

Week of May 12 - A New Covenant | Small Group Lesson 3

Connect

Does your family ordinarily pray before meals? How? Why?

Verses - Matthew 26:26-30 (CSB)

26 As they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take and eat it; this is my body.” 27 Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them and said, “Drink from it, all of you. 28 For this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 But I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” 30 After singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Related Passages: *(Mark 14:22–25; Luke 22:14-20; and I Corinthians 11:23–25).*

Study

1. What is ***unique*** about the meal described here (vv.26-30) compared to all of the other meals that Jesus shared with his disciples previously?

   Hint: consider the implications of vv.29,30 and what follows.
   Hint: Why is this meal sometimes referred to as "The Last Supper"

2. Why do you think Jesus ***blessed*** the bread (v.26) and ***gave thanks*** for the cup (v.27) before giving these to his disciples?

3. Why did Jesus refer to the blessed and broken bread as his ***body***? What is the meaning of this symbol (i.e. bread as body) and how is it helpful?

4. What do you think was (literally) ***in*** the cup? (hints: v.27, v. 29)

5. Why did Jesus, after giving thanks, refer to the wine as "***my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.***"? What is the meaning of this symbol (i.e. wine as blood) and how is it helpful?

6. Is it important to notice that the bread and wine were ***shared among all of the disciples*** at the same time and place. Why or why not?

7. **SHARE**: If you are comfortable doing so, please share with the group how the Lord's Supper has been meaningful and important to you.

Magnify

Based on today's lesson,

- Thank God the Father for his magnificent salvation plan.
- Thank God the Son for having given his body and blood to save us.
- Thank God the Holy Spirit for drawing us to Christ and salvation.
- Ask God - Father, Son and Spirit - to keep us safe and steadfast in our faith and never forget, neglect, or misunderstand The Lord's Supper.
- Take prayer requests and pray for each other.