. Slide9 Intro: Your Sword or His Cup?
   A. Slide10 God’s Best Gifts Are Not Things but Opportunities
      1. What we call adversity, God calls opportunity. Warren Wiersbe ~ Peter missed many important opportunities...
         a) Peter boasted when he should have listened (32-35)
         b) Peter slept when he should have prayed (36-46)
         c) Peter fought when he should have surrendered (47-56)
         d) Peter followed when he should have fled for safety (57-75)
      2. But, when the opportunity came to repent, he wept.

III. Slide11 PROPHECY OF JESUS (31-35) Prophecy ~ Prayer ~ Persecution
   A. Slide12 I Will Never... Famous Last Words
   B. (33) I will not stumble/fall away – Peter, drunk with pride. Carnal self-confidence.
   C. Peter did not know how weak he was. (Pete leaning in, whispering to Jesus) “I wouldn’t be surprised at the rest of these guys, but I’d never do that.”
      1. Had he forgotten the traps that life can lay for even the best of men?
      2. Had he forgotten that the best can slip?
      3. Had he forgotten his own human weakness?
      4. Had he forgotten the traps that life can throw at us?
      5. Had he forgotten the strength of the devil’s temptations?
6. Peter seemed to have a problem with applying Jesus’ commands to himself.
   a) Do you ever have a problem w/personal application?
      (1) Ever run away from a situation because of your Christianity? Ever deny Jesus by not standing up for right & wrong...before friends, in conversations?

D. *But don’t miss the integrity of Peter, having Mark write down his embarrassing words :)

E. (35) I will not deny You – Instead of humbly praying, Lord, help me! Peter kept on asserting the more vehemently.

F. Peter was not the only 1 with pride & boasting self-confidence…they all said likewise.
   1. They were all pathetically unaware of their inner weakness.
   2. Do you empathize or fail to empathize w/Peter’s declarations?
      a) Let’s remember, I’m not ok & you’re not ok, but Jesus can fix us both.
   3. Peter loved Jesus, & even if his loved failed, it rose again.

IV. Slide13 PRAYER OF JESUS (36-46) Prophecy ~ Prayer ~ Persecution

A. Slide14 I Come To The Garden Alone...Kinda!

B. (36) History started in a Garden (Eden). History will end 1 day in a Garden (Heaven's Main St).
   1. In between we find Jesus in this Garden, the Garden of Gethsemane.
      a) In the 1st Garden, we have the 1st Adam & it became a Garden of disobedience & sin
      b) In Gethsemane we have the last Adam & it became a Garden of obedience/submission

C. *Here is a passage we almost fear to read, for it seems to intrude into the private agony of Jesus.
   1. Weird, the 10 are asked to stay back, but you & I, WE are invited in.

D. Gethsemane – oil press. [A press for squeezing the oil out of olive pits]
   1. Used for cooking, as hairdressing, as a salve, & for fuel in their lamps.

E. (38) Even to death - this burden is killing me, is crushing the life out of me.
   1. He wasn’t cringing in the face of physical death, instead He was dreading the moment when His Father’s face would be turned away from him.
      a) The One who had lived every moment of His life in fellowship w/God the Father, was about to experience total separation.
2. I don’t know what being disfellowshipped by God feels like…but be assured... every soul in hell does!

3. Jesus’ prayers reveal the conflict in His holy soul as He faced bearing the sins of the world on the cross.

F. Slide15 God On His Face

G. (39) This comes against the traditional picture of Jesus on 1 knee, hands reverently folded, leaning against a rock, & gazing off into the distance w/ a warm glow about Him.

1. God was on His Face... what a sight.

2. As much as His human nature shrank from the cup, still more did He shrink from any thought of acting contrary to His Fathers will. [but as You will]

H. Nevertheless - The most wonderful nevertheless in the bible.

I. Slide16a Cup Of S.W.C.

J. (39) This cup – a metaphor for His death. Staring into the cup He must drink, seeing/swirling all sins. His own Caster oil. What was in this cup?

