



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“Matthew 26:17-30” on October 7 & 10, 2021

CONNECT

How did last week’s passage we read/discussed from Matthew 26:1-16 affect your week?

DISCOVER: MATTHEW 26:17-30

1. What did the passage say (in your own words) or did you take away from the sermon this week?
2. How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?
3. Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn’t understand, phrases that didn’t make sense, etc.)?

Matthew’s writings in these 16 verses contrast Mary’s extravagant, worshipful anointing of Jesus for burial with Judas’ first steps to betray Him. There is much we can learn from the choices Mary and Judas made!

MATTHEW 26:17-30 describes the Passover meal Jesus shared with His 12 disciples on the first day of Passover Week, just one day before His crucifixion. The Passover meal was an annual celebration set forth in Exodus 12 to commemorate God’s deliverance of the Hebrew nation from 400 years of slavery in Egypt; it also encouraged the Jews to remember what God had done in their lives the past year. This celebration would have been very familiar to each of the disciples, but Jesus broke with tradition on this occasion as He used the symbols of the traditional meal to show that He was about to become the Sacrificial Lamb to deliver ALL people from slavery to sin. It is the words of Jesus at this meal that shape what we know and celebrate as ‘Communion.’

COMMUNION: At CU Church we observe communion every week...but what is each of us thinking about as we partake of the bread and the cup?

- Prior to studying this passage and hearing the sermon on it, what would you say communion meant to you?
- Why do you choose to take communion? How do you feel as you are taking it and after you have taken it?
- What are you thinking about when you take each communion element?

COMMUNION: What things SHOULD we be thinking about as we take the bread and the cup each week? What should we be celebrating and remembering? As a background for considering these questions, look at Exodus 12, I Corinthians 11:28 and Ephesians 2:4-5.

- **BETRAYAL** – Jesus revealed Judas as the one who would betray Him, yet we ALL betray Jesus in some way when we entrust parts of our lives to someone or something who ISN’T Jesus....what does betrayal mean to you? As you examine yourself, can you identify ways in which you have betrayed Jesus in your life? Are you willing to repent of those betrayals, knowing Jesus will respond to that repentance with love?
- **TAKE, EAT** – This is MY BODY: This is MY BLOOD. How do you think the disciples felt when they heard these words from Jesus – not the traditional statement used? Do you feel differently about Jesus’ words now that you have studied this passage, heard the sermon, and examined yourself?
- How does it feel to know that He sacrificed His life for YOU, and how will you receive and respond to that knowledge?
- **FORGIVENESS COMES ONLY THROUGH JESUS.** His blood, His sacrifice has opened up the way for all people to have a relationship with Him. With whom should you be sharing the importance of understanding what communion symbolizes and how important repentance is?
- What steps will you take to be certain communion doesn’t become commonplace to you and your family members? And what will you be thinking the next time you take the bread and cup in communion?



CHURCH

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE

SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.

RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

PRAY for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.