

NOTES

Scripture: Mark 14:12-31, Exodus 12

REVIEW AND INTRODUCTION

1. Looking back over your notes, what did you find most helpful, challenging, or interesting in this week's teaching? Was there anything you've never heard before or something that made you think differently?
2. Do you get excited about new things? What new things excite you - a new movie, car, or something else? Why?
3. At the beginning of the message, Chris quickly unpacked Israel's history from Genesis and Exodus. Did anything stand out to you as Chris walked us through this history?

MY STORY

1. Chris said whether you love Jesus or not, it's hard to argue against the fact that Jesus had the greatest impact on the world of anyone who has ever lived. Do you agree with this? What impact has Jesus made on the world? What impact has Jesus made on your life?
2. Jesus declared the start of a new age. What does that mean historically? What does that mean to us as Christians in the 21st Century?
3. Why do you think God gave both Abram (Abraham) and Jacob (Israel) new names? Why is someone's name important? What importance does God put on names in the Bible?
4. Read Exodus 12:1-2. Why do you think God commanded Moses exactly which day would be the first day of the year? Why would God be concerned with this? How does this apply to your relationship with God?
5. Jesus changed the script around the Seder dinner with the words He used when He broke the matzah and gave the third cup of wine (Matthew 26, Mark 14, and Luke 22), the same script used by Jewish people every Passover for 1400 years. Why was it necessary for Jesus to blow up 1400 years of tradition this way? Do you think His pronouncement tied to the Passover Seder meal in this fashion was able to get through to the apostles more effectively than if He had announced it differently? Are there any traditions in your life that Jesus might be trying to blow-up to get His message across to you?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read through these guiding scriptures and answer the corresponding questions.

Read Mark 14:18-21 and Mark 14:27-31

1. When Jesus dropped the bombshell in Mark 14:18-21 that one of his apostles was going to betray Him, they responded, “Surely it’s not me.” Can you relate to that sentiment – “surely it’s not me who will betray Jesus”?
2. Have you ever betrayed Jesus in your life or turned away from Him? How? How did you feel? What did you do about it afterward? How do you feel about it now?
3. With the bread and cup at the Seder meal, Jesus declared the beginning of a new age – the age of God’s presence in us and with us, the age of God’s mercy, forgiveness, and grace. What does this (the age of God’s mercy and grace) say in relation to the Apostles falling away by running away when Jesus was arrested? What does this say about your relationship with Him? What is Jesus saying to us when we make a choice to turn away from Him? Do you think He is saying “so long, nice to know you,” or is He calling us back to Him?

BRINGING IT HOME

1. God told Moses in Exodus 12:13 “when I see the blood, I will pass over you.” Take a minute and reflect on this statement. Ask yourself, what is God saying to me with this statement?
2. The four cups of wine of the Seder meal in order are: 1. the cup of sanctification (I will take you out of Egypt), 2. the cup of deliverance (I will save you from bondage), 3. the cup of redemption (I have bought you back), and 4. The cup of praise (I will take you to be My people). The message for each of these cups was and is precious to people who follow the Jewish faith, but they should also be precious to us as followers of Jesus. How do each of these cups reflect on who Jesus is to us as His followers?

The Story of Jesus
Part 44
This Is My Body

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November 14, 2021

3. Jesus changed the script with what He said when He broke the matzah and when He took up the third cup, the cup of redemption. When He did this, Jesus was saying “My body will be broken for you. I am purchasing you back; I am redeeming you – redeeming you from sin, redeeming you from Satan”. Does Jesus actually have the authority to do this? Why? Have you experienced this redemption? If so, what has the impact been on your life?

4. In doing this, Jesus declared Himself the sacrifice, the end of the old covenant and the beginning of the new covenant; Jesus fulfilled the promise God made to Abraham. Why do you think this was earth shattering to the apostles with Him? Why is this earth shattering to you today?

5. Reflect on Chris’ message. Who is Jesus to you? What (specifically) are you going to do with that knowledge? What is the significance of this to your life? How should you live in light of it?

6. Jesus’ sacrifice resulted in a new beginning for humanity. But even more personally, it means a new beginning for each of us – a new beginning for you. How does this new beginning Jesus gives each of us who follow Him leave you feeling? What does the new beginning mean to you? What specific differences does or has this new beginning made in your life?

7. If Jesus isn’t your savior, what’s keeping you from accepting His free gift of grace? What’s keeping you from accepting His redemption, forgiveness, mercy, and grace?

Your Next Steps are: 1) Reflect on the questions who is Jesus to you and does the way you live your life reflect that?