

At His Table

Pastor Don Brock

Use this guide by yourself, with a friend, or in a group to help you pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus this week!

Open

As this week's calendar aligns us with Jesus' last few days of ministry before His sacrifice and Easter Sunday resurrection, Pastor Don leads us in observing Communion which memorializes Jesus' last meal with His disciples. The section of Scripture that he will be referring to today (Luke 22) is one of the saddest in the Gospel accounts of Jesus' life, but as we now know it is through these terrible events that Jesus accomplishes God's gracious work of giving us the opportunity to restore our relationship with Him. So because Jesus' last meal with His disciples was during the Jewish holiday of Passover (an annual celebration of the Hebrews' escape from Pharaoh), get your group started by letting everyone share about their most significant holiday traditions...

BIG THOUGHT

As we celebrate Communion, we remember that Jesus' sacrificial death on the Cross was the intentional fulfillment of His ministry to reconcile us to God.

Dig

1. Read Luke 22:1-6. What do these verses reveal about the religious leaders and their motivation? What are some of the things you think they were afraid would happen? And what factors stand out to you that make Judas' betrayal so uniquely tragic?
2. Now read v. 7-13. While the religious leaders were making their plans to put Jesus to death, what were Jesus and His disciples preparing for? How does this highlight the difference between the religious leaders' hearts and Jesus' hearts? Do you think that Jesus was unaware of Judas' impending betrayal? Why or why not?

3. Read v. 14-16. How do you hear Jesus' tone of voice as you read these verses? In what ways does Jesus' sacrificial death mirror the role of the lamb in the first Passover for the Israelites? (v. 16 - see Exodus 12:1-13) How is it different?
4. Now read v. 17-20 where Jesus takes servings of wine and bread that were a part of the Passover celebration and gives them new meaning. What is the bread now to mean for His followers? (v.19) What about the cup? (v. 20) Although Jesus has already told his disciples that He would die at the hands of the Jewish authorities (see Luke 9:18-22), what would you have thought if you were one of the disciples as Jesus spoke about offering up His body and blood?
5. Read v. 21-23. What does Jesus say here that lets us know He has been aware of Judas' intentions the entire time? What fate awaits Judas? (v. 22) And how does it make you feel to see that the disciples completely missed Jesus' point again (v. 23) - frustrated, encouraged, or something else?
6. To finish, read Hebrews 9:12-14. How should these verses deepen our sense of gratitude as we celebrate Jesus' sacrifice this Easter?

Take it Further

Talk with God and thank Him for His reconciling work through Jesus, and then continue reading through the end of Luke's Gospel this week as you prepare your heart to celebrate Easter.

Daily Readings

Day 1: John 3:16-17
Day 2: 1 Peter 2:24
Day 3: Romans 5:8

Day 4: Mark 10:45
Day 5: Ephesians 1:7
Day 6: 1 Timothy 2:5

Memory Verse: Hebrews 9:12



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