

Aim of lesson

To see how the Lord Jesus, at the last supper, gave his disciples the preparation they needed for what was to come.

Bible background

Luke 22:1-34

Outline of lesson

Unprepared

Ask the class if the disciples knew that Jesus was going to die. Look up Luke 18:31-34 to show that Jesus had told them quite clearly but the disciples did not understand; this was probably because they could not accept that he would die; it was such an awful thought.

Introduce Luke 22. Jesus knew he was going to be arrested that night. This was his last opportunity to prepare his disciples for what must have been the worst time in their lives. Note that Jesus, facing what must have been so much worse for himself, was first concerned about what his disciples would go through. Read together Luke 22:1-34 using different people for the different characters.

During the meal

Turn to the workbooks. Get the class to consider the different subjects being discussed during the meal and have them draw 'speech bubbles' and write in them what they think each is saying. Verse 15 could be used for the words of Jesus whilst two disciples could discuss his words about the bread (verse 19). Another two disciples could be talking about the wine (verse 20) and others talking about who would betray him (verse 23). Two more could talk about who is the greatest (verse 24) and verse 33 gives some words of Peter. Verse 6 could be used as the basis for the words of Judas. Two more disciples could talk about the Passover and its significance.

Use each topic of conversation to show how Jesus was preparing his disciples for what was to happen.

verse(s)

15 Jesus told them again that he was going to suffer.

18 he gives them a promise of being with them in the kingdom.

19 he gives them everyday things to remind them of his words when he is not there, and to teach them about his death.

22-23 he lets them know that he knows who will betray him whilst making a last appeal to Judas.

24-27 he teaches them about being a servant, perhaps also reminding them about the 'Suffering Servant' prophecies in Isaiah which spoke of his death.

32 his words show real care for individual disciples. He prays for Peter and cares that the others will be strengthened.

There are also a great many lessons that may be gained from the Passover Feast itself. The disciples might remember that Jesus had been called by John, "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world".

Ask the class to consider how each of these things can help us when we go through difficult times.

Bread and wine

Get the class to write on the workbook in the 'bread' and the 'wine', what each represents. An older class could include some ideas from 1 Corinthians 10:16 and the New Covenant in Hebrews 8:8-12.

Digging deeper

Peter

This section looks at the development of Peter's understanding of Jesus' death, from the start of Jesus' ministry to the time Peter was writing his letters.

Relevance to our lives

If they do not normally do so it would be a good idea for the class to attend a Breaking of Bread service to see how present-day Christians obey his words and remember his death.

Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for caring so much for your disciples. Thank you for giving us a way to remember your death, knowing that we would forget it so easily.

Other suggestions for activities

- The class could look at what the meal at the last supper would have included. The details of the Passover are given in Exodus 12. The appropriateness of the symbols of deliverance could be discussed.
- The class could consider how bread and wine are made and how appropriate they are in this respect as symbols of the death of Christ. This could be made into a large poster.