

Promises & the Eucharist

MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST . YEAR B

1. Gather & Share Food / Drink

25 MINS

2. Worship Music 10 MINS

3. Read the Sunday Gospel 5 MINS

MARK 14:12-16, 22-26

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

4. Personal Sharing based on the Gospel

5-10 MINS

In the weeks before meeting today, a member of the group was invited to prepare a short, 5-10 minute sharing on how this Gospel reading connects with their life and relationship with Jesus. They have considered the questions below in the process of preparing their sharing:

- a. Jesus calls his disciples to do very specific things and promises certain outcomes. Have you ever had an experience where you felt like God was calling you to follow him in a specific way? What happened?
- b. When Jesus says, "this is my body...this is my blood", he is speaking of the Eucharist. Throughout the ages, many people have found healing, peace, God's mercy and love in and through the Eucharist. Have you ever had a profound experience of the presence of God during the Mass or in Adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist?

5. Smaller Group Discussion

20 MINS

Break into smaller sharing groups of 3-5 people and discuss the following questions.

- a. What really struck you from the personal sharing? Have you had a similar experience?
- b. Respond to the sharing prompts in section 4, to break open the Gospel.
- c. What has been one high point and one challenge in your faith Journey since we last met?

6. Prayer in **Small Groups**

15 MINS

Remain in your smaller discussion groups for a time of prayer.

- a. Conscious of what has just been shared, briefly name/ describe your prayer needs.
- b. Intentionally call on the Holy Spirit to be present (e.g. "Come Holy Spirit, please be present as we pray")
- c. Move to prayers of thanks and praise to God
- d. Pray for each other's prayer needs. Where appropriate, you may like to encourage the group to place a hand on the shoulder of the individual that you are currently praying for.
- e. Conclude your prayer time with another prayer of praise, perhaps reciting the 'Glory Be' or similar prayer.

7. Closing Prayer

After you have had time to pray for one another in your smaller groups, a leader closes the evening with a final prayer in the large group.