

You will remember reading in the Bible when Jesus was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. Not long before his arrest, the closest friends and followers of Jesus-the discipleshad vowed to die with him. Just when Jesus needed them most, fear caused the disciples to flee.

On the evening before His death. Jesus celebrated the Passover meal with His disciples. He began by washing their dirty feet and giving them an example of humility and service for them to follow. Jesus was teaching them the importance of service to others which recognizes no class and no position; it requires only love for others. Today, there seems to be much more concern that we please ourselves rather than please God and truly serve Him and others as reflected by the example Jesus dave us.

After the supper, Jesus and most of His disciples went to the Garden of Gethsemane. When the soldiers came to arrest Jesus, Peter drew his sword and cut off the ear of one of them. But Jesus healed the ear and told Peter, "Put up your sword! I could ask My Father, and He would send me twelve legions (that is 72,000) of angels. But then how would the scriptures come true, that say this must happen?" All the disciples ran away in fear.

An afraid Pilate tried to escape condemning Jesus to death, but the Jewish leaders threatened a riot if he did not pass the sentence of death. Fearful of ruining his political career, Pilate washed his hands of the matter but gave permission for Jesus to be executed.

Fear sometimes causes us to get our priorities out of order. We fear having enough to meet our financial needs—the mortgage, medical bills, car payments. We tend to give God only what is left over. We can't give generously or with a cheerful heart when we are consumed with fear. Let us remember that Jesus generously gave His all for our salvation. What are we willing to generously give Him?

IT IS ALL OF ME IN RESPONSE TO ALL OF HIM!

— Rick Hutchinson, Director of Generous Living and Trust Services



TELL YOUR STORY

You are part of the Carolina Conference Generous Living Team and we want to hear from you. If you have a testimony where God has been especially faithful to you or your family, please share it with us at rroberts@carolinasda.org or write to us at:

> Generous Living Team PO Box 44270 Charlotte, NC 28215-0043

Your testimony could be crucial in someone's life through our videos, posters, offertory readings or bulletin inserts. Thank you for your continuous prayers.

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11

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