

Lent: The Last Seven Days – Mark Scene 36

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Mark 14:12-25

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Reflection & Discussion Questions

Jesus and the disciples shared a meal that took a depressing turn

*When was a time that you have been at a dinner party or meal and it just didn't go right?

Read and discuss Mark 14:12-19 (NIV)

¹² On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

¹³ So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴ Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

¹⁶ The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

¹⁷ When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. ¹⁸ While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me." ¹⁹ They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?" ²⁰ "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. ²¹ The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

*What is this passage saying? What does it show us about God?

*What does this passage seem to be saying to you specifically? Is there something here to act on or share?

*Where do you see yourself in this story? What would it be like to be one of the disciples in this moment?

The disciples were at the table because Jesus invited them

We are invited too, in all our failures and faults, in the brokenness of our humanity.

*What can we learn from the kind of men that were sitting at this table with Jesus?

*How does that inform us about our welcome at His table?

Read and discuss Mark 14:22 -24 (NIV)

²² While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body." ²³ Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it. ²⁴ "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them.

We are invited into a special commemoration regardless of our failures

The bread and the wine signal to us today that Jesus wants us at the table.

*What does it say about Jesus to have this powerful scene take place around a meal?

*Some have said that to understand the cross you have to start at this meal. Do you agree?

*Do you think the elements used in remembrance matter? What about who is at the table?

*What does it look like to carry this meal with us into our homes, our lives, and communities – especially now?

For additional resources for growth or connection during COVID-19 restrictions, please contact Caitlin cgarrett@pulpitrock.com