

**I. Introduction:**

- A.** Tonight, we continue along a mini-series that I hope is giving a bit more in-depth insight into specific aspects that make Jesus so glorious and appealing. The interior life of Jesus is worthy of much thought, and serves as the most excellent example in our own journey of sanctification and spiritual maturity.

**II. Scripture passages:**

**John 14:30-31** | <sup>30</sup> I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. <sup>31</sup> But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here.

- “He has nothing in Me”: Jesus makes a remarkable statement in that there was nothing that Satan had on Jesus due to His disobedience. There was no agreement with Satan in Jesus’ life at all whatsoever. The Devil, therefore, had no foothold, no claim, no power, no anything in the life of Christ. His mind, will and emotions—body, soul and spirit—were totally free of all darkness and demonic influence. Jesus is the only human being to live their entire life this way. He could not have been more holy. He was perfect. Jesus never sinned even one time; He was certainly tempted, but never gave in (Hebrews 4:15).

**Hebrews 4:15** | For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. (See also Hebrews 5:8.)

- Also, by extension, we can conclude that the cross was the result of the Messiah’s perfect and loving obedience (John 14:31), not the result of some sinful disobedience. Suffering can be the fruit of obedience (i.e., Job), not just disobedience. (I guess it may be more helpful to say that some kinds of suffering are the result of obedience, and some kinds of suffering are the result of disobedience.) Some believe and teach that all personal suffering is a result of hidden compromise or unperceived sin (i.e., Job’s friends). This is not a biblical concept. If this were true, it would mean that the suffering Jesus experienced was due to His sin.

**III. Personal application:**

- 1. Jesus, our premier example:** Seeing that Jesus was genuinely tempted, and yet faithfully obedient, provides us with the preeminent example to look at—and look up to—(Colossians 3:10, Hebrews 12:2, 1 Peter 2:21) in our own journey of maintaining a spirit of obedience on the inside of us (thoughts, emotions, motives, etc.). Christian obedience is not just outward behavior modification, but genuine inward transformation. God seeks to change us from the inside out as we obey His Word. Eventually, we come to enjoy obeying Him more than disobeying Him. What initially seems hard and pointless, eventually becomes enjoyable and fruitful. Hang in there. It’s worth it to obey God, cultivate inward Christlikeness and be faithful during times of temptation, difficulty and suffering. It will all be fully evident in the end—at that glorious face-to-face meeting with God when He truthfully says, “Well done!” to those who lived worthy of it by the grace of God. Keeping in mind, God will not say, “Perfectly done!” but “Well done!” He is looking for a willing heart that signs up again and again and again—ever after times of failure—to seek to do His will. “A righteous man may fall seven times and rise again” (Proverbs 24:16). (See Romans 12:2 and Ephesians 4:23 on the renewal of the mind.)
- 2. Reaching for continued growth and maturity, not perfectionism:** As we grow and mature, the focus is not only on “big” outward sins but on the “little” inward sins that we weren’t even aware of when we first started following Jesus. When I was first a Christian, there were obvious things that needed addressed, and those will always be important—but things like responding humbly, apologizing sincerely, speaking graciously, etc. now come more into view. It’s important to understand that God doesn’t expect us to live perfect, which is impossible, but to set our heart to obey as much as possible. God recognizes that the process of maturity, sanctification and spiritual growth takes times just like a child growing physically and emotionally takes time. Also, our being sanctified never ends in this life. By His Spirit, Jesus will always be leading us into greater truth, freedom and Christlikeness as we are willing.

**IV. Scriptures for further thought, prayer and study:**

- 1. Psalm 19:13** | Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression. (Presumptuous sins are sins we are unaware we are doing.)
- 2. Psalm 51:10** | Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. (The heart can be cleansed. This is important because “out of it spring the issues of life” [Proverbs 4:23].)
- 3. Luke 9:55** | But He turned and rebuked them, and said, “You do not know what manner of spirit you are of.” (The disciples were unaware of their manner of spirit. In other words, they did not know they were being motivated by a bad and sinful urge.)

