



Date: _____

Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Jesus Is the King Series, Lesson 46

Lesson Title: The King's Table

Take Home Point: Jesus wants to live in us.

Warm-Up:

Celebrations come in different forms. Birthdays and anniversaries, for example, celebrate a new life or a new life together. Some national holidays are celebrations of something past; Christmas, President's Day, and Independence Day are all based on various events in history. But one thing is common to all celebrations—we remember something we have received, not something lost or given up. For example, we celebrate a baby's birth, a country's birth, a wedding, or the birth of exceptional statesmen, and in so doing we remember receiving our life (or someone else's), a free way of life, companionship, and examples of visionary leadership. We want to remember, so we celebrate.

Read: Matthew 26:26-35

Observation (What happened?):

What did Jesus say we receive as a result of his blood being poured out for us?

In Matthew 26:32, what hint did Jesus give of what was to happen?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think Jesus emphasized the giving of both his body and his blood?

According to 1 Corinthians 11:24-26, why do we continue to celebrate this meal?

Insight:

Isn't it interesting that Jesus established a meal commemorating his sacrifice for us during his last Passover meal with the disciples? It was not incidental timing; nothing was ever incidental about Jesus. In Exodus 12, God told the Jews to celebrate the Passover annually to remember his "passing over" their houses and freeing them from slavery in Egypt. Jesus took the Passover celebration and deepened its meaning. He declared that by his sacrifice God can "pass over" our sins and free us from slavery to sin and death. Jesus knows our weakness and frailty, so he told us to continue this celebration until he returns so we would remember. And what a celebration it is—not only remembering what he did for us all, but actually receiving spiritual life and strength from our Redeemer through his body and blood!

Application (What does it mean to me?):

Pray for the children in your small group to comprehend the love and forgiveness Jesus offers through celebrating the Lord's Supper.

What does it mean to you to celebrate the Lord's Supper? Take some time now to meditate on this gift of celebration and thank God for it.