

## The Lamb Lifted the Cup

### Big Theme

Jesus' sacrifice and surrender secured our protection and empowers our obedience.

### I. The Place — God Leads Us Through Passages

#### John 18:1

Jesus crosses the Kidron — symbolically moving from prayer into suffering.

#### Study Insight

God often leads through places we wouldn't choose... but He never abandons us there.

#### Discussion

Where have you seen God's providence only AFTER the pressing?

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### II. The People — Pressure Reveals Allegiance

#### John 18:2-9

Judas = Compromise

Coalition = Culture + Power Systems

Disciples = Weak but kept

#### Greek Insight

**Lose — ἀπόλλυμι (apollymi)**

To destroy, ruin, lose eternally.

Jesus says He lost none — eternal security rooted in Him, not us.

#### Discussion

Where do you feel pressure to compromise your identity in Christ?

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### **III. The Prayer — Surrender Releases Power**

John connects Chapter 17 prayer → Chapter 18 arrest.

Jesus prayed unity, protection, and completion of mission.

Then He lived it.

#### **The Three Proofs of the Cup**

##### **1. Proven by His Suffering**

He drinks it.

##### **2. Proven by Their Sparing**

They go free.

##### **3. Proven by Our Sharing**

We carry crosses — not as punishment, but participation.

#### **Greek Insight**

##### **Overcome — νικάω (nikaō)**

To conquer, prevail, win decisively.

Same root used when Jesus says He has overcome the world.

#### **Why John Leaves Out the Agony Scene**

Instead of the agony, John presents Jesus as fully aware of his fate and embracing it, praying for glorification rather than for the cup to be removed.

He emphasizes something else:

Jesus is not a victim of the cross.

He is the willing Son trusting the Father.

Childlike faith is not emotional weakness.

It is settled confidence in the Father's goodness.

## **Application: Childlike Faith vs Worldly Power**

Childlike Faith says:

Jesus knows.

Jesus sees.

Jesus provides.

Jesus wins.

Worldly Power says:

Control it.

Force it.

Spin it.

Win now.

### **Final Heart Question**

When life tries to hand you the cup...

Will you grab control?

Or will you grab the Father's hand?