

**SERMON:** The Meaning in the Meal  
**SERIES:** The Gospel of Mark  
**SPEAKER:** Pastor Brady

February 11, 2018

**CONNECT** (5-10 minutes): Help the members of the group grow in relationships with one another so all people in the group know they matter. Spend some time discovering what is happening in the lives of your group members. Share how God has been revealing himself in each other's lives.

**REVIEW** (15-20 minutes): Use this time to review the passage and the sermon outline (see below).

Note: this is a great opportunity to share leadership.

Use these simple questions to review the sermon/passage or for if you don't have much time:

1. What does this passage teach you about God? About us?
2. How does this passage point us to the gospel? How does it challenge you? Change you?

#### **SCRIPTURE:**

*Mark 14:1-11.*

<sup>12</sup> And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" <sup>13</sup> And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, <sup>14</sup> and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>15</sup> And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." <sup>16</sup> And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>17</sup> And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. <sup>18</sup> And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." <sup>19</sup> They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" <sup>20</sup> He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. <sup>21</sup> For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

<sup>22</sup> 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." <sup>23</sup> And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. <sup>24</sup> And he said to them, "This is my blood of the [a] covenant, which is poured out for many. <sup>25</sup> Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

<sup>26</sup> And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. <sup>27</sup> And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.'" <sup>28</sup> But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." <sup>29</sup> Peter said to him, "Even though they all fall away, I will not." <sup>30</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." <sup>31</sup> But he said emphatically, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you." And they all said the same.

## **SERMON OUTLINE:**

- I. Our Need for Rescue.
- II. God's Redemption Through Christ.
- III. The Meaning in the Meal.

**GROW** (45-60 minutes): Use this time to go deeper with your group.

Use these questions to discuss the sermon/passage:

1. Sin is both guilt and a power from which we must be freed. Where do we see the disciples in bondage to self-justification in this passage? Have you seen the bondage of self-justification in your own life?
2. Think through Jesus' words in the Last Supper/Passover. How is he equating himself with the sacrificial lamb and the Exodus? How does he fulfill God's plan of redemption?
3. Jesus has freed us from guilt, and freed us from the bondage of sin. How does our union with Christ empower our gathering as a church (letters a, b, c below)? How does our union with Christ empower our scattering into the world (letters b, d, e below)?
  - a) We find meaning in our union to Christ.
  - b) We find meaning in a life of sacrifice.
  - c) We find meaning in gathering as the church.
  - d) We find meaning in giving the Bread away.
  - e) We find meaning in the glorious goodness of God.
4. Which of the 5 "meaning" statements above challenges you? Inspires you? What is one specific way you can live out one of these 5 truths this week (and beyond)?

Pray: Spend time remembering and rejoicing in Jesus' work of redemption for you. Pray for increased understanding of how our union with Christ empowers our gathering and our scattering into the world.