

The Life of Christ
Summer Book Study

Week Eight Discussion Questions

1. How does Sheen explain Jesus' metaphor of the grain of wheat regarding the necessity of self-sacrifice and personal surrender in the Christian life?

2. Why is the approach of the Greeks significant at this specific juncture of the Lord's public ministry, just as He enters the shadow of His Passion?

3. Why does Sheen emphasize that Jesus was not merely a passive victim of circumstance, but an active participant who laid down His life on His own terms ("This is your hour")?

4. Sheen notes that bread and wine are meant to nourish and create unity. How does partaking in the Eucharist challenge individual believers to be united with one another in their daily communities?

5. Reflect on Peter's initial refusal to let Jesus wash his feet. How does Peter's hesitation mirror our own discomfort with receiving unearned grace and mercy?
6. Sheen frequently contrasts worldly pride with divine humility. What specific area of personal pride does chapter 37 challenge you to surrender?
7. Discuss how small, rationalized compromises can gradually harden a person's heart before an outright betrayal takes place.
8. Sheen contrasts the ultimate despair of Judas with the potential of a restorative glance from Our Lord. Why is turning away from hope considered the final turning point in spiritual tragedy, and how do we cultivate resilient hope in our own lives?

9. How does Sheen define the connection between sharing Christ's life and sharing His fate? Why is self-sacrifice presented as a source of joy rather than merely a burden?

10. Sheen notes that "the enjoyment of peace was not inconsistent with the endurance of tribulation" because "peace is in the soul". How do you distinguish between worldly comfort and the deep peace Christ promises His followers?

11. When facing personal trials or hardships, how can you better anchor your mind so that external chaos does not rob you of internal peace?

12. Sheen writes that "evil has no capital of its own, it is a parasite on goodness". What does this metaphor reveal about how evil operates, tempts, and sustains itself in the world?