



THE FINAL WEEK

INTRODUCTION

The Final Week—Part 3

During the Easter season, we focus on the death and resurrection of Jesus, but often overlook the time leading up to his arrest.

Was Jesus a victim of a cruel scheme or did he orchestrate those events to bring about God's eternal plan? We are launching the new series, *The Final Week*. Let's explore how the days leading up to the trial, death, and resurrection of Jesus were all part of God's eternal plan to save the world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read Exodus 12:1-11, 17-20. Why is God so serious when it comes to celebrating the Passover?
2. What do the elements (lamb, unleavened bread, bitter herbs) of Passover represent?
3. Read Mark 14:12-16. Why is it important for Jesus to celebrate Passover with his disciples?
4. Read Mark 14:22-25. What do the elements of the Lord's Supper/Communion represent? Who is allowed to eat the Lord's Supper?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. Why do we celebrate communion?
6. Jesus says that his blood establishes the 'covenant.' What does he mean by that? Read Exodus 24:6-8. What is happening here? The covenant that Jesus is talking about is described in Jeremiah 31:31-34. How is this covenant different from the one in Exodus?
7. How might you apply this lesson to your life?

APPLICATION

It's easy to focus on the bad things that happen to you, or notice the things you don't have. You compare yourself to others, and think you're not enough. You see all the negative things or hardships in your life, and you become stressed. You don't have the ability, means, or time to do what you want or have what you want. We all have the tendency to forget about the things that you have, amazing things that have happened to you, and the great things around you.

In the midst of pain, negativity, struggles, trials, and hardships, it's important to remember that God cares for you and loves you. When you recognize what God has done for you in your life—that He rescued us from death, from our sins, and sacrificed His only son—you see that He gives you strength, and He pulls you through everything. We often let our problems overwhelm us, and we forget that God has everything under control. He cares for you, He loves you, and He will provide you with hope and strength.

KEY VERSES (HCSB)

Exodus 12:1-20
Hebrews 9:22, 28
Mark 14:12-16, 22-25
Luke 22:19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
Exodus 24:6-8
Jeremiah 31:31-34