

Aim:**Refer:****Resources:**

We are currently studying the last week of Jesus life, this was also the Passover week.

If we go back approximately 1500 years, what was the significance of the first Passover.

Read Exodus 13:3

It was the memorial or celebration of God rescuing His people from slavery in Egypt. Now Jesus was changing the Passover to be a memorial of God rescuing all people from the slavery to sin. We call this new ceremony that Jesus created, a Communion service.

There lots of object lessons in the Communion service – can you name some?

- Bread – Jesus body (Matthew 14:22)
- Grape juice – Jesus blood
- Washing someone's feet – Jesus came to serve, to do something for others
- Foot washing – even though we might already be God's people, we still sin and need to be forgiven
- Grape juice – a reminder that Jesus promised to drink it in heaven with us

The book of John tells us about some other things that Jesus talked about around this time.

- John 15:18-25 – People hated and caused trouble for Jesus when He was on earth, and they will at times do the same for His followers. He continues the same theme in John 16:1-4.
- John 15:26, 16:5-15 Jesus talks about the Holy Spirit, who is also called the Advocate. (Which means someone who works on your behalf, or stands up for you.)

What are some of the jobs of the Holy Spirit?

- **John 15:26** (Testify)
- **John 16:8** (Convict)
- **John 16:13** (Guide)
- John 16:16-33 – Jesus hints to them about the grief and trials they will soon go through.
- John 16:22-24 – He tells them that after their sorrow, they will again rejoice. Then He tells them something new that they will do. **Read John 16:24** (Ask in Jesus name)
- In John 17 Jesus prayed for His disciples, those who were with Him and all who would believe in Him in the future, including us. Here are just a few of the things Jesus said:
 - **John 17:3** (The way of life)
 - **John 17:19** (Jesus gave Himself as a sacrifice)
 - **John 17:24** (Jesus want's us with Him)

Read John 17:20-21 (That they may be one – we can experience 'oneness' with God.

Here is an example of 'Oneness' from Steps to Personal Revival. steps-to-personal-revival.info

This happened on October 23, 2014:

The mission center "Country Life Institute Austria" in Carinthia, Austria was faced with a decision: Should we build an addition or not? There were a lot of things for it and against it. The crucial question was: What is God's will in the matter? We didn't discuss the pros and cons anymore, but rather prayed for ten days that the Lord would prepare us to hear His voice and that He would give us His answer at a prayer meeting on October 23 (after the Newstart guests had left) if we should build the addition or not.

The prayer meeting took place with more than 20 participants. After fellowshiping in prayer each person asked God in silence to tell him if they should build or not. The personal answers from God were shared with the group as follows: on a piece of paper they should write "+" when they should build, they should write "-" when they shouldn't build, they should write "0" when they had no answer and they should write a "?" together with the other symbol when they were unsure of the answer. The result was a sign of God's wonderful leading:

There were 14 "+" (4 of these with "+?"), 6 "0" and 4 blank pieces of paper. (There were also 2 answers, which were unclear and not counted. Thus God's leading was very clear that we should build. I am convinced that we will directly seek God's counsel more and more in the last days.

If you ask God to be in charge of your life, He manages the details for you. And He is a much better manager than we are because He knows everything.

The same thing is true when groups of Christians ask God to be in charge of their lives.