



Communion Handout

Session Theme: Sacraments

Activity: Assassin

Scripture Story: Matthew 26:17-30

Video Clip: n/a

17 On the first day of the Unleavened Bread festivities, the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" 18 He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" 19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal. 20 When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; 21 and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." 22 And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" 23 He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. 24 The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." 25 Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" Jesus replied, "You have said so."

26 Then while they were still eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." 27 Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; 28 for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." 30 When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

NOTES

- Betrayal is when someone who is a friend or even someone who is just friendly to us then acts against that friendship/friendliness. At its worst, betrayal is when a friend joins our enemies and then hands us over to them.
- Notice that Jesus offers his "blood of the covenant" even to those who are betraying him.
- The Passover meal was a yearly celebration that reminded the Israelites about how God set them free from slavery in Egypt. Jesus is interweaving what will be happening to him with this story of Israel's freedom. And then he's teaching his disciples to remember this story every time they eat (bread and wine being the most common meal).
- When we celebrate/remember Communion we are remembering the sacrifice Jesus made so that we could be free from our ways of living separate from God, allowing us to freely worship God and live in the Kingdom of God.