

## **THE SHAPE OF LOVE**

**Mark 14:12-16**

**John 13:-17**

**Mark 14:18-20**

**John 15:12-17**

**Mark 14:22-25**

**Mark 14:26-50**

**Mark 14:12-16**

Now on the first day of Unleavened bread, when the Passover lambs were being slaughtered, his disciples said to him, "Where would you like us to go and prepare for your Passover supper?" So he sent out two of his disciples with these instructions: "Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a jar of water. Follow him, and when he enters a house give this message to the householder: 'The Master says, "Where is the room reserved for me to eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large room upstairs, set out in readiness. Make the preparations for us there.' Then the disciples went off, and when they came into the city they found everything just as he had told them. So they prepared for Passover.

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment, to love one another as he loved them. Write this commandment in our hearts; give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, who gave his life and died for us, yet is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**John 13:3-17**

During supper, Jesus, well aware that the Father had entrusted everything to him, and that he had come from God and was going back to God rose from table, laid aside his garments, and took a towel and tied it round him. Then he poured water into a basin, and began to wash his disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel.

When it was Simon Peter's turn, Peter said to him, "You, Lord, washing my feet?" Jesus replied, "You do not understand now what I am doing, but one day you will. Peter said, "I will never let you wash my feet."

Jesus replied, "If I do not wash you, you are not in fellowship with me."

"Then, Lord," said Simon Peter, "not my feet only; wash my hands and head as well!"

Jesus said, "A man who has bathed needs no further washing; he is altogether clean; and you are clean, though not every one of you." He added the words, "not every one of you" because he knew who was going to betray him.

After washing their feet and taking his garments again, he sat down. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked. "You call me 'Master' and 'Lord', and rightly so, for that is what I am. Then if I, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. I have set you an example: you are to do as I have done for you. In very truth I tell you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor a messenger than the one who sent him. If you know this, happy are you if you act upon it."

### **John 15:12-17**

This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this, that a man should lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I call you servants no longer; a servant does not know what his master is about. I have called you friends, because I have disclosed to you everything that I heard from

my Father. You did not choose me; I chose you. I appointed you to go on and bear fruit, fruit that shall last; so that the Father may give you all that you ask in my name. This is my commandment to you: love one another.

#### **Mark 14:22-25**

During supper he took bread, and having said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them, with the words: "Take this; this is my body." Then took a cup, and having offered thanks to God he gave it to them; and they all drank from it. And he said, "This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, shed for many. I tell you this: never again shall I drink from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

God of grace, your Son Jesus Christ left us this holy meal of bread and wine in which we share his body and blood. May we who have celebrated this sign of his great love show in our lives the fruits of his redemption; Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### **Mark 14:26-50**

After singing the Passover Hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said, "You will all fall from your faith; for it stands written: 'I will strike the shepherd down and the sheep will be scattered.' Nevertheless, after I am raised again I will go on before you into Galilee."

Peter answered, "Everyone else may fall away, but I will not."

Jesus said, "I tell you this: today, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you yourself will disown me three times." But he insisted and repeated: "Even if I must die with

you I will never disown you." And they all said the same.

When they reached a place called Gethsemane, he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." And he took Peter and James and John with him. Horror and dismay came over him, and he said to them, "My heart is ready to break with grief; stop here, and stay awake." Then he went forward a little, threw himself on the ground, and prayed that if were possible, this hour might pass from him. "Abba, Father," he said, "all things are possible to thee; take this cup away from me. Yet not what I will, but what thou wilt."

He came back and found them asleep; and he said to Peter, "Asleep, Simon? Were you not able to stay awake for one hour? Stay awake, all of you; and pray that you may be spared the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak." Once more they went away and prayed. On his return he found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy; and they did not know how to answer him.

The third time he came and said to them, "Still sleeping? Still taking your ease? Enough! The hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed to sinful men. Up, let us go forward! My betrayer is at hand."

Suddenly, while Jesus was still speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared, and with him was a crowd armed with swords and cudgels, sent by the chief priests, lawyers, and elders. Now the traitor had agreed with them upon a signal: "The one I kiss is your man; seize him and get him safely away."

When he reached the spot, Judas stepped forward at once and said to Jesus, "Rabbi", and kissed him. Then they seized him and held him fast. One of the party drew his sword and struck at the High Priest's servant, cutting off his ear.

Then Jesus spoke: "Do you take me for a bandit, that you have come out with swords and cudgels to arrest me? Day after day I was within your reach as I taught in the temple, and you did not lay hands on me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." Then the disciples all deserted him and ran away.

Go in peace. As Christ loved you, love one another.