



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

LESSON 18 - STUDY QUESTIONS
LUKE 22:1 - 62

DAY ONE

1. What new or interesting fact(s) did you learn from last week's lesson (Lesson 17, Chapter 20:20 through Chapter 21)? At this point in Luke's story of Jesus' life, what are some words which you would use to describe Jesus?

Read Luke 22:1-13

2a. As today's lesson begins, the time for Passover, also called the festival of Unleavened Bread, drew near (verse 1). Tens of thousands of pilgrims entered Jerusalem to celebrate. What were the chief priests and scribes plotting to do and why do you think they were afraid of the people (verse 2)?

b. Judas called Iscariot, one of Jesus' twelve apostles, conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray Jesus to them (verse 4). How did Luke explain what caused Judas to betray Jesus in verse 3?

3a. In the Gospel of John, an aspect of Judas' character is revealed when a woman wiped Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Read [John 12:1-6](#) and record how Judas was described in verse 6.

b. Going back to chapter 22 of Luke, the leaders were greatly pleased at Judas' offer to betray Jesus and agreed to give Judas money (verse 5). What did Judas do (verse 6)?

4a. On the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed, Jesus sent Peter and John to prepare the Passover meal (verses 7-9). Summarize the directions He gave them in verses 10 and 11.

b. Jesus said that the owner would show them a large furnished room upstairs where they should make preparations for the meal. What did they find and what did they do (verse 13)?

5. Review God's "Passover" instructions to Moses (Exodus 12:3-14) on the eve of Israel's escape from Egypt in order that the angel of the Lord would "pass over" their houses and not strike down their firstborn children. What was to be sacrificed and what was to be done with its blood?

6. CONNECTION: In the original Passover, God commanded the Hebrew people to celebrate the sacred meal of lamb and bitter herbs every year throughout the generations. In so doing they cemented their covenant relationship with God. In obedience to God's command, Jesus and His disciples planned to eat the Passover meal together in the Upper Room. Eating together at table is a beautiful way for families and friends to celebrate important events and share each other's lives. Today, as life becomes more frenetic it is difficult to take the time to eat together at table. Describe for your small group some remembrances of special meals celebrated together with friends or family which you treasure from your past.

Read and record Matthew 22:2 and remember that when you gather together in Jesus' name, He is with you at the table.

DAY TWO

Read Luke 22:14-23

7a. In today's lesson Jesus celebrated the Passover meal, in which He instituted the sacrament of the Eucharist. When "the hour came", what did He do (verse 14)?

b. What did Jesus tell the apostles (verse 15-16)?

8. Jesus took a cup, and after giving thanks what did He say (verses 17-18)?

9a. Jesus then took a loaf of bread, and when He had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them. What did He say (verse 19)?

b. After supper Jesus "did the same with the cup." What were His words (verse 20)?

NOTE: In the Last Supper Jesus gathered with His apostles to transform the Old Covenant Passover into the sacrificial banquet of the New Covenant. As Passover recalls Israel's deliverance from Egypt, so the Eucharist both commemorates and accomplishes our redemption from slavery in sin. Jesus reconfigures this ancient feast by placing himself at the center of its significance: he is the true Lamb offered for sin and given as food to God's family. Ignatius p 63

10. Verse 20 contains Jesus' only mention of the words "new Covenant." Read Jeremiah 31:31-34 that also contain these words, and record a phrase which you find beautiful.

11a. Jesus then referred to the scripture prophecies of His death, and that His betrayer was at that very table. What were Jesus' words of warning from verses 22?

b. How did Jesus' disciples react (verse 23)?

THINK: Place yourself at table with Our Lord and the other apostles when He tells us that His betrayer's "hand is on the table." What question do you ask?

12. CONNECTION: In this passage Luke shows Jesus and His disciples at the Passover meal in Jerusalem where hundreds of thousands of pilgrims came to celebrate the sacred feast. The Jews re-enacted the saving sacrifice by killing the lamb and consuming it. At the Last Supper,

Jesus began His saving sacrifice for us when He changed the bread and wine into His body and blood and offered it to His disciples, later to offer His body on the cross. In the Paschal mystery of the Mass, Christ and the priest present again Christ's sacrifice to God before the heavenly throne on our behalf. With the saints and angels, we are present at the Last Supper and at the crucifixion for Christ's offering to the Father. Share with your small group some thoughts on this awesome privilege.

Read and record the second sentence of 1 Corinthians 5:7, and let this thought lead you into prayer.

DAY THREE

Read Luke 22:24-34

13a. As today's lesson begins, a dispute arose among the disciples. Describe the dispute from verse 24.

b. In verse 25 Jesus described the way that Gentile rulers (such as Caesar) lord it over their subjects but are called "benefactors." How should Jesus' disciples differ from Gentile kings from verse 26?

14a. To illustrate His answer, Jesus asked two questions of the apostles. Record His questions in verse 27.

b. How did He answer His own questions and what about His answer requires true greatness in a leader?

15a. In verses 28 and 29, Jesus told the apostles that He was passing on to them His Father's kingdom. What will they do in the kingdom from verse 30?

b. Read and record Daniel 7:17-18, which shows that the earthly kings shall pass away, but the holy ones of the kingdom of God will endure.

16a. In verse 31 Jesus addressed Simon Peter about the testing of the apostles. Who or what has demanded that "all are to be sifted like wheat?"

b. In verse 32 Jesus told Simon Peter that He prayed that his faith would not fail. Jesus foresaw Simon Peter's failure, but in spite of this, what did Jesus charge him to do?

17a. How did Simon answer Jesus in verse 33?

b. What did Jesus tell him in verse 34?

