

Discussion Guide

Date: August 23, 2026

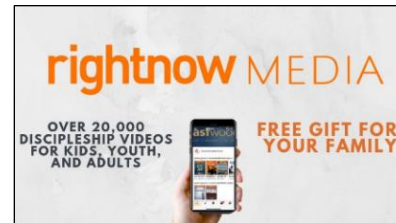
Sermon Title:

“The Commitment of Communion”



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SCRIPTURE REFERENCES (NASB unless otherwise noted)

Matthew 26:17-35

¹⁷Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?" ¹⁸And He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, "My time is near; I am keeping the Passover at your house with My disciples."'" ¹⁹The disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover. ²⁰Now when evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the twelve. ²¹And as they were eating, He said, "Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me." ²²Being deeply grieved, they began saying to Him, each one: "Surely it is not I, Lord?" ²³And He answered, "He who dipped his hand with Me in the bowl is the one who will betray Me. ²⁴The Son of Man is going away just as it is written about Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born." ²⁵And Judas, who was betraying Him, said, "Surely it is not I, Rabbi?" Jesus said to him, "You have said it yourself." ²⁶Now while they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." ²⁷And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸for this is My blood of the covenant, which is being poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. ²⁹But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it with you, new, in My Father's kingdom." ³⁰And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ³¹Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I WILL STRIKE THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP OF THE FLOCK WILL BE SCATTERED.'" ³²But after I have been raised, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." ³³But Peter replied to Him, "Even if they all fall away because of You, I will never fall away!" ³⁴Jesus said to him, "Truly I say to you that this very night, before a rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." ³⁵Peter said to Him, "Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!" All the disciples said the same thing as well.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Exodus 12 **Mark 14:12-16** **Psalms 41:9**
1 Corinthians 11:23-26 **1 Corinthians 10:16**

OPENING DISCUSSION

1. What was the main thing you learned from the sermon?
2. What questions do you have about anything that was raised during the message?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What commitments to God have you failed or struggled with?
2. What parallels do you see with the Passover and Christ?
3. How would you respond to someone who says the Gospels contradict one another?
4. What insights do you gain when you consider the betrayal of Judas, Peter's denial, and the disciples abandonment, in relationship to your own struggles?
5. How do you resolve the tension between God's will being done and man's free-will being involved?
6. How can the prediction of Peter's denial serve as encouragement during our moments of weakness in faith?
7. How can Christians who believe differently about Communion, still practice and promote unity among those who believe differently?
8. In what ways can you show grace to others when they make mistakes, similar to how Jesus showed grace to His disciples?
9. How has your understanding and trust of God's commitment become stronger over time?
10. What can we do to increase our faithfulness to God?