

## Communion is...

**Communion is** connecting... God connecting with me and me connecting with Him.

## Read Matthew 26:36-46

**Most people have a tendency to isolate when they feel hurt**, or sense that they even might get hurt. It is a self-protective tendency we all can lean toward at times. Knowing that, I am struck by what I see Jesus do here in these verses.

**He had just told the disciples that they would all fall away**, in fact, He didn't just think that, but He knew it for certain!

**However, in verse 36 we see that Jesus took all of them with Him into the Garden of Gethsemane.** And then we see Him confide in the three who were closest to Him, Peter, James and John, asking them for support while He sought His Father in prayer.

**But three times over they disappointed Him, all falling asleep in His greatest hour of need.** And yet, even then, Jesus doesn't isolate. In verse 46 He says to them, *"Arise, let us be going."*

**This definitely gets my attention**, and draws my mind back to all the times throughout Scripture where God could have handled things so much better on His own, avoiding the struggle, avoiding the hurt... and yet time and again, He invites us in, knowing we will often disappoint.

**This speaks many things but I'll zoom in on this one here...** God's preference is to have us with Him. Even if it causes Him more pain, more struggle, more mess. That is amazing.

**As we take communion today**, may we be aware of His preference to draw us near, in spite of messes we often create for Him. What love. What grace. What value that speaks into our hearts.

## Prayer Conversation Starter...

**Jesus, so often I disappoint You and miss the moments that You call me into.** And yet You keep inviting me in... You keep inviting me to Your table. I am in awe of that preference and just so thankful.

