

1. Jesus Submits to the Father

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[0 : 00] Good afternoon and good evening. I'm Julie.

And I'm Jeremy, and we'll be your guides on this journey to the cross. This is our first station where Jesus submits to the Father. Before we get started, let me explain how the flow of each station will generally work.

As you listen to us, you'll notice that each station will generally have three parts. First, we'll give you an introduction to help set the scene. Our narration will mostly be in the present tense, so you can try to use your imagination and picture the story happening right before your eyes.

Secondly, we'll read a key scripture passage that corresponds to the station. All of these stations are based on the biblical history of Jesus' life, so we believe it's really important to actually hear God's word on this journey.

And thirdly, we'll take you through a guided response to the station, giving you instructions on how to interact with what you see in front of you. And if you ever need a bit of extra time to engage, just hit pause on your device.

[1 : 31] All right. This journey isn't going to be easy, and we're going to be reflecting on some pretty intense things. But let's take it a step at a time, and we'll be with you the whole way. And before we dive in, let me pray for us.

Lord, thank you for this opportunity to reflect on your journey to the cross and this amazing, terrifying, difficult story.

I pray that as we go through each station together, that you would give us humility, give us eyes to see what you are going through.

Even if it's just a glimpse, Lord, would you help us? Thank you for this journey. Thank you for what you did 2,000 years ago.

I pray that you open our hearts for that. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. Okay. Are you ready? Let's begin at the Garden of Gethsemane.

[2 : 30] In the final hours before the start of Passover day, Jesus enters a remote garden on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

He cries out to his Heavenly Father in utter anguish and in resolute submission. Jesus knows what awaits him, not simply death on a cross, but the fullness of God's righteous judgment upon the sin of humanity's rebellion.

Amazingly, Jesus prays that God's will would be done above all else. But in his moment of greatest need, Jesus' disciples are fast asleep.

Jesus must face the cross alone. In Matthew 26, we read this. 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.

He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death.

[4 : 01] Stay here and keep watch with me. Going a little farther, he fell on 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.

Take a moment right now to kneel down in reflection and prayer, taking a similar posture of submission to God.

Consider the weight of Jesus' calling to go to the cross for you. Just like the disciples, how often have we been oblivious to Christ, distracted by our own concerns?

In what area of life do you need to pray something similar to Jesus? God, may your will be done above all else.

Take as long as you need to respond. When you're ready, let's move to the next station. Bye-bye. Bye-bye.

[5 : 38] Bye-bye. Bye-bye.

Bye-bye. Bye-bye.