

Sermon Reflections

The Last Supper • Matthew 26:17–30

Summary: Feed your faith by looking constantly to the cross, where His faithfulness and love remain unwavering.

1. Rest in the Guidance of His Plan (vv. 17–19)

- We see that Jesus has prearranged His plans. He makes it clear that He is in complete control of everything that is going to happen to Him and His plan plays out in verse 19 exactly how He says it will. How does Jesus' complete control encourage your daily walk? In joyful times? In times of trial?

2. Recognize the Grief of His Betrayal (vv. 20–25)

- Even though Jesus was in complete control, it doesn't mean that it was easy for Him to experience His plan play out. Betrayal shows the ugliness of sin. Jesus knows the pain of betrayal just like we will experience in our lives. Jesus knew all along that it was Judas who betrayed him. Even so, how did Jesus treat Judas?
- What do Jesus' actions teach us about how we should treat one another in the face of hardship and betrayal?

3. Remember the Gift of His Death (vv. 26–30)

- *Verses 26-28: Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying "Drink of it, all of you, For this is my blood of the covenant, which poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."*
 - Jesus is saying to his disciples (and to us!!) – Take my body, this a gift for you where I will bear your affliction.
 - There is nothing more glorious than for our Savior to give Himself as a gift for us. Blood had to be spilled for a new covenant to be made and this new covenant accomplished forgiveness that we cannot earn on our own. Jesus is a sympathetic high priest to anyone who calls to Him. We need to continuously look to the cross and remember this gift that Jesus gave each and every one of us.
 - How will you apply this to your daily life? How can you use this gift to encourage and build one another up?