**The Gospel of Luke**

**Chapters 22-24**

**Bible Study:**

**Read Luke 22:1-23**

What is the Pharisees intention toward Jesus? What is their motivation?

What is the work of Satan in this case?

 When was the last time Satan showed up in Luke’s Gospel? What was his intention then?

How much free will do we have? What is the role of Satan, God, cosmic powers in our free will?

Go back to 22:1 – what is the setting of this story? Why could this be significant?

Notice that there are 2 cups mentioned in Luke’s story of the Lord’s Supper:

***Passover***

1. *Preliminary Course*
	1. *Word of dedication (blessing of the feast) – 1st cup of wine*
	2. *Preliminary dish (green herbs bitter herbs and fruit puree)*
	3. *Meal is served but not eaten, 2nd cup is poured but not yet drunk*
2. *Passover Liturgy:*
	1. *“Why is this night different from other nights… A wandering Aramean was my father”*
	2. *Psalms 113-118 Hallel (praise)*
	3. *Drinking 2nd cup*
3. *Main Meal*
	1. *Grace Spoken over unleavened bread.*
	2. *Meal consisting of Passover lamb unleavened bread, bitter herbs, fruit puree, and wine.*
	3. *Grace spoken over 3rd cup (cup of blessing)*
4. *Conclusion*
	1. *2nd part of the Hallel Psalms 119-124*
	2. *Praise over the 4th cup*

Does Eating the Lord’s Supper prevent people from sinning?

**Summary Luke 22:24-38**

1. While likely still sitting at the dinner table, the disciples get into a debate over who is the greatest. Jesus tells them that the greatest among them must be one who serves.
2. Jesus then predicts Peter’s denial (cock will not crow until you have denied knowing me 3 times).
3. Jesus offers a strange teaching that the disciples must purchase a sword to fulfill the scripture that the messiah is among the lawless. The disciples say we have 2 swords, Jesus says “It is enough”.

**Read Luke 22:39-53**

Note the intensity of Jesus’ prayer contrasted with the posture of the disciples. What do you make of this?

Remember that Jesus just told the disciples to get a sword. What is the posture of the disciples when Judas and the crowd arrive?

**Summary 22:54-23:25**

1. Jesus is taken to the High Priest’s house for questioning. Peter follows at a distance and when questioned in the courtyard denies Jesus 3 times, then the rooster crows. Jesus looks at Peter and Peter realizing what he has done weeps bitterly.
2. Jesus is beaten while blindfolded and commanded to Prophesy.
3. When morning comes, Jesus is taken before the Chief Priests and Scribes (Sanhedrin) and questioned.
4. Finding Jesus Guilty of Blasphemy (claiming to be the son of God) they take Jesus to Pilate
5. Pilate can find nothing wrong with Jesus & sends Jesus to Herod because Jesus is Galilean.
6. Herod is happy to meet Jesus but then mocks him and puts an elegant robe on Jesus and sends him back to Pilate.
7. Pilate tries to release Jesus two more times but the crowd is insistent, demanding that Pilate release Barabbas (who was guilty of starting and insurrection and committing murder).
8. Pilate gave his verdict and handed Jesus over to be crucified.

**Read Luke 23:26-56**

There are multiple elements to this story. What stood out as new, interesting, or confusing?

Discuss the characters in this part of the story: Criminals, Soldiers, Joseph of Arimathea, the Women.

How is this version of the story distinct from what you might remember from most Holy Week readings?

**Read 24:1-12**

The women “remembered” his words – how might remembering and believing be linked for us too?

What is the response of the disciples? What is Peter’s response?

**Summary 24:13-35**

This section is the appearance of Jesus to a few of disciples who are on their way to a neighboring town called Emmaus. Jesus walks with the disciples and asks what they are discussing. The two disciples share the story of Jesus’ death and how it is reported that he had been raised. When they sit down for dinner together the disciples recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Then Jesus vanishes. That same hour they went back to Jerusalem to tell the disciples what had happened.

**Read 24:36-53**

Take note of the range of emotions in this section.

What is Jesus seeking to accomplish as he meets with the disciples?

What does it mean that Jesus was carried “up to heaven”?

Why might the disciples rejoice over this?