

Summary

This sermon focuses on the elements present at the Last Supper table and their spiritual significance for believers today. The pastor emphasizes that Jesus offers second chances and forgiveness to all who seek it, using Judas as an example of God's persistent grace. The message explores the symbolic meaning of each item on the Passover table - the roasted lamb representing Jesus as our sacrifice, unleavened bread symbolizing sinlessness, wine representing the Spirit and blood, bitter herbs reminding us not to focus on bitterness, and salt water representing the tears God collects and will one day wipe away. The pastor warns against allowing bitterness to take root in our hearts, as it prevents us from being blessed and moving forward in God's plan. The sermon concludes with a call to remember Jesus through communion, emphasizing that remembrance means 'bringing back together' while the enemy seeks to divide and scatter.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, we come before You with grateful hearts, thanking You for gathering us together in Your house today. Lord, we ask that You open our hearts and minds to receive what You want to teach us through Your Word. Help us to set aside any distractions, hurts, or bitterness that might prevent us from hearing Your voice clearly. Holy Spirit, move among us and unite us as one body, focused on Jesus and His love for us. Prepare our hearts to remember what Christ has done for us and to apply these truths to our daily lives. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What is your favorite family meal or holiday tradition, and what makes it special to you?

Key Verses

- Luke 22:7-20
- Exodus 12
- Hebrews 9:22
- Ephesians 1:7
- Ephesians 5:18

- Psalm 56:8
- John 11:35
- Luke 22:44
- Matthew 11:28
- 1 Corinthians 11:24
- Psalm 133:1

Questions

- How does knowing that Jesus would have died on the cross even if you were the only person on earth change your perspective on His love for you?
- The pastor mentioned that 'if you're bitter, you cannot be blessed.' What are some practical ways we can release bitterness and choose forgiveness instead?
- What does it mean to you that God collects every tear you shed and records them in His book?
- How can focusing on the 'main course' (Jesus) rather than the 'side dishes' (bitter experiences) change how we handle difficult situations?
- The pastor said that sometimes God has to 'subtract to add' in our lives. Can you think of a time when something difficult led to something better?
- What does it mean that we are 'walking and talking miracles of God' once we've accepted Jesus?
- How does taking communion help us 'remember' and bring our focus back to what's truly important?
- The pastor emphasized that 'God gathers and the devil scatters.' How can we promote unity in our families, church, and community?

Life Application

This week, identify any area of bitterness or unforgiveness in your heart. Spend time in prayer asking God to help you release it, and take one practical step toward reconciliation or healing in that relationship or situation. Also, make it a daily practice to remember what Jesus has done for you by spending a few minutes each morning thanking Him for His sacrifice and love.

Key Takeaways

- God is always the God of second, third, and fourth chances - it's never too late to seek His forgiveness
- Bitterness prevents us from being blessed, being a blessing, and moving forward in God's plan
- Every element of the Passover meal points to Jesus and His sacrifice for us
- God collects every tear we shed and will one day wipe them all away
- Communion is not just a routine but a recentering on what's truly important - Jesus and His love for us

Ending Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank You for the reminder of Your incredible love and sacrifice for us. Help us to release any bitterness we've been carrying and to focus on You as our main course, not the bitter herbs of life's difficulties. Thank You that You collect every tear and that one day You will wipe them all away. As we leave this place, help us to remember what You've done for us and to live in the unity and love You desire for Your people. May we be instruments of Your peace and reconciliation in our families and communities. We love You and thank You for never giving up on us. In Your precious name, Amen.