

# DAY 1

Jesus planned to be betrayed on Passover • Luke 22:7-13

#### READ 🛄



Luke 22:7-13

### EXPLAIN (1)

The truth of Luke 22:7-13

It was the hardest thing Jesus had ever faced, but He stayed true to His mission to the very end. He even planned the details of His death to show that He was the Passover Lamb. On this day, thousands of lambs were sacrificed at the temple in the afternoon (Luke 22:7), followed by the Passover meal at sunset. Actually, it appears that the Pharisees and Galileans differed by one day from the Sadducees and Judeans, so that Passover was celebrated two days in a row. This allowed Jesus, a Galilean, to show the meaning of the Passover meal on Thursday evening, while dying when the Passover lambs of the Sadducees were sacrificed on Friday afternoon. To get this timing right, Jesus even hid the place of the Passover meal from most of the disciples so that Judas would not betray Him too soon (22:9-12). Everything happened just as Jesus said, and the two disciples prepared the Passover meal (22:13). They took the lamb to be sacrificed and prepared the unleavened bread, wine, bitter herbs, apples, dates, pomegranates, nuts, and cinnamon sticks.

## ASK 🔞



- 1. Did Jesus know He was about to die?
  - Yes. He was even in control the whole time.
- 2. What did Jesus and His disciples celebrate? Passover.
- 3. What did they sacrifice on Passover? A lamb.
- 4. Why did Jesus give Peter and John mysterious instructions? To control the time of His death to show that He was the great Passover Lamb.

### DISCUSS 🦃



- 1. What is the hardest thing you have ever experienced? How can you follow Jesus' example when doing the right thing means you have to do something hard or scary?
- 2. When Jesus died, was He a helpless victim (John 10:18)?

## DAY 2

#### The Passover pointed to Jesus • Exodus 12:1-28

#### READ |

Exodus 12:1-28

### EXPLAIN **②**

The truth of Exodus 12:1-28

At the first Passover, each family chose a lamb to live with them for a few days (Exod 12:3-6). The lamb had to be unblemished, without any flaw (12:5). After slaughtering the lamb, they brushed its blood around the door, using a hyssop branch (12:22). When God came to strike all the firstborn in Egypt, He passed over the houses with the blood, sparing the people inside (12:23). So the Passover lamb was a *substitute* sacrifice, dying in the place of the sinner. In a much greater way, Jesus is the Passover Lamb. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29). He planned the timing of His death to show that the Messiah would take His people's sins upon Himself (Isa 53:6), give up His life to wipe away their guilt (53:10), and be crushed to give them peace and healing (53:5). Like the Passover lamb, Jesus lived with those He came to die for (John 1:14), He was slaughtered at the same time as the Passover lambs (Luke 23:44), and His blood causes God's wrath to pass over His people forever (Rom 5:9).

## ASK 🔞



- 1. At the first Passover, which houses did God pass over (spare)? The houses with the lamb's blood on the lintel and doorposts.
- 2. Who would become the new Passover Lamb? Jesus.
- 3. How was Jesus like the Passover lamb? He lived with those He came to die for. He was slaughtered at the same time as the Passover lambs . His blood causes God's wrath to pass over His people forever. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

#### DISCUSS S



- 1. What does "unblemished" mean? Do you need to be unblemished (Matt 5:48)? Are you unblemished (Rom 3:10)? Was Jesus unblemished (Isa 53:9)? Does this matter to you (2 Cor 5:21)?
- 2. We do not put lamb's blood around our doors today. What must you do to be spared from God's wrath (Rom 5:1)?

DAY 3

Jesus taught that He was the new Passover Lamb, Part 1 • Luke 22:14-19

#### READ |



Luke 22:14-19

### EXPLAIN **②**

The truth of Luke 22:14-19

On this special Passover the true Lamb of God would die. The meal began with a prayer of thanksgiving, followed by a cup of wine called the cup of thanksgiving (Luke 22:17). Then everyone washed their hands to symbolize cleansing from sin. After that, they ate bitter herbs dipped along with pieces of bread into a paste made from fruit and nuts. This reminded them

of Israel's bitter slavery in Egypt. Then they sang the first two Hallel Psalms (Pss 113-114), followed by a second cup of wine. Then, as the head of the house, Jesus explained the meaning of Passover. After this came the main course of roasted lamb and unleavened bread. It was at this time that Jesus said, "This is my body, which is given for you" (Luke 22:19a). Instead of symbolizing affliction in Egypt, this bread now symbolized Christ's own body (22:19b). It was given "for you," as a substitute sacrifice, because the Son of God had become a man so that He could suffer and die in the place of sinners (1 Pet 2:24; 2 Cor 5:21).

