

LESSON 12

IN OUR PLACE

LUKE 22:1—23:56



1 Check two or three experiences that you would consider to be the most painful.

- ☐ Being betrayed by a close associate
- ☐ Saying good-bye to close friends
- ☐ Having a very close friend turn his/her back on you
- ☐ Struggling with a difficult decision
- ☐ Being deserted by friends and associates
- ☐ Being falsely accused
- ☐ Being mocked in public
- ☐ Being convicted of a crime you didn't commit
- ☐ Being tortured
- ☐ Dying a slow death
- ☐ Being executed publicly
- ☐ Being totally alone

2 Why did you select these experiences?



Read Luke 22:1—23:56 and the following notes:

- ☐ 22:14–18 ☐ 22:19 ☐ 22:20 ☐ 22:41, 42 ☐ 22:44 ☐ 22:53 ☐ 22:54
- ☐ 22:70 ☐ 23:15 ☐ 23:22

3 Each of the following people or groups played a key role in the final hours of Jesus' life on earth. Briefly describe each person's part in the drama (22:1—23:25).

Judas: _____

The twelve disciples: _____

Peter: _____

The religious leaders: _____

Herod: _____

Pilate: _____

4 Why was Jesus in such agony when he went to pray (22:39–46)?

In the final hours of his life on earth, Jesus suffered unimaginable emotional and physical pain, including desertion and betrayal by friends, public humiliation, and physical torture. But the greatest suffering he endured was bearing the sins of the world on a rugged Roman cross. Suspended between heaven and earth, Jesus took our place, paying the penalty for our sins. He hung there totally alone, separated even from his Father. In dying for us, Jesus did more than we can comprehend. He not only took our sins away but also made it possible for us to have a relationship with God.



5 What crimes was Jesus accused of during his trials (22:66—23:25)?

6 Why did Jesus have to die in order for God's plan to be accomplished?



7 Why was Jesus' pain on the cross so excruciating?

8 How would you explain the reason for Jesus' death to an unbeliever?

9 How have you responded to Jesus' sacrifice for *your* sins?

10 How can you celebrate or remember Christ's sacrifice for you?



11 What can you do this week to express your gratitude to Christ for all he did for you?

A Why do you think Judas betrayed Jesus? Why did Peter deny him? When are you tempted to deny your relationship with Jesus?

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B What is the significance of Jesus' words to his disciples regarding the bread and the cup during the Last Supper (22:14–20)? Why do Christians still celebrate this event? Why do you take Communion? What do you do to prepare yourself for Communion?

C When Jesus was arrested, where were the people who had cheered him a few days earlier? Where would you have been? Why?

D Why did the religious leaders have to take Jesus to Pilate, the Roman governor (23:1)? What did they accuse Jesus of doing (23:2)? Why were these accusations different from the ones used before the Jewish council (22:66–71)? How did Jesus respond to these accusations? How do you respond when falsely accused of something?

E Why did Pilate give in to the religious leaders' demands to have Jesus crucified? How are you pressured to do wrong each day? How can you resist that pressure?

F How did each of the crucified criminals respond to Jesus (23:39–43)? What does this teach us about salvation?

G Why did Jesus tell the women of Jerusalem, "Don't weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children" (23:28)? For what do you weep?

H What was significant about the words exchanged between Jesus and the criminal on the cross (23:42, 43)? In what ways do you identify with this criminal?