



Ashland Church of Christ 2006

# Pressing Toward the Upward Call of God



“I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14).

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## Lord, I Surrender — Obedience “Not My Will, But Yours, Be Done”

Text: Luke 22:39-46

**Key Text:** *Luke 22:42, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”*

### I. The position.

- A. The text puts us within hours of Jesus going to the cross.
- B. Jesus knew what had to be done and what the will of God was in this matter.
- C. Physically, the decision was easy to make.
- D. Yet, if Jesus chose His own physical wellness, then our spiritual wellness would be without hope.
- E. Consider the emotional anguish Christ would have to go through:
  - 1. People would mock Him without a cause (Luke 23:2).
  - 2. Peter would deny Him (Luke 22:54-62).
  - 3. God would forsake Him (Matthew 27:46).

### II. The Predicament.

- A. The physical predicament.
- B. The emotional predicament.

- C. The social predicament.
- D. The spiritual predicament.
- E. Therefore, it is obvious that Christ had the spiritual in mind.

### III. The petition.

- A. The big ‘if.’
- B. Is Jesus asking for spiritual or physical deliverance?
- C. There is nothing wrong with praying for something that will help us.
- D. The key is that we must accept God’s will.
- E. James 4:13-15.

### IV. The prerequisite.

- A. The decision to do the will of God regardless of the consequences had to be made long before Jesus was placed in this situation.
- B. What does it take to turn one’s life over to God?
  1. A conscience decision.
  2. A genuine desire.
  3. A cognitive commitment.
- C. The idea of ‘we’ll cross that bridge when we come to it’ does not always work.
- D. It requires putting self aside and bringing God to the front.
- E. The good news is there are good consequences to following God no matter what.

### v. The provision.

- A. Not all of us could handle the cross — Jesus could.
- B. Will we properly handle what we are given to handle?
- C. God is still in complete control.
- D. God has promised the proper provisions for you and me.
- E. But, you and I have to choose to follow Him.