

Mark 14:10-26 (Matt 26:17-19, Luke 22:7-13)

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Him to them. ¹¹ And when they heard *it*, they were glad, and promised to give him money. So he sought how he might conveniently betray Him.

¹² Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they killed the Passover *lamb*, His disciples said to Him, "Where do You want us to go and prepare, that You may eat the Passover?"

¹³ And He sent out two of His disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him. ¹⁴ Wherever he goes in, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?"'" ¹⁵ Then he will show you a large upper room, furnished *and* prepared; there make ready for us."

¹⁶ So His disciples went out, and came into the city, and found it just as He had said to them; and they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷ In the evening He came with the twelve. ¹⁸ Now as they sat and ate, Jesus said, "Assuredly, I say to you, one of you who eats with Me will betray Me."

¹⁹ And they began to be sorrowful, and to say to Him one by one, "Is it I?" And another *said*, "Is it I?"

²⁰ He answered and said to them, "*It is one of the twelve, who dips with Me in the dish.* ²¹ The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had never been born."

²² And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."

²³ Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave *it* to them, and they all drank from it. ²⁴ And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. ²⁵ Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

²⁶ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

1. Jesus completed 3+ years of showing us what God is like
 - a. He's a merciful God – when He forgave many their sins
 - b. He's a compassionate God – when He healed the sick
 - c. He's a righteous God – when He confronted the religious
 - d. He's a redeeming God – He's now about to pay for our sins

2. This is the night where they celebrate Passover

3. Judas went to the chief priests and said, what are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you? (Matthew 26)
 - a. When they offered 30 pieces of silver, he sought for an opportune time to betray Him
 - b. They were glad (delighted, *NIV*) to give him money

4. It's Thursday

- a. Galilean Jews celebrated on Thursday
- b. Judean Jews celebrated on Friday

- c. ... This difference we know from the writings of the Jewish Mishnah which are the official documents concerning the conduct of the Jews, and also from the history of Josephus (**MacArthur**)

- d. Being from Galilee along with His disciples, they are celebrating this feast on Thursday night.

- e. This allowed Jesus to both eat the Passover meal and be the Passover Lamb at the same time

I. The Servant's Role

II. The Surprise

III. The Sacramental Supper

I. The Servant's Role

1. Peter & John ask Jesus where He'd like them to prepare (Luke 22:8)

2. Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him
3. "So you want us to go into the overcrowded city and look for a man"?
4. He will meet with you
 - a. Your job is to go into the city...
 - i. THAT'S YOUR ROLE
 - b. I'm giving you a simple assignment
 - c. Choosing to obey will open the next door
 - d. He will meet with you
 - i. This man will show you our meeting room
 - ii. Peter, you need to learn this simple lesson because you will be sent on other assignments on a larger scale
 1. When the Lord sent him to Cornelius' home
5. We don't know who this man is, but it teaches us
 - a. **God is always at work**
 - i. **John 5:17** But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."
 - ii. **John 5:19** "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner

6. Even during times when God seems silent, He's working
 - a. When there is peace and all seems well, God is working
 - b. When war is happening and disaster strikes, He's working
 - c. When lawlessness abounds, He's working
 - d. When there is abundance, God is working
 - e. When there is lack, God is still working

7. Because God is always at work, He has people working in the background that we don't always know about

a. He'll never ask us to do anything He is not doing Himself

- i. When God does His role, He always takes the larger, more challenging part

8. This friend of Jesus knew his role well

- a. The disciples had to know their roles as well
 - i. They had to take a step of faith and go into the city
 1. They had previous experience in Mark 11 in finding the colt

 - ii. Go and make preparations
 1. The large upper room was furnished, but the disciples had to prepare the Passover

- iii. There are certain things God will prepare and things are up to us to prepare
- iv. God always has the larger role
- v. He does what we can never do
- vi. Because we are in a relationship, we have the option to participate.
- vii. Participation means that we desire to be in fellowship with God

viii. The main thing for us to prepare is our hearts

- b. **Prov 16:1** The preparations of the heart belong to man...
 - i. This is our role to play in our relationship with God
 - c. How can we know if we have prepared our hearts?
 - i. When we bring the sacrifice
 - ii. **Rom 12:1** I therefore urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercies, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices that are holy and pleasing to God, for this is the reasonable way for you to worship.
 - iii. Peter and John had to go into the temple, get the lamb, get the unleavened bread, bitter herbs and wine and prepare the table
9. God has a role for each of us to play

10. Our job is to listen to what God is saying and then obey

- a. I remember sensing a desire to go to school of ministry
- b. I didn't have an agenda
- c. I just wanted to learn God's Word more
 - i. This act of obedience opened other doors

11. Whatever God is saying to you today, no matter how small it may seem, obey God today

12. My obedience and not so much my words are the real indicator of my faith and willingness

II. The surprise

1. This night was filled with surprises

- a. John 13 tells us that Jesus washed the disciples feet, including Judas
 - i. Masters don't do that
 - ii. Slaves do the dirty work

b. During dinner, The Lord said 1 of the 12 who will betray Him

i. Assuredly, I say to you, one of you who eats with me will betray me

- c. Eating bread with someone in that custom is more than just a meal
- d. It's a pact of mutual trust and friendship
- e. Breaking this pact is unheard of
 - i. It would be a deeply offensive act of betrayal

2. Each disciples is asking "Is it I"?

- a. To their credit, they all recognized their evil propensities
- b. No one expected Judas
 - i. He was a normal looking, normal acting follower of Jesus
- c. The disciples didn't know, Jesus knew

3. It is one of the twelve, who dips with Me in the dish

4. Bible scholars believe that John was on Jesus' right,

- a. Judas was on his left side, the place of honor
- b. Lord, you are putting the one who is betraying you at the place of honor?

