

# Lent 2

## The Last Supper



**Key Scriptures:** Luke 22:1-34

**Big Idea:** Jesus gave the new covenant through His sacrifice.

### Teaching Points:

+ The trap was laid.

Here we read that Satan entered Judas (Luke 22:3), who then went to the chief priests to make arrangements to betray Jesus. The Pharisees knew where Jesus was in the day, healing the sick and speaking to the crowds, but the crowds intimidated them because the Pharisees lived for the approval of man (John 14:23). They wanted to arrest Jesus when the crowds were not around. A nighttime betrayal would allow the Pharisees to arrest Jesus without the public seeing what happened. Judas' betrayal was their way in.

+ The true Passover Lamb was soon to be sacrificed.

The cross was not easy for Jesus and He tells the disciples of His struggle. He tells them His soul is troubled and indicates He will die on the cross when He says, "When I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." (John 12:32) Unlike the disciples understanding, Jesus would not be lifted up onto an earthly throne. Instead, Jesus would be lifted up onto a wooden cross.

+ Jesus' closest followers didn't understand the plan.

Just hours away from the cross, Jesus' disciples didn't realize He was about to sacrifice His life. In spite of all Jesus told them about His need to suffer and die, the disciples seemed oblivious and were more concerned about their own status of "who is greater?" Jesus warned them that they would fall away. Though Peter boasted he would not, he drew his confidence from Jesus' power not realizing Jesus hadn't come to fight an earthly battle. He came to win a greater war against sin and death. Jesus, who knew the road of suffering ahead informed Peter that even he would soon deny Jesus.

### Gospel Connection:

How does today's Bible story fit into God's greater plan of redemption?

The Passover meal was the clearest picture of God's redemption in the Old Testament. The first Passover took place in Egypt, when the angel of death "passed over" the homes where the lamb's blood was painted on the doorposts and lintels. On the night before Jesus' crucifixion, at the Passover meal, the disciples learned that Jesus, the Lamb of God, was going to shed His blood for all mankind. For those who believe, Jesus' blood covers their sin so that when the judgement of God comes in their direction, it will pass over and bring them no harm.

The Passover story points to the new covenant, which Jesus introduced at the Last Supper. A covenant is a promise or commitment. Jesus introduced His commitment and promise to the disciples. His blood was shed and His body was broken so that we might be forgiven and brought into fellowship with God. Today we celebrate the Passover in the new covenant celebration of the Lord's Supper, also known as "Communion."

## Object Lesson

A Betrayer Among You (10minutes)

*Supplies:*

+ small prizes for all students

This activity is designed to show the real contrast between Jesus' kindness and the harshness of betrayal.

Prior to class, enlist the help of a "betrayer." Explain the rules of the game (below) and tell them to secretly tell you the number their group decides on by putting a hand behind their back and holding up one, two, three, four, or all five fingers.

Divide the class into groups of five. Tell the class that each group is to secretly agree on a number from one to five, and you will demonstrate your skill at guessing the number they picked.

You will be blind-guessing numbers for all the groups except for the one with the betrayer. Each group that stumps you gets one prize for each person in their group. After about five rounds, the group with the traitor should be getting upset. Once the exercise has gone on long enough or if the traitor is found out, stop the exercise, tell the betrayer's group what you did, and give them all an equal share of the treat.

Lead a discussion by posing the following questions:

+ Ask the group with the betrayer how it felt to be betrayed.

+ Why is betrayal such an evil sin?

*(It takes advantage of trust and reveals the deception of faking friendship.)*

+ What does Judas' betrayal tell us about him?

*(he was unfaithful. He was not a true friend to Jesus.)*

+ Are we like Judas?

*(Apart from God's grace to turn away from our sins, we are sinners just as Judas was. People all around us mock the Lord and do what they want for their own gain. People also cheat and betray their spouses and their friends. In this way they sin in the same ways Judas did.)*

From washing the disciples' feet to His sacrifice on the cross, talk about the amazing kindness shown to the disciples and to us by Jesus.

**Remember to take time and**

# Pray

## Lent Meaning/Description:

Today is the second week of our remembrance time of Lent.

Encourage the students to take a moment to reflect on Jesus' kindness and compassion to us. Jesus is King over all, yet He humbled Himself to obedience, even to death on the cross. Through His act of love, our sins are washed away in this new covenant. As Christians, we can be forgiven and brought into fellowship with Almighty God.