

The Sacrifice for Sin

Chapters 5-6 of the book

1. Why do we hate death?



2. Some Events from the Last Week of Jesus' Life

Judas decided to _____ Jesus.

Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was of the number of the twelve. He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray him to them. And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. So, he consented and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of a crowd. (Luke 22:3-6).

Jesus' last supper: He called the bread His _____ and the wine His _____. And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many." (Mark 14:22-24).

Judas led the guards into the garden, where Jesus was _____.

So the band of soldiers and their captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound him. (John 18:12).

The story of Jesus' death on the cross (John 19: 23-24, 28-37).

23 When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his garments and divided them into four parts, one part for each soldier; also his tunic. But the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom, 24 so they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it shall be." This was to fulfill the Scripture which says, "They divided my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots." So the soldiers did these things, ... 28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." 29 A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. 30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. 31 Since it was the day of Preparation, and so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken and that they might be taken away. 32 So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first, and of the other who had been crucified with him. 33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. 34 But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water. 35 He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe. 36 For these things took place that the Scripture might be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken." 37 And again another Scripture says, "They will look on him whom they have pierced."

3. Understanding the uniqueness of Jesus' death

1. Jesus' death was foretold hundreds of years before crucifixion was _____.
The blood on the doorposts in the form of a cross, the Passover lamb sacrificed, the Bronze serpent raised on the pole for healing, etc.
2. The death of Jesus was accompanied by many _____.
And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. (Matthew 27:50-53)
3. Jesus died for the sins of the _____.
He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:2).
4. Jesus' death was _____ and _____.
For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, (1 Peter 3:18)
5. The death of Jesus showed how much God _____.
In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. (1 John 4:10)
6. The death of Jesus _____ man's relationship with God.
and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility...For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. (Ephesians 2:16, 18)
7. Because of Jesus' death, those who believe in him receive _____.
For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

4. Assignment: Read chapters 15 and 16 from The Story of Jesus Christ and, if you have time, Matthew chapter 28. Review the memory verses.

Memory verse:

Jesus died for sinners

but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

The Sacrifice for Sin (The Death of Jesus – chapters 13 и 14 of the book)

Lesson Preparation:

Read chapters 13-14 ("The Last Week" and "Mission Accomplished-The Cross and Death of Jesus") in advance. Have your handouts ready.

1. Hook:

Begin with a prayer. Then ask, "Have you ever experienced the death of a pet?" Have the group share their stories. If there are older people in the group, you can ask if they have experienced the death of a loved one. Then ask, "Why do we hate death?" (Possible answers: because it harbors the unknown; because it often comes with pain; death is the loss of a relationship with a loved one or pet, etc.) Today we are approaching a turning point in human history - the death of Jesus Christ. All of the previous events we have talked about have been leading up to Jesus' death on the cross.

2. Book:

First, we will look at some of the events of the last week of Jesus' life. As we discussed last time, the Jewish elders were looking for an opportunity to capture Jesus and kill him, but they were afraid of the reaction of the people. Had there been a riot, the Romans would have reacted violently. Satan gave them an opportunity to arrest Jesus quietly. He put the idea in one of Jesus' disciples, Judas Iscariot, to betray his Master into the hands of the Jewish leaders. Judas promised to point them to a place where Jesus would not be surrounded by a crowd so that he could be arrested without hindrance. Judas was paid 30 pieces of silver for his betrayal. Read Luke 22:3-6 and fill in the blank: Judas decided to betray Jesus. At this time the Israelites were celebrating the Passover (when the Passover lamb was

slaughtered). Jesus was celebrating it with his disciples. He already knew that Judas would betray Him, so He told him to go and do what He had planned. Jesus then gave new meaning to the bread and wine in the Passover meal. Read Mark 14:22-24 and fill in the blanks. Jesus' last supper: He called the bread His body and the wine His blood. He is now the Lamb who will be sacrificed for sin and shed His blood for the forgiveness of all sins. Jesus told us to keep this tradition of remembering Him with bread and wine until He comes again. (This tradition is observed in churches all over the world.) After the meal, Jesus went with His disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray, knowing that He would soon be arrested and killed. Judas led the guards into the garden where Jesus was arrested. Read John 18:12 and fill in the blank: Judas led the guards into the garden, where Jesus was arrested. The Jewish elders put Jesus on trial for blasphemy, for making himself equal to God. They wanted the death sentence for Jesus, but since Israel was under Roman rule at the time, only the Romans had the authority to pass such a sentence. Pilate, the Roman governor, saw no serious guilt in Jesus, but out of fear of possible unrest, he sentenced him to death by crucifixion. The handout shows the story of Jesus' death according to the Gospel of John, who was standing right there at the cross. One thought John repeats over and over again is that the Scriptures (i.e., the Old Testament) foretold that Jesus' death would take place in this manner. Long before Jesus was crucified for the sin of the world, God predicted it through the prophets. As you read John 19:23-24, 28-37, underline the word "Scripture". Look at how many times it appears in these verses.

3. Look:

We will now look at the uniqueness of Jesus' death. The cross has become a symbol of Christianity. The image of the cross can be seen on many church buildings, on the Bible itself, in Christian literature, and on websites. Many believers even wear crosses around their necks. How did this instrument of torture become a symbol of hope for millions? After all, no one wears miniature guillotines around their necks! The Romans were masters of torture. Death on the cross was excruciatingly painful so that no one would ever dare repeat the crime of the crucified man. Every breath was excruciatingly painful. In order to breathe, the crucified man had to pull himself up on his pierced arms, leaning on his pierced legs. The agony could last for twenty-four hours, and the crucified died of exhaustion and suffocation. It is known, however, that the Romans executed thousands of people in this manner. What made Jesus' death so special? Jesus' death was foretold hundreds of years before crucifixion was invented. Remember the blood on the doorposts in the outline of a cross? Remember the bronze serpent lifted up by Moses on a pole so that, anyone who looked at it would be healed of its fatal bite? etc. 2. The death of Jesus was accompanied by many supernatural signs: darkness at noon, the curtain of the temple torn in two, the splitting of stones,

and the resurrection of some dead saints. Read Matthew 27:50-53. 3. By dying on the cross, Jesus died for the sins of the whole world. Read 1 John 2:2 and fill in the blank. 4. Jesus' death was once and for all. It did not have to be repeated for every generation. This sacrifice was sufficient for all ages. Read 1 Peter 3:18 and fill in the blank. 5. The death of Jesus showed how much God loves us. Read 1 John 4:10 and fill in the blank. Not only is God mighty, holy, and righteous, but He loves people deeply. 6. The death of Jesus restored man's relationship with God. Read Ephesians 2:16, 18 and fill in the blank. 7. Because of Jesus' death, those who believe in him receive eternal life. Read John 3:16 and fill in the blank. The salvation that Jesus gives to man is a free gift to absolutely everyone, but not everyone accepts it. Those who believe in God and turn to Him for salvation receive not only eternal life, but already have forgiveness of sins, access to God, and a full life. This does not mean a life without problems, but it does mean a life with God, that is, His participation in our lives.

4. Took:

Next time, read chapters 15-16 in the book ("Christ is Risen!" and "The Church - Jesus' Body on Earth"). If you have time, read Matthew chapter 28. Review the memory verses. Finish with a prayer.

Leader's Guide