## ASK 🔞

- 1. How did the meal begin? With a prayer of Thanksgiving.
- 2. What did the bread represent in the first Passover? Israel's affliction in Egypt.
- 3. How does the bread remind us about Jesus? The bread reminds us of Jesus' body given for believers.
- 4. How was Jesus a "substitute"? He died instead of sinners.

### DISCUSS 🦃



- 1. What is unleavened bread? Do you have any special meals or foods that help your family celebrate special days?
- 2. Has anyone ever done something unpleasant for you (maybe a chore you don't like) so that you didn't have to? What has Jesus done for sinners (1 Pet 3:18)? How can you follow His example (Phil 2:5)?

# DAY 4

Jesus taught that He was the new Passover Lamb, Part 2 • Luke 22:20

#### READ I



Luke 22:20

#### **EXPLAIN ©**

The truth of Luke 22:20

After the main course Jesus and His disciples drank a third cup of wine, which Jesus said was "the new covenant in my blood" (Luke 22:20). The wine that used to represent the covenant God made with Israel at Sinai would now represent a new covenant. The prophets looked forward to this new covenant, because every covenant member would have God's law in his heart, have his sins forgiven, and have God's Spirit within (Jer 31:31-34; Ezek 36:25-27). That night, the Passover meal ended with singing the rest of the Hallel Psalms (Pss 115–118) and drinking the fourth cup of wine. But for believers today the Passover meal lives on, transformed into the Lord's Supper (1 Cor 10:14-22; 11:17–34). When Christians celebrate the Lord's Supper, they celebrate the new covenant of forgiveness, fix their minds on Christ, participate in His death on their behalf (10:16), experience Christ's special presence, join in unity with believers as the body of Christ, and joyfully anticipate the glorious feast to come in the kingdom. For believers today, Christ truly is our Passover Lamb (5:7).

#### ASK



- 1. What symbolized the new covenant? Jesus' blood.
- 2. What is the new covenant? The promise that everyone who comes to Christ will be forgiven and receive new life from the Holy Spirit.
- 3. What meal do believers celebrate today? Communion.
- 4. How does communion remind of Jesus? The bread represents His body, His perfect life and His suffering for us. The wine represents His blood, His death to forgive our sins.

### DISCUSS S



- 1. Why did the prophets look forward so much to the new covenant? Do you embrace it? Is it just another idea to you, or does it define and shape your life?
- 2. Have you celebrated the Lord's Supper (Communion)? What do you think about while you are doing it

# DAY 5

Jesus prayed and was strengthened to be the Passover Lamb • Luke 22:39-46

#### READ 📖

Luke 22:39-46

### EXPLAIN **②**

The truth of Luke 22:39-46

Even though Jesus is God, He is also completely human. So even though Jesus purposely went where He knew Judas would find Him (Luke 22:39), He still trembled at the thought of what was about to happen. So Jesus responded as all humans should: He prayed. Jesus' prayer shows He was human. He was human in His desire to avoid the agony of the cross (22:42a). He was human in submitting to the Father instead of asserting His own will as the Son of God (22:42b; Phil 2:5-9). He was human in needing to be strengthened (Luke 22:43). He was human in His agony (22:44). He prayed with loud cries and tears (Heb 5:7), depending wholly on God and not on His own strength (Ps 22:14-15, 19). Because Jesus was fully human, He is able to represent humans in His obedience, death, and resurrection (Rom 5:19; 6:5). He is also gentle with us when we cry out to Him in our suffering and temptation, because He knows what it's like to be human (Heb 4:15-16).

## ASK 🔞



- 1. Where did Jesus go? To the Mount of Olives.
- 2. What did Jesus do there? He prayed.
- 3. Why did He pray? Because He was a human, and through prayer humans depend on God to overcome trials.
- 4. Did the disciples pray? No. Because they did not depend on God, they would fail in the coming trial.

#### **DISCUSS**



- 1. Do you usually think of Jesus as God or man? Why is it a blessing to you that Jesus is completely human?
- 2. Can you remember a time you overcame a difficult temptation because you had prayed beforehand? Can you describe a time you failed to pray and sinned? Does your prayer life show that you live in dependence on God and in submission to Him, or not?

## **NEXT WEEK**

The Son of Man is crucified

Luke 22:47-53; 23:26-49

