



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM
FOR THE SERMON PREACHED: Nov 19, 2017
"The Lord's Supper"
PASSAGE: Mark 14:12-25

1. Read Mark 14:12-25 and Exodus 12:1-13. In the tenth plague, how were people saved from the wrath of God? The Passover was looking back to God's salvation, but also looking forward to a better sacrifice that would free his people forever from their sins. Why is it so significant that Jesus is sharing the Passover meal with the disciples? As you consider the night of the 10th plague, certainly the Jews would have been tempted to fear (Will this blood work? Am I good enough? Is my faith really sincere? Am I really forgiven? Have I done enough?) How should knowing that Jesus is your Passover Lamb give you even greater courage than the Israelites?

2. In Mark 14 Judas was about to betray Jesus. Why do you think none of the disciples seemed to suspect him, but rather were surprised? (For more details read, John 13:21-30.) How could Judas have been with Jesus, had seen his miracles, been under his teaching and preaching, participated in feasts in the past... and yet have a heart of betrayal that seemed to fly under the radar? In what ways should small group accountability guard you from areas of unbelief that are flying under the radar?

3. In Mark 14:12-25 what details show us Christ's sovereignty over the details leading up to his death? What would have been difficult or confusing if you were one of the disciples following Christ's preparation instructions? In John 6:60-71 Jesus preaches a message in which many of his disciples were confused. How does verse 68 show Peter was trusting Christ as his final authority in his life? How can you show the same trust through confusing times (ie. sickness, betrayal, loneliness, persecutions, etc.)?

4. How does Mark 14:21a reveal that Jesus surrendered to the Father's will? In verses 34-36, Jesus surrendered again to the Father's will. List what Christ was experiencing and struggling with. What was the primary reason Jesus continued to obey the Father? Think through your current life experiences and struggles. In what ways are you needing to surrender to the Father's will, and why will it require faith?
5. In Mark 14:22-25 we read about communion. In what major way is communion different than the Passover feast? 'Penal substitutionary atonement' is a theological term used to describe the work Christ did to earn our salvation through his life, death, and resurrection. His death was 'penal' in that he bore a penalty when he died. His death was 'substitutionary' in that he was a substitute for us when he died.¹ With this doctrine in mind what would you say to someone who says, "If God is loving, why doesn't he just forgive people?"

f. BREAKOUT

How is your small group accountability partnership going? How can you tighten up your own accountability (ie. regular meeting times, honest discussions, courageously challenge each other, etc.)

Memory Verse

Isaiah 53:6 "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned —every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

¹ The definition for penal substitutionary atonement was taken from Wayne Grudem's Systematic Theology, pg. 568,579.