

#33 10/18

Mark 14:12-51

Discussion Guide

Read verses 12-26; Exodus 12:1-20. When Jesus presides over the Passover meal and says, “this is my body and blood,” he is drawing parallels between the Passover event and his own mission. What are these parallels and what do we learn from them?

Read verses 18-20. Why does Jesus stress the fact that his betrayer is one of the Twelve? What do they reveal about themselves by their response? How are they different than the woman who broke the jar?

Notice in verses 27 and 49 how Jesus continually refers to prophecy throughout his trial. a) What does this tell us about Jesus' death? b) How does the cross help us to face suffering and injustice in our own lives?

What does “the cup” tell us about Jesus' sufferings? (Recall Mark 10:38.)

Many people reject the very idea of hell or the wrath of God. What impact does such a rejection have on one's appreciation of the love of Christ?

In how many ways does Jesus show his obedience to the Father in this passage?

Why is his obedience significant for us? What difference does it make?

In what other ways is Jesus' example in the garden full of practical comfort and guidance for us?

Who Jesus is: Jesus is fully man; his suffering is real and he dreads the cross. But he is the obedient Son of God, willing to die, thereby fulfilling the Old Testament prophecy (verses 27, 49).

Why Jesus Came: He came to drink the “cup” of God's wrath, bearing the penalty of man's sin on man's behalf. No one else could do this; he was left utterly alone. And there was no other way. Only God Himself could pay the penalty of man's sin by dying in man's place.

How should I respond? We will be ashamed of Jesus and his words unless We both understand the cross and, “watching,” pray for God's help. We shall do neither unless we

How does the way Jesus sent the disciples to find the upper room give evidence that Jesus was in charge of the whole situation?

How does Jesus' control of events surrounding His passion encourage you when you face difficulties?

What might the disciples have thought when Jesus said that one of them would betray Him? Do you think you would have suspected your own heart if you had been there?

How does this passage express the tension between free will and the sovereignty of God?

In what way did all the disciples betray Jesus? In what way has every person betrayed Him and put Him on the cross? How can that betrayal be forgiven?

Why might the Last Supper also be called the First Supper? What did Jesus inaugurate?

Has the Lord's Supper sometimes become so familiar for you that it is no longer amazing? What did Jesus mean by saying, "This is My body" and "This is My blood"?

How would you like people to remember you after you die? How does this compare with Jesus' command?"

Do you regularly ponder and meditate on Jesus Christ and what He has done for you? What thoughts have produced the most serious meditation? What thoughts have led to the most joyous praise?

How would you respond to someone who said that Judas had no choice because he was destined to betray Jesus? How would you respond to the argument that Judas was not guilty because he did just what God needed him to do?

In what areas of temptation might you be susceptible to pride and say, "I would never do that"? How do Proverbs 16:18 and 1 Corinthians 10:12 address this attitude?

In what circumstances are you most tempted to fall away? How can you best prepare to stay true to God?

Imagine finding out that in 24 hours you would die violently and painfully. How would you handle that knowledge? How would you spend those hours? What did Jesus do?

Have you ever been determined to pray, but you fell asleep? What causes this? How might you improve your ability to “stay awake and pray” (14:38)?

How would you explain to a non-Christian what caused Jesus such agony as He prayed in the garden?

Why do you suppose Judas chose a kiss as the sign identifying Jesus to the police?

Why did the Jewish leaders not arrest Jesus in the temple in the daylight?

Why is it significant that it might have been Mark, the author of this Gospel, who “ran away naked” after Jesus was arrested (14:52)?”

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