**Sunday, June 6**

Going deeper in Matthew 26:26-30

**INTRODUCTION**

Jesus has gathered the disciples for the celebration of the Passover meal. Passover commemorated the Israelites being set free from slavery by the power and grace of God. Jesus has also indicated that he will be betrayed.

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

26 During the meal, Jesus took bread and blessed it and broke it, and gave it to the disciples: “Take and eat, this is my body.” 27 Then he took the cup and thanking God, he gave it to them: “Drink from it, all of you. 28 This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for many people for the forgiveness of sins. 29 I will not drink of this fruit of the vine again until that new day when I’ll drink with you in my Father’s kingdom.” 30 They sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. Why is the celebration of the Lord’s Supper important to you?

2. Go to Exodus 12:1-30 and read through the instructions for the Passover. What points of connection do you see in the Lord’s Supper in Matthew 26:26-30? What differences do you see?

3. What three things does blood represent in this passage?

4. See Jeremiah 31:31-34. What is the new covenant about? What does forgiveness have to do with the new covenant? Why is forgiveness so important?

5. Look up Exodus 24:4-8. What is the connection between Jesus’ blood and the new covenant?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Tell Jesus how grateful you are for His sacrificial love that is symbolized in Communion.

\*Ask the Lord to fill you with the Holy Spirit so you can live sacrificially and courageously today.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

In the Lord’s Supper we are called to place our faith in the Lord’s sacrificial love for us. His willingness to face death on a cross remind us of the call to live courageously and sacrificially. Take some time at the beginning of each day to ask the Lord Jesus to help you to trust that he will enable you to live sacrificially and courageously by the power of the Holy Spirit. Is there a symbol or ritual you can incorporate in your daily routine that will remind you of this high calling?