



# LENT

## THE WAY OF REPENTANCE

WEEK TWO: FOR MARCH 1 SERMON

# JOHN 13:1-30

### CONTEXT: THE “HOUR” OF THE PASSOVER

The Passover celebrated the Israelites’ liberation from Egyptian slavery. With it came a spiritual atmosphere of purging sin and seeking deliverance. By placing the foot-washing and the betrayal here, John frames Jesus as the New Passover Lamb.

The original lamb’s blood saved the people from the Angel of Death (Exodus 12); Jesus is preparing to shed His blood to save them from spiritual darkness. This transition becomes literal in verse 30: “And it was night.” In the Jewish calendar, the day begins at sundown. When Judas steps out of the room, the clock for the Passover sacrifice officially starts. Judas doesn’t just walk into the darkness of the street; he walks into the “hour” of the Cross, signaling that the time for preparation is over and the sacrifice has begun.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What do we learn about God/Jesus from this passage? ***Consider His humility, His timing, and His treatment of those who would fail Him.***
2. What do we learn about man/us from this passage?
3. In light of what you’ve learned today, what do you need to do to obey God?

4. **The Towel and Basin:** Jesus stripped himself of his outer garments, taking off the role of teacher and lord to be a servant. What is something you cling to (*pride, a reputation, your comfort*) that prevents you from serving others humbly? What will it take for you to lay that down?
  
5. **The Table and Traitor:** Judas was at the table, performing all the outward rituals of a disciple while harboring a secret of conflicting loyalty. As we start this Lent guide, what is one competing loyalty (something you value more than your time with God) that tends to pull your heart away from the table even when you are physically present?

## **PARTNER PRAYER TIME**

- Split into pairs to share your reflections on question 5.
- Ask your partner: “What do you think Jesus is calling you to do differently this week?”
- Pray for one another. Celebrate the grace Jesus has shown each of you in this time of confession. Pray for strength as you begin your fast and your readings next week.