

Luke

UNHOLY WEEK

SECTION VIII

WEEKS 48-50

WEEK 48

HATED, MISTREATED, REJECTED AND SCORNE

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 22:1-6, 47-53, 63-71

GOSPEL PARALLEL ACCOUNTS:

Matthew 26:1-5, 14-16, 47-68; Mark 14:1-2, 10-11, 43-50, 53-65; John 18:1-14, 19-24

RELATED SCRIPTURES:

Psalms 22, Isaiah 53, Romans 5:1-11 and 8:1-8, 1 Peter 2:21-25

“God, though the Creator of all things, yet has some enemies in the world. Men in general will own that they are sinners... And most sinners will own that they have bad hearts... And yet few of them are sensible that they are God’s enemies. They do not see how they can be truly so called; for they are not sensible that they wish God any hurt, or endeavor to do him any. But... the Scripture speaks of them as enemies to God. How wonderful [then] was the love of Christ, in exercising dying love towards his enemies! He loved those that hated him, with hatred that sought to take away his life, so as voluntarily to lay down his life, that they might have life through him.”

Jonathan Edwards

PERSONAL STUDY:

During the Luke: Unholy Week miniseries, we will be looking at three specific ways Jesus is sinned against recorded in Luke 22 and 23. A helpful discipline for you and your LifeGroup would be to read Luke 22 and 23 over and over during these weeks leading up to our city-wide Good Friday gathering on March 25.

Reading a passage over and over can help you notice different details that stand out that you missed before.

- What are the different people and groups that mistreat Jesus?
- Does Luke give us any clues about their motivations?
- How are you tempted to let the same motivations drive your life?
- How do Jesus' motives contrast with their motives and ours?
- What has Jesus done to rescue us from our unholiness?
- What personal and communal steps of repentance do you need to take?

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Luke 22:1-6. In light of everything we've seen in Luke, why is it strange to find Judas and the Pharisees conspiring together?

- What are the chief priests' and scribes' motives? What does Luke mean when he says "they feared the people"?
- What are Judas' motives? (Read John 12:4-6 for more insight.) What warnings might we see in the Judas' heart and actions in Luke 22? If you examine your heart and actions, where are you most tempted to use Jesus to try to get something else?

Read Luke 22:39-48. Describe Jesus' mental and emotional state in this moment. Compare how you react to mistreatment when you are tired to how Jesus reacts.

Read Luke 22:63-65 and Romans 8:6-7. None of us have beaten Jesus or mocked Him to His face the way the lynch mob does in Luke 22:63-65. And yet Paul says in his letter to the Romans that outside of God bringing us to faith, we are hostile towards God.

- Where are you currently most reluctant to bow your knee to Jesus? (This could be a broader general rejection of His Lordship or one specific area of life.)

Read Romans 5:6-11. How does Jesus' love for us while we were His enemies lead us to repentance? If there's anyone in your group who is unwilling or struggling to see the gospel, believe Jesus' love, and repent; take some time to gospel them up (a.k.a. encourage them with the truth of the gospel).

Pray for a humble and grateful perspective that remembers God loved us when we were His enemies. Pray for us to love our neighbors and coworkers and family members in such a way that we would get to see God reconcile many of His enemies in our city back to Himself.

WEEK 49

LET DOWN AND DISAPPOINTED

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 22:7-34, 39-46 and 54-62

GOSPEL PARALLEL ACCOUNTS:

Matthew 26:17-46, 69-75;
Mark 14:12-42, 66-72; John 13, 18:15-18

RELATED SCRIPTURES:

Proverbs 17:17, 18:24; Matthew 11:27-30; John 15:12-15; Romans 5:6-11

PERSONAL STUDY:

During the Luke: Unholy Week miniseries, we will be looking at three specific ways Jesus is sinned against recorded in Luke 22 and 23. A helpful discipline for you and your LifeGroup would be to read Luke 22 and 23 over and over during these weeks leading up to our city-wide Good Friday gathering on March 25.

Some good complimentary passages to read along with these chapters in Luke are Isaiah 53 and Psalm 22.

Reading these passage over and over can help you notice different details that stand out that you might not have noticed before.

- What are the different people and groups that mistreat Jesus?
- Does Luke give us any clues about their motivations?
- How are you tempted to let the same motivations drive your life?
- How do Jesus' motives contrast with their motives and ours?
- What has Jesus done to rescue us from our unholiness?
- What personal and communal steps of repentance do you need to take?

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Would you say your life is marked by more so healthy friendships or more so dysfunctional and painful friendships? How does this impact your life, your understanding of self and your expectations about other people?

