

MATTHEW 26:1-29

PRAY: Thanking Jesus for His sacrifice and for the tangible reminders He gives us of our dependence on Him and gratitude for Him.

REST: Make note of anything you have been thinking about today and set it aside to focus on God's Word and work for this time.

READ: Through the section once. Consider how these sections connect to each other and also to the book of Matthew so far, as we move towards His death and resurrection. Examine any connections you find and read through the section again, evaluating how you are convicted or encouraged through this passage.

Consider & Respond to these questions:

What is revealed about Jesus and who He is through this section?

How are disciples portrayed?

How can you respond to this section, practically?

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QUESTIONS FROM SUNDAY

Reflecting on this Sunday's teaching, respond to these questions:

What is the significance of the Lord's Supper Biblically? Why does the church perform this tradition? Use scripture as background to your thoughts and share these with your group.

What is the significance of the Lord's Supper to you personally? Think in terms of your relationship to Jesus.

Is it important that every detail of salvation was planned and known beforehand? Why? How does this affect your faith and daily life?

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

It is easy to forget the precision with which Jesus' sacrifice and our redemption and reconciliation had been planned. The exact timing and symbolism of the Passover feast, and the religious leaders' desire to avoid a riot by waiting until it was over; the exact timing of the woman's expensive and life-altering repentance, which also anointed Jesus for His burial; Jesus' knowledge that Judas would betray Him, and had, in fact, already sold Him out; and the preparation of a "certain man" to have His home ready and open to Jesus and His disciples. It is easy to forget that our redemption had been planned since the beginning of the world, and that God spares no detail. It is perhaps partially because we so easily forget that Jesus established, just hours before His arrest, a physical, tangible institution—the Lord's Supper—to give us something to do to remember. Another name for the Lord's Supper is Communion, which means an intimate exchange of words or ideas or thoughts, and yet another is the Greek word Eucharist, which means thanksgiving or offer graciously. Even the names given to this action are reminders—we take the bread and the drink in thankfulness of Jesus' gracious offering which allows us intimacy and reconciliation with Him.

Jesus Honored: Mark 1:7-8, 11:7-10; Luke 7:36-50; John 3:28-30, 5:22-23; Acts 21:11-14; Philippians 1:18-28; 1 Peter 4:12-17; Revelation 5:9-14

Lord's Supper & New Covenant: Exodus 12:1-14; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:14-20; John 6:35-58; 1 Corinthians 10:14-22, 11:17-34; Hebrews 8, 9:15-28

Foreordained Plan: Genesis 3:15; Luke 24:6-9; John 6:61-65, 13:1-5, 19:28-30; Acts 2:22-36; 2 Timothy 1:8-12; Titus 1:1-3; 1 Peter 1:20-21; Revelation 13:8

As you read, some questions to think about and respond to are:

What does it look like to honor Jesus? What sorts of examples are we given?

TO MEMORIZE: MATTHEW 26:26-28
