



**TRINITY**  
CHURCH

**Sermon Discussion Guide**  
**March 12, 2023**  
**Matthew 26:1-30**

*Read the sermon text (Matthew 26:1-30) together and briefly summarize the main points of the sermon (see outline below). Recapping the sermon text and sermon outline can be a helpful way to start the group, even if everyone did hear the sermon. If someone did not hear the sermon, at least they have now heard the text, or part of the text...*

Final Preparations  
Matthew 26:1-30  
**Sermon Outline**

7 Conversations...

1. Preparing for something old (26:1-2)
2. Preparing for something evil (26:3-4)
3. Preparing for burial (26:5-13)
4. Preparing for betrayal (26:14-16)
5. Preparing for the Last Supper (26:17-19)
6. Predicting something tragic (26:20-25)
7. Promising something new (26:26-30)

**Sermon Thought:** Jesus calls us to understand and remember the price of forgiveness.

**Sermon Discussion questions**

*After briefly reviewing the message outline and text, use these questions to further examine the sermon and to discuss how these truths apply to daily life, so we can “be doers of the word, and not hearers only” (James 1:22). Based on your knowledge of the people in your home group, **select the questions that will best help you frame the group’s discussion** of this sermon and sermon text. Don’t feel like you need to discuss every question... And feel free to craft some of your own questions.*

1. “Prime the Pump” question—can you think of a time when you were making final preparations for a trip, an event, or a gathering? What attitude did you have during the final preparations?
2. Was there anything in the sermon or the text that stood out to you?
3. Matthew 26:1-30 alternates between the plans of God, and the schemes of humans. How does this reassure you? (Also, read Gen. 50:20)
4. Matthew 26:1 says, “When Jesus had finished all these sayings...” When you think back over the book of Matthew so far, are there any sayings of Jesus that particularly stand out or challenge you? Maybe share your top one or two?

5. Read Deut. 16:1-8, OT instructions for Passover. Do you notice any connections between these instructions and Matthew 26?
6. In Matt. 26:1-2, Jesus connects his death with the Passover celebration. This is also the fourth time that he has predicted his death (16:21; 17:22-23; 20:18-19). Read John 1:29. What connection do you see between these verses?
7. Read Matthew 26:3-5. What does this conversation reveal about the motives of the religious leaders? How do you think they reached the point of being willing to murder Jesus?
8. Read Matthew 26:6-13. What does this section teach about generous worship? About caring for the poor? (See also Matthew 25:40,45)
9. Read Matthew 26:14-16. In this conversation, Judas asks, "What will you give me?" In 26:6-7, the woman asks, "What can I give?" What does this reveal about the hearts of each of them?
10. Read Matthew 26:17-19. How does God use the obedience of the disciples to spread the message of redemption? Think of as many ways as possible and make a list.
11. How can God use simple acts of obedience from you this week to further his plan of redemption? Be as specific as possible...
12. Read Matthew 26:20-25. Judas' betrayal does not catch Jesus by surprise. How does this fact encourage you?
13. In Isaiah 53:3-7,12, we see verses that are about to be fulfilled as part of the New Covenant that Jesus mentions here in Matt. 26:27-28. How is Jesus described? How are we described?
14. Jesus says that his blood is "poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." Isa. 53:12 says "He bore the sin of many." Who is included/not included in the "many?" How does a person become part of the "many?" (Read John 1:12; 3:16)
15. Read Jeremiah 31:31-34. Based on these verses, why do you think a "New Covenant" is needed?
16. What are the results of the "New Covenant?"
17. Matt. 26:30 says that they sang a hymn and went out to the mount of Olives. Traditionally, Psalms 113-118 are sung at the conclusion of the Passover dinner. Read Psalm 116. How would this Psalm have encouraged Jesus just before his death? How does it encourage you personally?
18. How do you try to remember the price of your forgiveness? What causes you to forget?
19. What conversation do you need to have with Jesus right now?
20. Why do you think that God wanted you to see/hear this passage today?