

For the next seven weeks, Dr. Baucom will encourage us to consider the events that occurred in the last 24 hours of Jesus' life on earth, as we lead up to Easter and then the 24 hours following His resurrection. This week, we will begin the series with a look at the **Last Meal** in his sermon: **A Traitor in Our Midst**, focusing on John 13:1-30.

Have you ever had a very busy, significant day when it was hard to believe that all the events had occurred in such a short period? This must have been how Jesus' disciples felt after the events leading up to His crucifixion. Share with your IG a significant 24-hour period in your life.

1. All four Gospels and Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth tell us about the events at the Jesus' last meal with his disciples. Read the following passages and compare the details of the events recorded.
 - **Matthew 26:17-30**

 - **Mark 14:12-26**

 - **Luke 22:7-23**

 - **John 13:1-17**

 - **1 Corinthians 12:23-26**

2. Consider Jesus' words in **Luke 22:15**. Why do you suppose Jesus told His disciples that He "eagerly desired" to eat this meal with them?

3. The meal Jesus shared with His disciples was not just any meal, but was the Seder or celebration of the Passover. You might find it interesting to research the *Passover Seder* on the Internet.

- **Numbers 28:16-25** records the Lord's instructions to Moses regarding the annual celebration of Passover. In **Deuteronomy 16:1-8**, Moses reiterates the instructions regarding Passover.

 - Share with your IG any interesting facts you have discovered about the Jewish celebration of the Passover.
4. The Seder or Passover is a recollection of the night before the Hebrews were led out of Egypt by Moses.
 - **Read and reflect on Exodus 12:1-30.**

 6. Read **Numbers 9:1-15** to find out about the first celebration of Passover by Moses and the Hebrews while they were in the Wilderness.

 7. Baptists observe two ordinances in our worship. These are Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Jesus observed both during his earthly ministry. Christians have observed both since the earliest history of the church. Baptism occurs once in the life of a believer, while the Lord's Supper, or Communion, is celebrated frequently. Jesus' baptism came at the beginning of his public ministry. As we have seen, the Lord's Supper was initiated during the last day of his life.
 - Consider these two symbols and be prepared to share other similarities and differences between them.

 8. What have you learned about Jesus and his relationship with his closest followers this week?
 - How can a deeper knowledge of the significance of this meal and our periodic observance of it in worship help you better understand the sacrifice that Jesus made for you?

 - Share your insights with your IG.