- c. Jesus uses this opportunity to try and reach Judas one final time.
- d. In **John 13**, we are told that Jesus identified the traitor to John by giving Judas "**the sop**", **John 13:21-27**.
- e. the "**sop**" was a piece of bread which was dipped into a fruit mixture that was much like jam.
- f. To be handed the "**sop**" by one's host at a meal was the ultimate form of respect and love. (**Carr**)

5. It would have been good for that man if he had never been born

- 6. At the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus calls Judas friend
 - a. It is never the Lord who turns against people, it's only people that turn on the Lord
 - b. He's giving opportunity time and time again for Judas to repent

7. If Jesus treats His betrayer like this, what does He treat us like?

- a. Exactly the same
 - i. Because He does not change
 - ii. His love does not change
 - iii. It's never based on what I have done or am doing
 - 1. His love is limitless, infinite

8. One day C. H. Spurgeon was walking through the English countryside with a friend. As they strolled along, the evangelist noticed a barn with a weather vane on its roof. At the top of the vane were these words: GOD IS LOVE. Spurgeon remarked to his companion that he thought

this was a rather inappropriate place for such a message. "Weather vanes are changeable," he said, "but God's love is constant."

"I don't agree with you about those words, Charles," replied his friend. "You misunderstood the meaning. That sign is indicating a truth: Regardless of which way the wind blows, God is love."

- a. It's amazing that Judas believed that Jesus didn't know about his plan
 - i. How could he spend so much time and not know Jesus?
 - ii. He watched as Jesus forgave the worst of sinners
 - iii. How He healed the outcasts of society
 - iv. How He answered questions people hadn't asked yet
 - v. How could he think that he'd get away with this?
 - vi. Can we sometimes think that God doesn't see or know all of our thoughts, actions and the intent of our hearts?

III. The Sacramental Supper

1. And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave *it* to them, and they all drank from it. And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

2. As the meal progressed, the head of the family, in this case Jesus, would explain what each portion of the feast represented.
 - a. The bitter herbs reminded them of their bondage as slaves in Egypt.
 - b. The wine represented God's fellowship with the believer in the midst of trial.
 - c. Stewed fruit, which was the color and consistency of clay, reminded them of the bricks they had been forced to make.
 - d. The unleavened bread represented separation from evil and haste.
 - e. The roasted lamb represented redemption.
 - i. As each part of the meal was eaten, the host took the time to explain the symbolism and the spiritual importance.

3. Toward the end of the meal, Jesus takes the unleavened bread

4. He took the bread, and said, "This is my body," and he broke the bread, symbolizing how his body would be broken.
 - a. Soon, the disciples would see how His body would be broken

 - b. And he took the cup, and said, "This is the blood of the new covenant,"
 - i. the new agreement that God makes with men by faith, and not by works; by believing, and not by performance. That is the New Covenant... (**Stedman**)

 - ii. The Old Covenant under Moses was a type, a shadow of the real one to come.
 1. We needed a permanent savior who delivered us once and for all
 2. The body and blood of our Lord paid that very price required to pay for all of our sins

3. We can now stand clean before God and are now able to have that relationship with Him if we choose.

5. The order of the Body and Blood
 - a. Jesus hands them the bread first
 - i. The body being His life (His perfect sinless life)

6. Then the wine symbolizing His Blood
 - a. The blood speaks of His Redemption / Forgiveness

7. Shouldn't it be the cleansing first, then the life?

8. Not with God, we are receiving life first and when life enters in, the cleansing takes place naturally
 - 1) The body of Jesus (bread represents His life)
 - 2) The Blood symbolized His death
 - a. Feasting on His character, meditating on His attributes is my first step
 - b. The Blood of Jesus removes my sin from me
 - i. It covers me and declares me blameless
 - a. The Blood of the new covenant cleanses me
 - i. Past
 - ii. Present
 - iii. Future

9. That is why Jesus commanded us to Take and eat

10. (Spurgeon)**Take** means that it won't be *forced* upon anyone. One must actually receive it. "I anticipate that someone will say, 'Am I then to have Jesus Christ by only taking him?' (exactly). Do you need a Savior? There he is; take him. . . . Take him in; take him in; that is all that you have to do."

11. Eat means that this is absolutely vital for everyone. Without food and drink, no one can live. Without Jesus, we perish. It also means that we must take Jesus into our innermost being. Everyone must also eat for themselves; no one else can do it for them (**Guzik**)
 - a. By faith we take the bread of His life like we take natural bread and chew on it

 - b. By faith we declare, take all of me as I offer my all to you Lord

12. "If you have any question as to whether you have drunk, I will tell you how to solve it — drink again! If you have been eating, and you have really forgotten whether you have eaten or not — ... eat again! If you want to be assured that you have believed in Jesus, believe again (Spurgeon)

13. This faith is a transforming faith

14. It will cause you to receive what God say's about you

15. *For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more (Jeremiah 31:34)*

- a. *I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts* (Jeremiah 31:33).
- b. This covenant is all about a new, close relationship with God: *I will be their God, and they shall be My people* (Jeremiah 31:33).

16. They ended by singing a hymn

- a. Psalm 116-118
- b. **Psalm 116 1-2** I love the Lord, because He has heard My voice *and* my supplications. ² Because He has inclined His ear to me, Therefore I will call *upon Him* as long as I live.

17. Jesus was giving us an example to worship at all times, especially during difficult times.

18. God is always at work

- a. His love is unchanging
- b. His purpose will be accomplished
 - i. I'm to trust Him and begin by obeying what He's saying to me