1. A cup of Sin – a cup brimming full of jealousy, hatred, & covetousness…which He must drink.

2. A cup of Wrath – as sin-bearer, He became the object of the Father’s holy wrath against sin.

   a) Salvation isn’t addition or subtraction, its substitution.

3. A cup of Curse - Gal.3:13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law.

   a) Slide16b Jesus would drink the entire chalice of: Man’s sin & God’s wrath & the Law’s curse. He drank it all. [Cup of S.W.C. ~ Sin, Wrath, Curse]

K. Slide17a Super Pete

L. (40) It was bad enough James & John were sleeping…but Super Pete? Note He singles out Peter. [Mark says he used his old name Simon]

1. Simon, you’ll go to your death w/me, but you won’t stay awake & pray w/me?
2. The same Simon who fell asleep 3 times, will also deny Him the same #.

   [Know Simon’s sleep #, on his sleep # bed? #3] Slide17b

M. Slide18 Denial, If only 3 were the limit. Michael Belk, Fashion Photogr, JourneyswiththeMessiah.org

N. (41) Watch & pray – Or, be alert as you pray. [Keep your spiritual eyes open, for the enemy is near]

O. Slide19 Lest YOU Enter Into Temptation

P. Lest you enter into temptation – Jesus sought prayer, not for himself, but for them.

   1. Jesus wasn’t pouting, “hey, you guys weren’t there for Me.” But instead was pleading, “you don’t realize the results if you’re not prayed up.”

   2. What temptations were they about to face? The temptation to doubt, scatter, deny Him. The temptation to lose faith, lose trust, lose hope.

   3. Wouldn’t their outcome have been different if the would have prayed for the hour? ~ Wouldn’t ours?

   a) Ask your will, “will, are you ready to pray for an hour?” ~ When it replies, yes...

      Then link arms with your will. And know, that treacherous emotions will begin kicking & screaming; biting, fighting. It will be a weary wrestle with contrary emotions, truant imaginations, even your smart phone calendar...screaming for attention. Some emotions will come with clenched jaw, others with a velvety voice; both seeking the same, one thing...your distraction.

Q. At least he recognizes their spirit was willing. Is my spirit even willing? Or, is it also weak?

R. Slide20 Enduro (endurance)

S. (42) Wow, Jesus praying the same prayer?…I guess he does want us to pray sometimes more than once for the same petition.

T. Was Jesus Prayers heard? – Luke tells us that in Gethsemane, before the 3rd prayer, an angel was sent to strengthen Him.

   1. Thus the Father answered, not by taking away the cup; but by helping Him to endure the cup.

      a) Brothers & sisters will He respond to your prayers any different?

U. (45) The hour – the hour for His betrayal, the hour for trial, & the hour for crucifixion.
V. Slide21 (46) How do we deal with our own Gethsemane’s? A: Exactly how Jesus dealt with His. Q: How was that?

1. With **Dependent** prayer – All things are possible for You (Mk14:36)
   a) 100% Dependence upon God/Him alone.
2. With **Intense** prayer – sorrowful & deeply distressed (37,38)
3. With **Honest** prayer – let this cup pass from Me (39)
4. With a **Submissive** prayer/heart – Nevertheless… (39)
5. With **Intimate** prayer – Oh My Father (39)
6. With a **Surrendered** prayer/heart – Not as I will, but as You will (39)
   a) Often times, dependent prayer won’t deliver us from our Gethsemane’s, more often it delivers us through them.

V. Slide22 PERSECUTION OF JESUS (47-56) Prophecy ~ Prayer ~ Persecution

A. Slide23 The Bottom Of The Top (12)

B. (47) Judas, one of the twelve (43) – Which made the crime more heinous.
   2. The one who would commit suicide, 1st commits homicide & attempts deicide (an attempt on the life of God...if that were possible).

C. (48) A signal – Why?
   1. Very dark. Moonlight & torches were the only light. All would be dressed very similar. Most likely all would have long hair, facial hair, & speak a similar dialect. So, a signal was needed.

