

CROSSROAD



From Praise to Passion

A six week journey for the season of Lent
2022

Week #4

Mark 14:1-31; Matthew 26:1-35; Luke 22:1-38

John 12:1-9, 20 through chapter 17

“The Passover” or “Oh, And Another Thing...”

Scripture Stories: Jesus is anointed for burial by a woman, who is berated for her act. Judas agrees to betray Jesus. Jesus and his disciples celebrate the Passover (Last Supper, or Seder).

Focus Scripture: Mark 14:24 "And he said, 'This is my blood, poured out for many, sealing the covenant between God and his people.'"

Overview: In last week's lesson Jesus reveals dark events from the future. This week, we'll spend time with Jesus and his disciples as they're meeting for dinner in Bethany, and then prepare for the Passover dinner. There is an abundance of reading this week. Try to read over several days. We'll experience Judas' betrayal, Jesus' last minute instructions to his disciples, and his institution of the sacrament of communion.

SOME DEFINITIONS:

PASSOVER SEDER: The annual celebration of Israel's freedom from Egypt's bondage and slavery, is still celebrated by Jews around the world. The Seder has a liturgy, and is rife with symbolism. The disciples would have been familiar with the liturgy. Jesus leads the liturgy, but adds some explanation, which we use in our communion liturgy.

THE CUP: Each of the four cups of wine in the Passover meal has a name and meaning. The cup Jesus raised "after dinner" was named the "Cup of Redemption." This is the cup which Jesus said is "my blood, shed for you."

UNLEAVENED BREAD: In the liturgy of the Passover, there is a specific time when a piece of unleavened bread is broken and shared. It has a name, "Afikomen." Jesus holds up a broken piece and says it is his body. The bread does not have leaven (leaven being considered a symbol of sin). It has been pierced, and grilled, (striped). Broken, sinless, pierced and striped. A picture of Jesus on the cross.

Judas prepares to betray Jesus

Matthew 26:1-5, 14-16; Luke 22:1-6

"Jesus is Anointed"

Mark 14:1-11; Matthew 26:1-13; John 12:1-11

"Passover Seder"

Mark 14:12-31; Matthew 26:1-5, 14-35; Luke 22:1-38

A word about Judas. Judas is a Zealot. At the time, Zealots were a faction of the Jewish population who were looking for a way to overcome the Roman occupation, and willing to do so by force and violence. Judas had seen Jesus miraculously escape from harm. He's also seen Jesus do countless miracles. Perhaps he believed Jesus was going to overthrow the Romans. Perhaps his plan was to force Jesus' hand, to place Jesus in the center of power to "work his magic" and restore the kingdom to Israel. Imagine his shock when Jesus did not try to walk away this time.

Try to imagine you are with Jesus and those around him.his disciples, and probably many others.

- o What do you see?
- o What do you hear?
- o What do you smell?
- o What might you feel?
- o Do you taste anything?

What do you wonder about these passages?
