

Dundonald Youth: Luke

Week 3: The Lord's Supper

Open in prayer: Ask God to be with you, speaking to you through his word, helping you to trust Jesus Christ.

DO THIS STUDY FIRST, then listen to Pete TG talk - 'Youth Bible Series 3'

Starter Question: Why are we 'Christians' and not 'Jews'? Why don't we celebrate Jewish festivals like the Passover, like God's people in the Old Testament did? *It's an interesting question! One we'll get to explore a bit more over the course of this study and the talk...*

Read Luke 22:1-6.

What festival is approaching? What do you know about the significance of this celebration? *The Festival of Unleavened Bread = the Passover festival, when God's people remembered and celebrated the time that God powerfully brought judgement on Pharaoh and Egypt, and rescued Israel from slavery, taking them across the Red Sea and to the Promised Land. On the Passover night Israel killed a lamb, painted the blood on their doorposts, and the plague of the death of the first born 'passed over' them - and God told them to remember and celebrate this great deliverance.¹*

Why do the chief priests and teachers of the law need an inside man to betray Jesus? *Verse 2, they want to 'get rid of Jesus', and verse 6 explains that they want to do it quietly, when no crowds are around. Huge crowds would be in Jerusalem for the festival, and the political situation with the Romans was volatile, and they didn't want the excitable crowd to turn into a riot. Jesus has been growing in popularity (which they're jealous about!) so they need someone close to him to help them get to him without upsetting the public.*

Why does Judas betray Jesus? *In the other gospels we read that Judas was the disciple in charge of their money, but he was secretly stealing from them. Clearly Judas loved money more than he loved Jesus, and in fact he wasn't a true disciple. It isn't that Satan forced Judas to betray Jesus, but that what Judas decided to do was evil and wicked and indeed Luke highlights this by mentioning Satan by name as Judas agrees to betray Jesus for a fee. For extra reading on this check out this article²*

Read Luke 22:7-13.

What details do you notice? What are we reminded of as we read these verses? *Straight away in verse 7 we are reminded that on this very day the Passover lambs are being sacrificed - ominous if we've realised that Jesus is the true Passover lamb! The Passover is clearly the theme dominating the foreground (v8,v11,v13) but notice the similarity to the Triumphal Entry last week in Luke 19:28-36! Everything exactly as Jesus said; Jesus is in total control, not taken by surprise, or ambushed by events...*

¹ Read Exodus 12 for details regarding yeast and the unleavened bread!

² <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/what-would-judas-do>

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Read Luke 22:14-18.

Jesus and his disciples would have celebrated many Passover meals (it's an annual festival!) - why is this one different / special? Jesus has been eager to eat *this* Passover with them because of what is *about* to happen. Everything that the Passover celebrated represented, and pointed forwards to, is about to be fulfilled as Jesus establishes the Kingdom of God through his death & resurrection!

Read Luke 22:19-20.

Why do Christians celebrate the Lord's Supper instead of the Passover? The Passover was like a pre-trailer, not the real thing. God's **true** Kingdom is an eternal, heavenly Kingdom - the *earthly* Kingdom of Israel was *pointing forwards* to help us understand the real thing. God's **true** rescue and deliverance was through Jesus Christ - the Passover festival was *pointing forwards* to help us understand the real thing. Christians eat bread and drink wine to remember the *real thing* - the sacrificial death of the Lord Jesus!

Read Luke 22:21-24.

What strikes you about these verses? Judas was literally sharing this Passover meal with Jesus and the other disciples - what a shocking and terrible betrayal?! But v22, this wasn't a surprise to Jesus. I'm also so struck by v23->v24: the revelation about impending betrayal doesn't seem to have shocked / humbled the disciples... they're straight onto the next topic of conversation - 'who is the GREATEST out of them'?!

Read Luke 22:25-30.

What surprises do we discover about God's Kingdom in these verses? The way of God's Kingdom is upside down and opposite to the way of the world. The rulers / leaders / greatest should be *like* the youngest / least / servants. Look at Jesus' example?! The greatest person ever, serving them and sacrificing himself.

There is also the surprise at how patient Jesus is with his disciples! They're arguing about who is the greatest, but he graciously recognises they have stood by his side (v28) and they too will suffer like him, but they **too** will be glorified like him in the Kingdom, as a *new* Israel. We'll read in the book of Acts after Easter the key role these Apostles play in the continuing story of the Kingdom of God!

NOW LISTEN TO PTG TALK - Youth Bible Series 3

Final Application Question: What would it look like for you to express faith in Jesus this week?

I guess the first aspect of faith is believing. As you think with your head, as you contemplate with your heart... do you believe Jesus is who who claimed he is? Did he do, what he claims to have done? You might want to pray, and read his word to strengthen your relationship with him. You might want to talk to someone about identifying as a believer: Would you like to be baptised / confirmed? Stuck in at church? Take the Lord's Supper? You could talk to someone this week about these things. And how can you serve others, eg. family in lockdown? Even when it costs you time / effort / energy / patience?

Pray: Worship Jesus and thank him for pouring out his blood for *us*. Ask for help to follow him!

Listen/Sing: He's our Rescuer - Rend Collective (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sAg7rn7fH3Q>)

Meditate: Luke 22:19