18. CONNECTION: In this passage, Jesus warned Simon Peter that Satan would test him and the other apostles. Peter declared that he was ready to go to prison and to death with Jesus, but Jesus foretold Peter's failure. Jesus also told Peter not to lose heart, but instead to turn back and strengthen his brothers. When we have great hopes and expectations and then fail miserably, we are prone to giving up and losing heart. Jesus knew that Peter would fail but wanted him to know that he should not give up. Each of us fails often. How has failure enabled you to be a better Christian and/or a better leader? Share with your small group your experience.

Read and record 2 Corinthians 12:9 and write a prayer today asking that God may use our failures for His glory.

DAY FOUR

Read Luke 22:35-46

19a. Continuing His farewell discourse, in verse 35 Jesus asked His disciples whether they lacked anything when He sent them out without a purse, bag, or sandals (Luke 10:4). They answered no. How did He say their ministry must now change (verse 36)?

b. Jesus spoke symbolically, fulfilling scripture prophecies about the Messiah being condemned as a criminal (“And he was counted among the lawless,” verse 37). The apostles still did not fully understand. Record His dismissive words to them from verse 38.

20a. Where did Jesus go after the Last Supper and who followed Him (verse 39)?

b. When he reached the Mount of Olives what did He say to the disciples (verse 40)?

21. He then withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, knelt down, and prayed (verse 41). Record His prayer (verse 42).

22a. What beautiful thing happened at this point (verse 43)?

b. What did He do after the angel gave him strength (verse 44)?

23a. In verse 45 when Jesus got up from prayer, He came to the disciples, and found them sleeping “because of grief.” What did He ask them and why do you think they were grieved?

b. What did He tell them in verse 46 and why do you think this was important at this very moment?

24. CONNECTION: ‘Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet, not my will but yours be done.’ The cup that Jesus would drink was His suffering and death on the cross. Confronted finally with the cruel torture and death He knew was in store for Him, Jesus was in agony. His disciples were asleep. But an angel from heaven appeared to Him, not to avoid His death, but to give Him strength to fulfill God's will. In our own lives, we often face problems alone. Think of a time that you were confronted with a problem and felt that those around you were "sleeping." Was there an "angel" who strengthened you, not to avoid the problem you faced but to get through it with God's gracious help? Share your story with your small group.

Read and record Psalm 86:7 and thank God for sending angels to help us.

DAY FIVE

Read Luke 22:47-53

25a. While Jesus was still at the Mount of Olives speaking to His disciples, who came toward them and who was leading them (verse 47)?

b. When Judas approached Jesus to kiss him, in a common gesture of greeting among friends, what did Jesus ask him (verse 48)?

26a. When the apostles saw what was coming, they asked, 'Lord, should we strike with the sword?' What did one of them do (verse 50)?

b. Read John 18:10 and note two differences in the stories.

27. How did Jesus answer and what did He do (verse 51)?

28a. In verse 52 whom did Jesus address?

b. What did Jesus ask them in the second part of verse 52?

29. What was Jesus' comment to them and, according to the last sentence of verse 53, how does this relate to the conflict between good and evil?

30. CONNECTION: In this passage Jesus did not mince words with the officials who took Him into custody in the darkness. He even says "this is your hour." Satan likes to work in darkness, hiding from the light of God's truth. The hour in which Judas betrayed Jesus was the pinnacle of Satan's power, and yet we know that the power of darkness is overcome by the light of God. Satan's power continues to mislead and beguile mankind through lies, deception, confusion, and darkness, for example, in the cultural acceptance of pornography. Where do you see Satan at work in today's world and how do you fight this terrible adversary?

Read and record 1 Peter 5:8 and begin your prayer today asking God for strength to defeat evil and live in the light.

DAY SIX

Read Luke 22:54-62

31a. The officers of the chief priests seized Jesus and led Him away to the high priest's house. What was Peter doing? (verse 54)

b. When the officers had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, what did Peter do (verse 55)?

32a. Who recognized Peter in the firelight and what did she say (verse 56)?

b. How did Peter answer her (verse 57)?

33a. A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, 'You also are one of them.' How did Peter answer (verse 58)?

b. About an hour later yet another kept insisting, 'Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean.' With what words did Peter deny his relationship with Jesus a third time (verse 60)?

34. At that moment, while Peter was still speaking, the cock crowed. What did the Lord do and what words of the Lord did Peter remember?

35. "Peter went out and wept bitterly (verse 62)." What painful words! Read and record the prophetic words of Psalm 41:9 to better understand both Jesus' pain upon Peter's faithlessness and how deeply Peter, Jesus' friend, must have felt his failure.

36. CONNECTION: It is strange that Jesus picked Peter to lead His Church. Peter was obviously not a perfect disciple; in fact, he was very flawed. Considering the cowardly thing he did in this passage, it is hard to believe that his faith was great, that he had control over his emotions, that he was a man of prayer. Yet Peter and many of the popes that followed

him accepted martyrdom in the name of Jesus Christ. Our bishops and our Pope are not perfect people, yet despite their many flaws they have managed to preach the faith set out by Jesus for two thousand years. Reflect on this miracle and share some thoughts with your small group.

Read John 21: 17 and record Jesus' question and command to Peter. Begin your prayer asking for God's blessing on the pope and his intentions.

After completing this lesson, read pages 139-144 in the *The Gospel According to Luke* by Michael F. Patella, O.S.B. The Cornerstone Catholic Scripture Study acknowledges that scripture quotations in this study are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible: Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

©Copyright 2015. The Cornerstone Catholic Scripture Study

thecornerstonescripturestudy.org