

Questions For Reflection and Discussion

- Think about the original garden in Genesis 2. How do these gardens each reflect God's presence, human sinfulness, and the hope of redemption?
- Why do you think Judas chose to betray Jesus? What is he looking for? Do we ever do things similar?
- The soldiers respond in fear when Jesus says, "I am he" Why do they do that? What does this say about Jesus' identity?
- For each of the characters in the story, as the question: Who are they looking for?
 - The disciples
 - Judas
 - The soldiers
 - Religious police

Prayer List/Notes



Who are you looking for?

Scripture Focus This Week:

John 18:1-7

Daily Reading Plan

This week, as we prepare for Easter, read through the whole story of Jesus' last days. Imagine yourself as one of the disciples following him.

Sun: **John 12:12-50**—Father save me from this hour?

Mon: **John 13:1-14:7**—Do you know what I have done to you?

Tue: **John 14:8-15:17**-- Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

Wed: **John 15:18-16:33**-- ...yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?'

Thr: **John 17:1-18:18**-- Whom are you looking for?

Fri: **John 18:19-19:16**-- But if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?

Sat: **John 19:16-42**—It is finished

Prayer

Loving God, as we turn our hearts toward the cross this week, allow this familiar story to fill new spaces in our hearts. Let us marvel at your love and conform our hearts to your example. Let us confess our sinfulness, experience your grace, and then share that love with everyone we meet so that they too can come to know you as well. Amen.



Scan for the
guided
meditations.

Lenten Practice:

hospitality

*“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers,
for by doing that some have entertained angels
without knowing it.”
(Hebrews 13:2 NRSV)*

Hospitality is much more than opening our homes to guests—it's about opening our hearts. Rooted deeply in Scripture, hospitality reflects the very nature of God, who welcomes us with grace, despite our brokenness: “We love because God first loved us” (1 John 4:19). In practicing hospitality, we mirror this divine welcome to others, creating space for connection, healing, and transformation.

In a world marked by isolation and hurried living, hospitality invites us to slow down and see others—not as interruptions, but as image-bearers of God. In Genesis 18, Abraham is visited by three strangers. He immediately welcomes them and has Sarah prepare them a meal. His unhesitating hospitality was a indication of his holiness and good character. They in turn provide him confirmation of God's covenant with him and prophesy about the birth of Isaac. Hebrews 13:2 uses this story as an encouragement that when we welcome others, Jesus can be present there as well

Hospitality is not just about welcoming our friends, but also making space in our hearts to embrace the stranger, the outsider, and the forgotten, offering not just food or shelter, but presence, dignity, and love.

Hospitality challenges the comfort of self-centered living. It requires vulnerability, intentionality, and a willingness to be inconvenienced. It shifts our focus from performance to presence—from impressing guests to loving them. True hospitality is not about curated meals or perfect homes, but about creating a sacred space where people feel seen, heard, and valued.

Jesus exemplified this hospitality throughout His ministry. He dined with sinners, welcomed children, touched lepers, and made space for those marginalized by society. His table was a place of radical inclusion and grace. When we practice hospitality, we follow in His footsteps, making room for others at our tables—and in our lives.

Ultimately, hospitality is not just something we do—it's a way of being. It's the posture of a heart attuned to the needs of others, willing to reflect God's generous welcome. As we cultivate this discipline, we not only bless others, but we also encounter Christ Himself, who said, “Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40).