



## Before the Lesson

**Read the Scripture and overview below before your LIFE Group meets.**

Scripture passages: Isaiah 53, Matthew 21:1-11, Romans 5:8

Strong desire, zeal, and intense emotion are all words used to describe “passion,” but how do these definitions fit into *The Passion*? While “The Passion of Christ” refers to the sufferings of Christ, we can also accurately say that *The Passion of Christ* had everything to do with God’s strong desire, zeal, intense emotion, and amazing love for His people. God’s passion is evident in His work to satisfy His wrath and resolve our crisis of judgment by sending His Son. God’s holiness, God’s love, and God’s mercy intersected and met between a cross and the crown prince of Heaven, Jesus Christ. Eternity will be a boundless and ceaseless celebration of God’s gracious initiative and Christ’s complete work of salvation for us.

### Focus question:

**What is your response to the Passion of Jesus Christ?**

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## Group Discussion

- Read Matthew 21:1-11 along with Luke 19:28-48. What does Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem say about the authority of Jesus, the character of Jesus, and the heart of Jesus?
- To what does Luke 19:41-44 refer? What does this tell you about Jesus’ passion for the nation of Israel?
- Read Matthew 26:1-2. The disciples did not understand fully what Jesus meant when He said, “and the Son of Man will be delivered to be crucified.” Rather than being carried out of Jerusalem on a throne and hailed as the King of Israel, He would carry His own cross to a hill called Golgotha. We have the same inability to understand sometimes. We see the circumstances going on around us but fail to understand the meaning in light of eternity. Can you describe a time when this has happened to you? How did something that seemed so wrong turn out to be right when understood with an eternal perspective?
- In Matthew 26:17-29 Jesus shares the Passover meal and institutes the first Lord’s Supper with His disciples. From where did the Passover originate, and how does the setting of the original Passover foreshadow the coming of Christ?
- Have you placed the blood of Jesus over the door of your heart for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you know someone who you need to share the Gospel with this week? Will you share it?
- In reading the account of the first Lord’s Supper in Luke 22:20, Jesus speaks of the “new covenant.” What does Hebrews 8:1-13 say about the Old versus the New Covenant? Who was the mediator of

the Old Covenant? Who was the mediator of the New Covenant? What was present in the institution of both covenants? How sure were these covenants?

- Talk through the events that occurred in Matthew chapters 26-27, and describe the significant details of King Jesus' walk into death.
  - Gethsemane
  - Betrayal by Judas and arrest in the garden
  - Delivered to Pilate
  - Condemned before the people
  - Mocked and beaten by Roman soldiers
  - Taken to the Place of the Skull
  - Nailed to a cross
  - The torn veil
  - His death
- How does the suffering, crucifixion, death, and burial of Jesus demonstrate that He did not come to display power and deliver a political restoration, but rather He came to provide a covering and cleansing from the stain, separation, and judgment of sin?
- In what ways was King Jesus the man of promise and the man of provision?
- Through the prophecies that were unveiled and ultimately fulfilled in the Bible, we see the divine providence of God. Discuss what the providence of God is. In what ways have you seen the providence of God in your own life? Do you pray for God's providence in your life?
- Isaiah 53 paints a vivid picture of what Jesus did for us. End your group time by reading and praying through this passage. What is your response to the Passion of Jesus Christ?

### Further Study (to be used in your personal Quiet Time)

Use the following daily reading guide to prepare your heart for the resurrection of our Lord next Sunday.

- Monday – John 13
- Tuesday – John 14
- Wednesday – John 15-16
- Thursday – John 17-18
- Friday – John 19
- Saturday – Isaiah 53
- Sunday – John 20

#### **Joshua Code memory verse:**

*And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.* – Philippians 1:6

### Family Time

Make an Easter garland using these name/phrases of Jesus. Talk about each name/phrase and why it is significant.

- Hosanna – Zechariah 9:9, Matthew 21:6-11
- Son of Man – Daniel 7:13-1, Mark 14:61-62
- This is my body – Luke 22:14-19
- Lamb of God – Genesis 22:8, Isaiah 53:7, John 1:29
- Jesus – Matthew 1:21
- This is my blood – Luke 22:21
- King of the Jews – Matthew 27:37, Mark 15:2
- He is Risen! – Hosea 6:2, Matthew 12:40, 28:6