Read Luke 22:7-13. What do you know about the Passover? What is this feast meant to symbolize? (If you're unfamiliar, Exodus 12 describes God giving the Passover feast to His people when Moses is leading them out of captivity in Egypt.)

Read Luke 22:14-20. Have you ever shared a delicious feast with good friends right before a significant and life-changing event was about to happen in one of your lives? What might the mood and feel of this meal have been?

- How does Jesus modify the Passover feast and repurpose it as the New Covenant symbol of communion?

Read Luke 22:28-34. What are the gospel implications of Jesus saying "You are those who have stayed with me in my trials" right before the disciples fell asleep instead of praying in the garden and Peter denies him three times (22:39-46 and 22:54-62)?

Why does it matter that all of your sin was in the future when Jesus died for you?

Read Luke 22:61-62. How do you respond when you realize that you're failing to live as a faithful Christian and Jesus sees you right in the middle of your failure?

- What does it look like to mourn over our sin and also rest in Jesus' grace?
- How does Jesus' perfect friendship to us despite our failures motivate and change how we think about our friendships?

Pray: Thank Jesus that He is a perfect friend to us no matter how we fail Him. Pray for us to be a family that walks in the tension of appropriately mourning and hating our sin while also resting in Jesus' perfect love despite our failures. Pray for us to love and befriend others no matter how well they are returning that love and fr

WEEK 50

OPPRESSED, MARGINALIZED AND CAST OUT

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 23:1-25, 39-49 and Colossians 1:13-20

GOSPEL PARALLEL ACCOUNTS:

Matthew 27:1-31; Mark 15; John 18:28-40 and 19:1-16.

RELATED SCRIPTURES:

Genesis 3:14-19, Deuteronomy 10:17-18,
Psalm 68:4-6 and 146:7-9; Proverbs 31:8,
Jeremiah 22:3, Micah 6:8, Zechariah 7:10-11,
Matthew 25:31-46, Romans 3:22 and Revelation 21:1-4

“When we look at the whole scope..., we see clearly that Christianity is not only about getting one’s individual sins forgiven so we can go to heaven. That is an important means of God’s salvation, but not the final end or purpose of it. The purpose of Jesus’s coming is to put the whole world right, to renew and restore the creation, not to escape it. It is not just to bring personal forgiveness and peace, but also justice and shalom to the world. God created both the body and soul, and the resurrection of Jesus shows that he is going to redeem both body and soul. The work of the Spirit of God is not only to save souls but also to care and cultivate the face of the earth, the material world.”

Tim Keller

PERSONAL STUDY:

During the Luke: Unholy Week miniseries, we will be looking at three specific ways Jesus is sinned against recorded in Luke 22 and 23. A helpful discipline for you and your LifeGroup would be to read Luke 22 and 23 over and over during these weeks leading up to our city-wide Good Friday gathering on March 25.

Additionally reading Genesis 3:14-19, Colossians 1:13-20, Revelation 21:1-4 or any of the related scriptures listed above everyday would be a great way to meditate on the enormity of all that God intends to fix and reconcile through the cross of Jesus.

Reading a passage over and over can help you notice different details that stand out that you missed before.

- What are the different people and groups that mistreat Jesus?
- Does Luke give us any clues about their motivations?
- How are you tempted to let the same motivations drive your life?
- How do Jesus’ motives contrast with their motives and ours?
- What has Jesus done to rescue us from our unholiness?
- What personal and communal steps of repentance do you need to take?

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Colossians 1:13-20 and Revelation 21:1-4. Where have you seen evidence of the four broken relationships (relationship with God, ourselves, others and creation) throughout your life?

- Where in your life has life just not gone the way it should have gone?
- What does it mean for now and for the future that Jesus is reconciling all things back to Himself through the blood of the cross (Colossians 1:20)?

Read Luke 23:1-11. How would you describe Herod and Pilate's motivation and general disposition toward Jesus? Have you ever suffered or seen people suffer because someone in authority didn't really care about justice?

Read Luke 22:13-25. How is this entire scene a perversion of justice and how life should go?

Read Romans 3:22 and 2 Corinthians 3:18. Biblical scholar Alec Motyer defines "righteous" as those who are "right with God and therefore committed to putting right all other relationships in life."

- How is Jesus growing you in His righteousness that He's already given you as a gift?
- How is Jesus growing a commitment in you to put right all other broken relationships?

Pray for Jesus to show us that He is with us when life does not go how it should; that He is working in us to restore us to the righteous life and restored relationships He designed us for; that He desires to use us to help restore right relationships everywhere we go; and that ultimately, one day, He promises He will make all of life go exactly how it is supposed to go.