



Ney Church  
of God



Talk It Over

## Small Group Discussion Guide

Messy Prayers – Week 5

Big Idea: The most powerful prayer we can pray is: “Not my will, but Yours.”

### Icebreaker

- Can you share a time when you really wanted something (job, relationship, opportunity, healing, etc.) but God led you in a different direction? How did that feel?

### Read Together

Luke 22:39–46 and Psalm 143:8–10

### Discussion Questions

1. The Struggle of Surrender
  - Jesus’ surrender in Gethsemane began with struggle (vv. 41–42). Why do you think God allows us to feel this tension between our will and His?
  - Where do you most often feel that tension—relationships, finances, decisions, calling?
2. Honesty Before God
  - Jesus was brutally honest in His prayer: “Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me.”
  - Why is honesty such an important step toward surrender?
  - Do you ever hold back your real feelings from God? Why or why not?
3. The Prayer of Surrender
  - What makes it so hard to pray: “Not my will, but Yours be done”?
  - How do you think praying this way changes us, even if our circumstances don’t change?
4. Strength in the Struggle
  - Verse 43 says an angel strengthened Jesus, yet verse 44 says He was still in anguish. What does that teach us about how God strengthens us in prayer?
  - Share a time when God didn’t remove your struggle but gave you strength to endure.
5. The Fruit of Surrender
  - Jesus rose from prayer with clarity, peace, and resolve (vv. 45–46). How have you seen surrender produce peace in your own life?
  - What might change in your daily outlook if you prayed “Not my will, but Yours” more often?

### Living It Out

- This week, identify one area where your will and God’s will may be in tension. Each day, pray honestly about it, and then release it with: “Not my will, but Yours be done.”

### Closing Prayer

Invite the group to pray Psalm 143:10 aloud together:

“Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.”