

In a hostile world:

1. Remember the power of prayer.

John 18:1

When Jesus had spoken these words [prayed – Ch.17], he went out with his disciples across the brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which he and his disciples entered.

2. Recognize that God can use enemies as opportunities to advance His purpose.

John 18:2-3

Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, for Jesus often met there with his disciples. ³ So Judas, having procured a band of soldiers and some officers from the chief priests and the Pharisees, went there with lanterns and torches and weapons.

3. Reaffirm your convictions about what is true.

John 18:4-9

Then Jesus, knowing all that would happen to him, came forward and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" ⁵ They answered him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am he." Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them. ⁶ When Jesus said to them, "I am he," they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷ So he asked them again, "Whom do you seek?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸ Jesus answered, "I told you that I am he. So, if you seek me, let these men go." ⁹ This was to fulfill the word that he had spoken: "Of those whom you gave me I have lost not one,"

- Start with being confident about who Jesus is and why He came.

4. Refuse to compromise when others take shortcuts.

John 18:10-11

Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant and cut off his right ear. (The servant's name was Malchus.)¹¹ So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?"

5. Remain patient as you wait on God to fulfill His purposes.

John 18:12-14

So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him.¹³ First they led him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year.¹⁴ It was Caiaphas who had advised the Jews that it would be expedient that one man should die for the people.

Resources for better understanding, sharing, and defending your faith:

Articles, Videos, Christian vs. Atheist Debates

gotquestions.org

reasonablefaith.org (William Lane Craig)

crossexamined.org (Frank Turek)

coldcasechristianity.com

thepoachedegg.net

str.org (stand to reason) (Greg Koukl)

apologetics315.org