*Help me improve my notes! The first person to point out a legitimate mistake/typo on this document (during service) gets \$1.*

### Greater Peoria House of Prayer Announcements for February 25, 2022.

1. **Welcome** to the Greater Peoria House of Prayer... we're glad you're here and blessed to be worshipping God with you! Be sure to pick up the **free** materials at the back table in the prayer room or the desk near the front of the downstairs fellowship area, which includes teaching notes, stickers, pens, prayer cards and more. **Daily schedule:** We have morning prayer right here in this room seven days a week from 7-8 a.m. Monday - Friday and 8-9 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. We have afternoon prayer four days a week: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. - noon. We have evening prayer with live worship from 6-8 p.m. Monday - Saturday. On Friday's, we have an extra prayer gathering from 10 a.m. - noon. Our **Friday Encounter Night** is from 6-9 p.m. and is our main corporate gathering each Friday evening featuring live worship and a teaching to inspire love for Jesus and prayer.
2. **UPCOMING EVENTS:** We're open from 7-8 p.m. every night seven days a week. Hope to gather with you in prayer!
3. **Prayer room ministry opportunities:** If you are interested in leading or ministering during a live worship set by singing, playing an instrument, prayer leading or behind the sound board, please contact us at [info@gphop.org](mailto:info@gphop.org). We'd love to have you serve on one of our teams! **Team ministry opportunities:** If you feel the Lord has gifted you in the prophetic (or would like to grow in this gifting) and would consider helping on a prophetic team, send an email to [info@gphop.org](mailto:info@gphop.org). Contact Mandy Kistner at [mandy@gphop.org](mailto:mandy@gphop.org) if you would like to schedule a future healing ministry appointment or help out on the healing team.
4. **Missions:** Please keep the following missionaries we support in prayer as well as be sensitive to their financial needs: **Ashley Bucknam** (YWAM, Hawaii); **Alicia Wright** (India); **Tim and Blair Fraim** (Florianopolis House of Prayer; Florianopolis, Brazil); **Eric and Erin Simmons** (Minnesota House of Prayer Network; Twin Cities, MN); **Austin and Amy Zhu** and **Phil Kellenberger** (International House of Prayer; Kansas City, MO); **Babett Mueller** (111 Global; Kansas City, MO). Also keep friends **Tyler and Sarah Cook** and family in prayer who lead the Illinois Valley House of Prayer in Ottawa, IL.
5. **Military:** Please keep the following members of our military in prayer as they valiantly serve the United States of America: **Jake Gerst**, currently stationed in Grafenwoehr/Grafenwöhr, Germany.
6. **Social media:** Follow us on Facebook (Greater Peoria House of Prayer - GPHOP), Twitter (@GPHOPrayer), Instagram (@GPHOPrayer), Vimeo and YouTube for regular updates and inspiration. Use these social media sites to get the word out, share pictures, quotes you heard, etc. Contact Derek at [derek@gphop.org](mailto:derek@gphop.org) if you're interested in helping with GPHOP's social media.
7. **Haven ministries:** Do you need space to pray just one-on-one. Maybe your Christian group needs a place to meet every once in awhile. We're making available the upper Prayer Room and lower-level Gathering Grounds for rent by donation. Email [info@gphop.org](mailto:info@gphop.org) if interested.
8. We provide **free Wi-Fi** to everyone here! The password for the **GPHOP** router is on the chalkboard in the downstairs fellowship area. You can also connect to either the CableWiFi or xfinitywifi routers if you have a personal Comcast account.
9. **Prayer requests:** If you would like our community to pray for something specific, please submit it to [info@gphop.org](mailto:info@gphop.org).
10. **Giving:** If you have been blessed by the GPHOP and would like sow financially into the ministry, we would be more than blessed. You can give in cash, but if you would like to give to GPHOP with a check, please make it out to "Greater Peoria House of Prayer" or "GPHOP"—your gift is tax deductible. Thank you for your generosity! It's helping make day and night prayer with worship possible in central Illinois. You can place your gift in the Saturday night offering during the 7 p.m. teaching or drop it in either of the two black donation boxes. Donations can also be mailed to our physical address at 117 East Washington Street, East Peoria, IL 61611. Donors can also use PayPal or our website ([gphop.org/donate](http://gphop.org/donate)) to give electronically.

*Thank you for helping to **keep this prayer room sacred** by ensuring conversations with others are brief and kindly reminding others to do the same. Use the large Gathering Grounds fellowship area downstairs if you would like to chat at length.*