D. Slide24a Seal It With A Kiss ~ Kiss of death. The most infamous kiss of all time.
E. Prov.27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.
F. Imagine the personal hurt to Jesus to have Judas betray Him.
   1. Judas had been hand picked. He was one of Jesus’ closest friends. He had been given the special responsibility of being treasurer for the entire band of disciples.
2. Maybe you have been betrayed by...
a) A spouse? A friend who gossiped away your reputation? A family member?
   A coworker who took credit for your work? A company who fired you just before
   retirement? A business partner who persistently shoved you aside?
   Then you understand something of the emotional suffering Jesus went through.

G. Slide24b (49) Kissed Him – (καταφιλέω) In the NT we have phileo, to kiss, to be
    friendly, BUT HERE kataphileo, to kiss thoroughly, to be very friendly.
1. The kata makes it intensive, indicating a prolonged kissing.
2. Same word is used of the woman who kissed the feet of Christ;
   Same word used of the father’s greeting of the returning prodigal;
   Same word used of the the Ephesian Christians farewell to Paul.
3. The betraying Judas kiss, the grimmest/most awful thing in the entire gospel story.
   a) Judas’ kiss showed how low a human heart could go; Jesus’ response showed how
      high a heart could soar. Kent Hughes ~ Friend, why have you come?

H. Slide25a The EAR Of Grace
I. (51) This was probably just too much for Peter to stand there & take. So, he severs the
   right ear of Malchus, the High priests servant.
1. But, Jesus offers no resistance to His arrest, & doesn’t want any well-meaning
   interventions on His behalf.
   a) We must learn to never fight spiritual battles w/physical weapons.
      (1) 2 Cor.10:3,4 NIV For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as
      the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the
      world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.
2. Had Jesus not healed Malchus, Peter would have been arrested as well; &
   there might have been 4 crosses on Calvary.
   a) And if 4 crosses on Calvary...then no sermon after Pentecost by Peter where 3000
      get saved; nor 5000 following that. Nor all the stories in the 1st 5 chapters of Acts.
   b) And what if Peter succeeded? He would have kept Jesus from going to the cross???
(1) How easy it is to be out of step with Jesus when we think we are serving Him, even defending Him.

J. Slide25b We don’t fight for His kingdom. We sacrifice. We suffer. We surrender for His kingdom.

K. Jesus’ last miracle. The most beautiful & touching of all.
   1. He kept the best wine, the best miracle, until the last.
   2. Jesus great text was in Mt. 5:43-45. Now, His great illustration of that text.
      a) You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you. He practiced what He preached.

L. Jesus’ Grace shined through, not only with the ear that night, but...
   1. When He walked toward Gethsemane, knowing Judas was betraying Him. 
   2. When He went into Gethsemane, surrendered to the Father’s will.
   3. When He protected His disciples. (He told them to let them go in John’s gospel)
   4. When He yielded Himself into the hands of sinners, that He might suffer/die for us.

M. Slide26a Your Sword or His Cup?

N. Peter made every mistake possible (51)
   1. He fought the wrong enemy. He used the wrong weapon. He had the wrong motive. And...He accomplished the wrong result.
   2. He simply imitated the officers who came to arrest Jesus. And in so doing He was openly resisting the will of God and hindering the work that Jesus came to accomplish.
      a) How did he get to this place?...from his prayerlessness.

O. Slide26b Peter’s Result of Prayerlessness (51)
   1. We see why it was specifically important for Peter to be praying.
      a) Because when his crisis came, he reached for the wrong sword.
      b) Simon Peter did damage to another human being, which is characteristic of people who are not prayed up.
         (1) We become hateful or hurtful, bitter or ugly in our relationship with others in our dealings with them.
P. Slide26c Jesus’ Result of Prayer (52)

1. This passage begins with Jesus on His face; ends with Him on His feet.
2. This passage begins with Jesus humanity wanting to give up; ends w/Him ready to get started.
3. This passage begins with Jesus wanting to walk away; ends with Him ready for the confrontation. - He is reenergized.
   a) He is reenergized ~ Is.40:31 But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength.

Q. (54) Peter took up a sword, but Jesus took a cup.

1. Never fear the cup that the Father has prepared for you.
2. Jesus, how did you do it? ~ He could submit to the abuse of men because He had already submitted to the will of God.

R. What is in your hand today...your sword, or His cup?