

In "the road to life" series we are following in Jesus' footsteps as he goes towards the cross, watching events through Luke's eyes as we head towards Easter as a church, reminding ourselves of what stands behind that greatest of celebrations.

Luke 22:7-38

1. Jesus knew what was coming

- The narrative shows us Jesus knew what was ahead of him in detail:
 - o The place for the Passover meal (22:13)
 - O His suffering and death (22:15, 19, 20)
 - Judas' betrayal (22:21)
 - Peter's desertion in great detail (22:34)
 - The world viewing him as a rebel (22:37)
- He chose to go through it though there were many ways he could have avoided it

2. Jesus saw beyond his death

- Jesus gives us two key pointers that he is looking ahead to beyond his death, to what his death will accomplish.
 - i. The Passover, he says, will be fulfilled (22:16)
 - The Passover points backwards to Exodus surely it's fulfilled?
 - o But Jesus says it still has a fulfilment coming (i.e. at his death)
 - Observe the connection shed blood and judgment passes over
 - ii. Jesus will be "numbered with the transgressors" (22:37)
 - o A quote from Isaiah 53:12 "written about me", Jesus says
 - o Invites us to read Isaiah 53 (the "servant song") to learn about Jesus
 - We find he bears our punishment (v5,8) / iniquity (v6,11) / transgressions (v8) / sin (v12)

3. Jesus did it for you, out of love

- Observe how much Jesus wants to do this: "I have eagerly desired" (Luke 22:15)
- o Even for Peter, who's coming failure he knows in detail

Here are lots of questions that might be helpful to keep us digging deeper into what we looked at on Sunday. Please feel free to pick and choose, adapt, or ignore them:

- 1. Read through the text (Luke 22:7-38) looking for everywhere the text shows us Jesus knowing something about what is coming.
 - O Do you think there is any detail he didn't know?
 - o How do you think he felt about it?
 - o Can you share an example of something you saw coming and tried to avoid?
 - Do you agree Jesus could have avoided it if he wanted to?
- 2. Read through the Passover story (Exodus 12:3-14, 21-34).
 - O How significant was this event for Israel? What did it mean for them?
 - Can you see the connections between the Passover and Jesus?
- 3. Read through the "servant song" (Isaiah 52:13-53:12) with Jesus in mind.
 - How well does it match what happened to Jesus? How many connections can you count?
 - o Is it clear from that text what Jesus' death would accomplish?

On Sunday, I suggested this was a demonstration of Jesus' love for the disciples and for us.

- O What do you think is the greatest demonstration of love you've ever seen?
- When do you think you demonstrated the greatest love for someone else?
- O How do you try to show your spouse / children / friends love?

This outrageous demonstration of love should elicit a response from us.

- How do you respond personally to it? Does it grab you? Has the story lost its power? Be honest.
- O How can we connect freshly with what Jesus has done so that it changes us?

Peter is a particular example: a foreknown failure, still included in Jesus love, who goes on to lead.

- Think back to a specific time you failed God. Is it something you can share with the group? What impact has that had on your life – practically and spiritually? When you think about it, does regret well up, or thankfulness for God's grace at still choosing you despite it?
- How do you think we can help each other use our failures, and the way they show us the extravagant grace of God, to drive us towards God rather than away from Him?