

THIS IS MY BODY

LUKE 22:1-23 // PASTOR TODD DUGARD
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The purposes of God cannot be thwarted in my life...though I may face fierce opposition (22:1-6) as I seek to faithfully walk with God (22:7-13) and anticipate all that he is doing and will do (22:14-18), because I look to Christ alone for all I need (22:19-20) and know that he determines my way (22:21-23).

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

In an act of betrayal for money, Judas turned on Jesus. On the surface this appears to the disciples as something tragically unexpected but Jesus says it was “determined” (v. 22). What comfort does it give you to know that even something like betrayal by a friend can be part of God’s ultimate plan of redemption in your life?

It is startling to read that Satan entered into Judas (v.3). We may wonder if Satan’s activity in Judas’ life excused Judas’ betrayal. What does Jesus think (v.22)? What does James 1:12-16 teach us about the connection between desire, temptation, sin and death?

Luke shows us that proximity to Christ is no substitute for faith and devotion to him. So, as we reflect on Judas’ secret lack of faith, we can ask ourselves, “where is my faith weak and leaving me more vulnerable to evil influence than I may realize?”

Compare Judas’ thoughts and actions in vs. 4-6 with Peter and John’s in vs. 8-9. Judas “went” and the other two are “sent”. Judas sought to “betray” Jesus and the other two sought to obey him. How does remaining faithful to Jesus provide protection against evil influences?

Jesus “*earnestly desired*” to share the Passover with his disciples. He wanted to be with them fully in the moment and totally aware of what God was doing. How do you develop this kind of desire to be with believers?

What can you do to be fully present with other disciples and aware of what God is doing?

In light of the symbolism present in the Passover meal, what does it mean to say, “Christ is all I need?”

Do you think that taking the bread and cup of communion requires you to live in a certain way? How is communion related to the idea of selflessly giving your life away as a gift to advance the gospel? (See Luke 9:23-25.)

Our free will cooperates or collides with God’s sovereignty. He is able to determine the outcome of situations, and we can work with or work against his plan. What have you chosen to do with your life and why?

How do you see yourself working with God’s plans in the coming week?