

## Lenten Scripture Study

### Session #1 The Last Supper and Agony in the Garden

#### John Chapters 13 - 16



#### Prayer Before a Crucifix

BEHOLD, O good and sweetest Jesus, I cast myself upon my knees in Thy sight, and with the most fervent desire of my soul I pray and beseech Thee to impress upon my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope and charity, with true repentance for my sins and a most firm desire of amendment: whilst with deep affection and grief of soul I consider within myself and mentally contemplate Thy five most precious Wounds, having before mine eyes that which David, the prophet, long ago spoke in Thine Own person concerning Thee, my Jesus: They have pierced My hands and My feet, they have numbered all My bones [Psalm 21, 17, 18].

- A. What is Lent?
- B. Time for Prayer and Reflection

## ***The Washing of the Disciples' Feet.\* John 13***

1 Before the feast of Passover,\* Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.<sup>a</sup>

2 The devil had already induced\* Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, to hand him over. So, during supper,<sup>b</sup>

3 fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power and that he had come from God and was returning to God,<sup>c</sup>

4 he rose from supper and took off his outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around his waist.

5\* Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet<sup>d</sup> and dry them with the towel around his waist.

6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Master, are you going to wash my feet?"

7 Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing, you do not understand now, but you will understand later."

8 Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me."<sup>e</sup>

9 Simon Peter said to him, "Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as well."

10 Jesus said to him, "Whoever has bathed\* has no need except to have his feet washed, for he is clean all over; so you are clean, but not all."<sup>f</sup>

11 For he knew who would betray him; for this reason, he said, "Not all of you are clean."<sup>g</sup>

12 So when he had washed their feet [and] put his garments back on and reclined at table again, he said to them, "Do you realize what I have done for you?"

13 You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am.<sup>h</sup>

14 If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet.

15 I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.<sup>i</sup>

16 Amen, amen, I say to you, no slave is greater than his master nor any messenger\* greater than the one who sent him.<sup>j</sup>

17 If you understand this, blessed are you if you do it.

18 I am not speaking of all of you. I know those whom I have chosen. But so that the scripture might be fulfilled, 'The one who ate my food has raised his heel against me.'<sup>k</sup>

19 From now on I am telling you before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe that I AM.

20 Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."<sup>l</sup>

## **Theological Significance**

- The Washing of the Feet symbolizes Servant Leadership
- In Biblical Times the slaves washed the feet of masters. – Time period is Ancient Israel
- The Apostles Served Jesus NOW is the time for the Apostles to GO OUT and proclaim the Gospel
- Unlike the Synoptic Gospels – Matthew, Mark, and Luke John's Gospel does not include the Last Supper as a Meal – Institution of the Eucharist but rather the Institution of the Priesthood.

## **Questions for Reflection**

- A. What kind of leader do I tend to be?
- B. Can you give an example of Servant Leadership?
- C. Who are we called to serve?

### **Announcement of Judas's Betrayal.<sup>m</sup> John 13**

21 When he had said this, Jesus was deeply troubled and testified, "Amen, amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me."

22 The disciples looked at one another, at a loss as to whom he meant.

23 One of his disciples, the one whom Jesus loved,<sup>\*</sup> was reclining at Jesus' side.<sup>n</sup>

24 So Simon Peter nodded to him to find out whom he meant.

25 He leaned back against Jesus' chest and said to him, "Master, who is it?"<sup>o</sup>

26 Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I hand the morsel<sup>\*</sup> after I have dipped it." So he dipped the morsel and [took it and] handed it to Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot.

27 After he took the morsel, Satan entered him. So Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly."<sup>p</sup>

28 [Now] none of those reclining at table realized why he said this to him.

29 Some thought that since Judas kept the money bag, Jesus had told him, "Buy what we need for the feast," or to give something to the poor.<sup>q</sup>

30 So he took the morsel and left at once. And it was night.

### **Theological Significance**

- Judas was the one who betrayed Jesus.
- The Apostles were shocked and could not believe this news.
- Remember these men walked with Jesus, ministered with Jesus, and gave their entire lives for Him.
- Back earlier in the Gospel of John the Apostles were called by Jesus with the words, "Come and Follow Me" and they left everything to Follow Him.
- Now those who were drawn to follow Jesus were betraying Him.

## Peter's Denial Predicted. John 13

36 Simon Peter said to him, "Master, where are you going?" Jesus answered [him], "Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, though you will follow later."<sup>u</sup>

37 Peter said to him, "Master, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you."

38 Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Amen, amen, I say to you, the cock will not crow before you deny me three times."<sup>v</sup>

### **Theological Significance**

- Peter who was considered the leader of the group of Apostles who was very close to Jesus was told he would deny Jesus.
- Peter was the one who said that Jesus was the Son of God – the Messiah.
- The shock that must have taken place would have been difficult for the Apostles to follow.

### **Questions for Reflection**

- What do you think the reaction was at the table while they were told Judas would betray Jesus?
- Have we ever denied Jesus like Peter?
- How can we proclaim to the world who Jesus is?

### **Last Supper Discourse – John 14-16**

This section was what Jesus told the Apostles on this night before he was to die on the cross. He knew that He would not be with them for a long time. And He wanted to give them food for their journey – spiritual insight.

## Here are some highlights – John 14 –

\* “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith\* in God; have faith also in me.

2In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

3\* And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.<sup>a</sup>

4Where [I] am going you know the way.”\*

5Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?”

6Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth\* and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.<sup>b</sup>

7If you know me, then you will also know my Father.\* From now on you do know him and have seen him.”<sup>c</sup>

8Philip said to him, “Master, show us the Father,\* and that will be enough for us.”<sup>d</sup>

9Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?<sup>e</sup>

10Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works.<sup>f</sup>

11Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves.<sup>g</sup>

12Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father.<sup>h</sup>

13And whatever you ask in my name, I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.<sup>i</sup>

14If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it.

### **The Vine and the Branches. John 15**

1\* "I am the true vine,\* and my Father is the vine grower.<sup>a</sup>

2He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes\* so that it bears more fruit.

3You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you.<sup>b</sup>

4Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me.

5I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.

6\* <sup>c</sup> Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned.

7If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.<sup>d</sup>

8By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.<sup>e</sup>

9As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love.<sup>f</sup>

10If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love.<sup>g</sup>

11"I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.<sup>h</sup>

12This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.<sup>i</sup>

13\* No one has greater love than this,<sup>j</sup> to lay down one's life for one's friends.

14You are my friends if you do what I command you.

15I no longer call you slaves, because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends,\* because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father.<sup>k</sup>

16It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you.<sup>l</sup>

17This I command you: love one another.<sup>m</sup>

### John 16

“Behold, the hour is coming and has arrived when each of you will be scattered\* to his own home and you will leave me alone. But I am not alone, because the Father is with me.<sup>q</sup>

3I have told you this so that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world.”<sup>r</sup>