

# Lesson Notes: Mark 14:12-26

## Introductory Questions

1. How do you comprehend the concept of communion? When you grew up or attended another church, what did that church teach you about The Lord's Supper?
2. As the disciples reclined with Jesus, they asked Him, "Is it I, Lord?" None of them accused another disciple of betraying Jesus; rather, they all looked inward. What do you make of this?
3. His body = the bread, His blood = the wine. How does this make Jesus the fulfillment of God's covenant?
4. Respond to this quote by Frederick Buechner: "A sacrament is when something holy happens. It is transparent time, time which you can see through to something deep inside .... Needless to say, church isn't the only place where the holy happens. Sacramental moments can occur at any moment, any place, to anybody. Watching something get born. Making love. A High-school graduation. Somebody coming to see you when they're sick. A meal with people you love. Looking into a stranger's eyes and finding out he's not a stranger. If we weren't blind as bats, we might see that life itself is sacramental." ~ From Wishful Thinking

## Preparations

### Betrayal

John 6:70,71 "Have I not chosen you, the Twelve? Yet one of you is a devil!" (He meant Judas Iscariot, who, though one of the Twelve, was later to betray Him.)

Did Judas have a choice? Why did he allow Jesus to wash his feet, yet leave before their Passover communion?

### The Lord's Supper

Matthew 26:17-30: Judas identifies himself

John 6:25-58: "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is real food and My blood is real drink." Verses 53-55

## Conclusion: Communion, I Corinthians 11:23-34

- Be temperate, wait on each other, don't overdo portions
- Examine yourself before you eat and drink
- Judge yourself or you'll be judged if you do this in an unworthy manner
- This is related to weakness and sickness

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## Application Questions

- Connect these: “By the memory of Jesus Christ gather together your mind that is scattered abroad. Through the Fall this disintegration has happened, but memory of God restores primal wholeness.” ~ Philotheus of Sinai, tenth century. “Do this in remembrance of Me.” ~ Jesus, Luke 22:19
- Skim John 6:32, 33; 48-51; 53-58. Some of these truths are difficult to receive in words and sound (not meaning to be irreverent!) cannabalistic. How is the Holy Spirit helping you make sense of these deep words? What do they mean?
- Most scholars think that Judas left before communion but after the foot washing. They picture Judas at the table, receiving the “sop” from Jesus, then leaving; then Jesus and the others continued with the bread and wine. Do you think it is significant that Judas left before the Lord’s Supper? What are your reasons?
- Discuss today’s/tonight’s communion.