

LAST SUPPER AND FOOT WASHING

Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22:7-38; John 13:1-17



BIBLE VERSE COMMITTING TO MEMORY



January 22, 2012

1 Corinthians 11:24-25

This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me. This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.



STORY LESSON BIBLE STORY

"The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,

'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.'

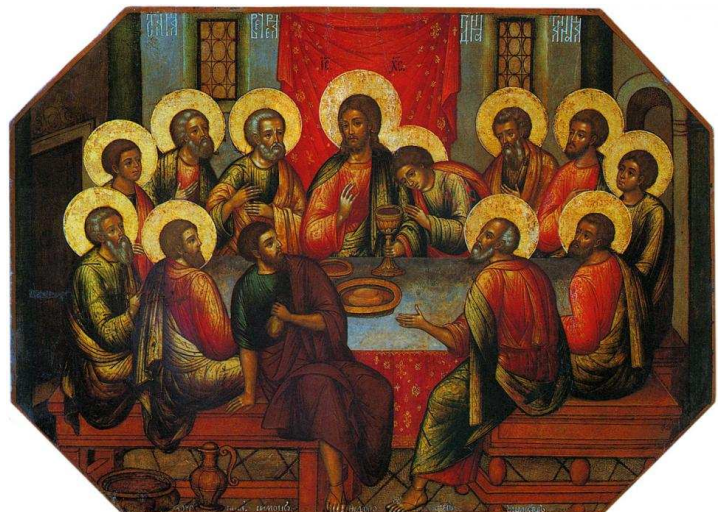
In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till he comes."

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

The Last Supper. An extremely symbolic and meaningful moment; one that Jesus told His followers to REMEMBER to do often.

Jesus ate this Last Supper with His disciples as part of the Passover feast—the time when Israel remembered how God has rescued them from the angel of death and had brought them safely out of Egypt and headed toward the Promised Land. Well, Passover was about to get a whole new





meaning entirely. Jesus was going to be that Passover lamb that was sacrificed to cause the Lord to *passover* the house with blood on it. Jesus' body, represented by the bread, was broken for Israel, thus for the world. Jesus also gave his blood, represented by the cup of wine, for the forgiveness of sins. A powerful image of sacrifice and love.

Jesus asked for this "last supper," or communion as we tend to refer to it today, to be repeated over and over again in order to remember, in holy communion with other Jesus-followers, the sacrifice and atonement for sins.

In John's gospel, the author records Jesus washing the feet of His disciples in order to show them what to do for each other. Jesus implored his disciples to **SERVE** one another just as he had done by washing their feet. It is also has symbolic overtones of Jesus washing away our sins on the cross.





LIFE APPLICATION

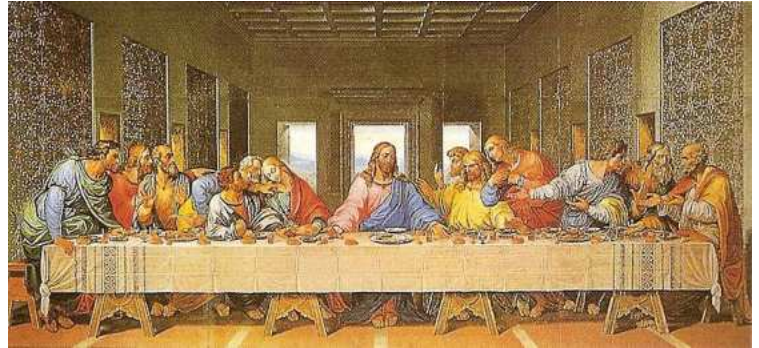
MAKING IT REAL

Communion

This is an incredibly symbolic undertaking. Jesus took ordinary elements from the dinner table and put unique meaning to them in order to remind his disciples and eventual followers of his broken body (bread) and his shed blood (wine). Everyone eats something and drinks something when they eat a meal. Perhaps taking communion or remembering Jesus doesn't just have to be at church on a Sunday morning. Rather, Jesus' sacrifice could be remembered every time we eat a meal (that's like three times a day!)

Serving

Jesus had spent a number of years with his disciples. He knew their strengths and weaknesses. A weakness he had seen often was selfishness—always trying to be first or noticed as the greatest. In order to teach and model a valuable lesson, Jesus literally showed them how to serve one another by doing the lowest thing a servant could do—wash someone's feet. Jesus wanted his disciples to serve one another, not to be in charge of one another. The kingdom of God belongs to those who SERVE each other out of love and respect.



QUESTIONS

REMEMBERING

- 1. What was the Jewish holiday that Jesus and his disciples were celebrating?**
Passover
- 2. What did the bread that Jesus broke stand for?** Jesus' broken body
- 3. What did the wine stand for?** Jesus' shed blood
- 4. Why do we do communion or the Lord's Supper?** To remember Jesus and his sacrifice
- 5. Why did Jesus wash his disciples' feet?** To show them how they are supposed to serve one another
- 6. Do you find serving your family, friends and other difficult or easy? Why?**



COLORING SHEET

ON THE NEXT PAGE



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