

The Garden Of Gethsemane is an olive garden in East Jerusalem. "Gethsemane" means "a place of pressing". Here workers put olives into a press and squeezed out the valuable olive oil under great pressure. It is not a coincidence that before Jesus went to the Cross and rose from the dead, He had to go through Gethsemane. That is where He was so distressed, knowing what He was about to face on the Cross, that His soul was overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. He had this season of suffering that He had to endure and pass the test.

We celebrate the resurrection, but the real victory was won in Gethsemane. That is where He refused to give up despite being under great pressure, and where He made this decision: "Father, not My will but Your will be done." He showed that real victory is won in private. It is how you surrender *your* will and control, to *God's* will and control, when life is extremely challenging, even unfair, and you don't understand it. Firmly believe that He always has you in the palm of His hand, and that He *will* bring you through to victory each time.

Matthew 26:39 "Going a little farther, He fell with 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.'"