

19 March

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Gospel of John – week 37

 Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member that there is power in the name of Jesus?
2. According to the Amplified bible, how many soldiers came to arrest Jesus in John 18:3? (**About 600 soldiers**).
3. What did the soldiers carry with them to arrest Jesus in v.3? (**Lanterns, torches, and weapons.**).
4. What happened to everyone who came to arrest Jesus when Jesus said, "I am He" in v.6? (**They drew back, and fell to the ground.**).

 Let's go deeper

5. What did Jesus tell Peter to do in v.11? (**Jesus said to Peter, "put your sword into its sheath."**).
6. What is the wrath of God in v.11? (**The anger and punishment of God – see Colossians 3:5 – 6 and Romans 2:5.**).
7. What did Jesus tell Peter and His other disciples in Luke 22:40, 47? (**Rise and pray that you may not enter into temptation.**).
8. How many times did Peter deny Jesus? (**Three times – see John 18:17, 25 and 27.**).

 Let's apply this

9. John 18:6; When Jesus said to them, 'I am He,' they drew back and fell to the ground.

Jesus firstly explained that He is the God of Moses, meaning He is God, and then He demonstrated His power and authority by speaking.

- Spiritual warfare starts with a revelation that Jesus Christ is God and then proclaiming His name in faith.
- Jesus encouraged us to pray in His name – see John 14:13 – 14
- Allow the Holy Spirit to help you proclaim the name of Jesus.

SUMMARY:

Gospel of John: Week 37 (Jesus arrested and betrayed).

Read: John 18:1 – 27

v.1 – 3; The scene for the arrest of Jesus is under the darkness of night, as 600 soldiers were preparing a military operation against Him, Jesus and His 11 disciples cross the Kidron Valley. The time of year was the Passover. Jesus often met with His men in this garden. One of the ways that Satan works is to form an unholy alliance. To murder Jesus Christ, the unholy alliance was brought together by Judas Iscariot whom allowed Satan to control him (see John 13:27). It included political leaders from the Roman Empire, and religious leaders from the chief priest and Pharisees.

v.4 – 9; Jesus told them He was the "I am." This is an echo of the God who spoke to Moses in the burning bush (see Exodus 3:14). For the Hebrew, this name of God was so sacred that they did not speak or even write it. Jesus makes it clear that He is the God of Moses. At this Jesus reveals Himself as God, and power was unleashed that caused more than 600 armed soldiers to be knocked to the ground in an instant. The same voice that spoke the world into existence and calmed a raging storm was now commanding an enemy army. There is power in the name of Jesus (see Philippians 2:8 – 10 and John 14:13 – 14).

v.10 – 11; When more than 600 soldiers surround Jesus and His 11 disciples, Peter, who is a fisherman, not a fighter, pulls his sword to take matters into his own hands. Peter thinks that sometimes God needs help, and his help.

God's wrath (punishment / anger) exists in two forms:

1. God's passive wrath, that let sinners' sin without stopping them (see Romans 2:5)
2. God's active wrath is what happens when God in perfect justice pours out the cup of wrath on the unrepentant sinner (see Revelation 14:9 – 10).

There are only two options:

1. Jesus drinks your cup, by trusting and believing in Him as your Lord and Saviour.
2. You trust and believe in yourself and you drink your own cup filled with wrath

v.12 – 27; As Jesus is being questioned inside by powerful religious men, Peter is questioned outside by a powerless servant girl. Jesus declares Himself to be God. Peter denies that he knows Jesus.

In John 17, we read that Jesus prayed all night. In other gospels, we learn that while Jesus prayed, Peter and the disciples slept. Jesus woke them up a few times and asked them to pray, but they did not. Prayer is how we prepare for what is coming next in life. Sometimes we end up losing the battle before it even begins by failing to pray so that God can prepare us for the battle that awaits.