

DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES

DISCUSSION GUIDES

EVERY MONDAY

Discussion Guide

Sunday Sermon 3.29.26



Exalting Jesus in Easter Part 2: His Cup (Continued)

This guide is designed to help your family or group take what was taught on Sunday and move from simply hearing the information to applying it in ways that build up and encourage one another. Feel free to adjust the depth and number of questions based on your time and the size of your group.

Access the Sermon on the Website & App:

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The smartphone screen shows the OBC app interface with the following content:
- Time: 9:28 AM
- Search bar with 'OBC' and filters (filter, search, refresh)
- 'Sunday Mornings' section with a church image and the text 'Let us all look to be working together.'
- 'PODCAST FEEDBACK FORM' section with a microphone icon and the text 'Podcast Feedback Form'.
- Bottom navigation bar with icons for Home, Search, Live, Events, and More.

Opening Prayer

Begin your time together by thanking God for the sacrifice of Jesus and asking the Holy Spirit to open your hearts and minds to understand the significance of the cup He drank for us.

Key Scripture References

- Mark 10:35-39
 - Matthew 20:20-23
 - Mark 14:32-36
 - John 18:4-11
 - John 19:30
 - Isa 52:13-15
 - Isa 53
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Discussion Questions

Understanding the Cup

1. The Reality of Sin's Payment The sermon states: "No sin ever committed just disappears. Every sin ever committed has to be paid for by somebody—either Jesus or yourself."

- How does this truth change your perspective on sin and salvation?
- Why is it important to remember that sin always has a consequence?

2. James and John's Request (Mark 10:35-39)

- What does James and John's request reveal about their understanding of Jesus' mission at that point?
- Jesus tells them, "You do not know what you ask." When have you asked God for something without fully understanding what was involved?
- What's the difference between sharing in Christ's sufferings and drinking the cup that only He could drink?

3. The Present Tense Cup (Mark 10:38)

- The sermon emphasizes that Jesus was "currently drinking" this cup throughout His earthly ministry. What does this tell us about the nature of His sacrifice?
- How does understanding that Jesus' entire life was an act of obedience and suffering deepen your appreciation for Him?

The Perfect Servant

4. Jesus' Perfection

- Why was it absolutely essential that Jesus remain sinless and perfectly obedient?
- What would have been the consequences if Jesus had failed at any point?
- How does Jesus' perfection as the "perfect servant of Yahweh" give you confidence in your salvation?

5. The Transfiguration Connection (Matthew 17, Mark 9)

- The disciples saw Jesus' glory at the Transfiguration but couldn't tell anyone. How might this have affected their expectations?
- When Jesus talks about being "glorified" in John 13:31, what did the disciples likely think was about to happen?
- How does God's definition of glory differ from our human expectations?

Gethsemane: The Critical Moment

6. "Not My Will, But Yours" (Mark 14:32-36)

- This is the only time Jesus prays "Abba" (Papa/Daddy). What does this intimate term reveal about this moment?
- What does Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane teach us about honest prayer and wrestling with God's will?
- The sermon asks: "Can you imagine us learning how to live on a daily basis like that?" What would it look like to daily pray "not my will, but yours"?

7. The Cup the Father Gave (John 18:11)

- Jesus asks Peter, "Shall I not drink the cup which my Father has given me?" What does this reveal about Jesus' understanding of His mission?
- How does knowing that the cup came from the Father change how we view Jesus' suffering?

Personal Application

8. Drinking from the Cup of Life

- The sermon emphasizes that Jesus drank the cup of wrath so we could drink from the cup of eternal life, peace, and forgiveness. Have you personally received this gift?
- How should the reality of what Jesus drank for us affect our daily lives?

9. Love One Another (John 13:34-35)

- Jesus says the world will know we are His disciples by our love for one another. Why is this command placed right in the context of His impending suffering?
- How does understanding the cup Jesus drank motivate us to love others better?
- What specific ways can your group demonstrate this love to one another and to those outside the church?

10. Meditation vs. Information

- The sermon challenges us about the difference between being students of God's Word and truly meditating on it to be changed by it (Psalm 1). What's the difference?
 - How can we move from just knowing about Jesus' sacrifice to having it transform our hearts?
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Key Takeaways

1. **The cup was comprehensive:** Jesus' suffering wasn't just physical—it included rejection, temptation, and ultimately bearing the wrath of God for our sins.
 2. **The cup was necessary:** If Jesus hadn't drunk this cup perfectly and completely, we would still be dead in our sins.
 3. **The cup was willing:** Despite the horror of what awaited Him, Jesus chose obedience: "Not my will, but yours."
 4. **The cup was finished:** "It is finished" (John 19:30) means the cup is empty—the work of salvation is complete.
 5. **The cup offers life:** Because Jesus drank the cup of wrath, we can now drink from the cup of eternal life, peace, and reconciliation with God.
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Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge

Choose one of the following to practice this week:

Option 1: Daily Meditation Spend 10-15 minutes each day this week meditating on one aspect of Jesus' suffering. Don't rush—just sit with it and let it move from your head to your heart.

Option 2: "Not My Will" Prayer Each day, identify one area where your will conflicts with what you know God wants. Pray, "Not my will, but yours," and take one concrete step of obedience.

Option 3: Gratitude Journal Write down three specific things each day about what Jesus' sacrifice means for you personally. Be specific—not just "He died for my sins," but "Because Jesus drank this cup, I am forgiven for..." or "I have peace about..."

Option 4: Demonstrate Love Identify one person in your life (preferably someone difficult) and intentionally demonstrate Christ's love to them this week in a tangible way.

Reflection Questions for Personal Time

- Am I proud of Jesus? Do I treasure Him as the prize, or do I see Him mainly as a means to get what I want?
 - Do I truly understand what it cost Jesus to save me, or have I become numb to the cross?
 - When I think about death and eternity, am I excited about seeing Jesus face to face?
 - Is my Christian life characterized more by religious activity or by genuine worship flowing from a grateful heart?
 - How would my life be different this week if I truly grasped the magnitude of the cup Jesus drank for me?
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Closing Exercise

Communion Reflection If your group practices communion together, take time to do so now with extended silence and meditation. If not, spend 5-10 minutes in silent reflection on the cup Jesus drank.

Consider these questions during your silence:

- What specific sins did Jesus bear for me on the cross?
 - What cup am I drinking from today—the cup of life He offers, or cups of my own making?
 - How can I live this week in light of His finished work?
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Closing Prayer

Have each person pray a one-sentence prayer of gratitude for a specific aspect of Jesus' sacrifice that stood out to them from this discussion.

Close by reading together John 19:30: "So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, 'It is finished!' And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit."

For Next Week

Read and reflect on Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (the Suffering Servant passage) in preparation for your group's continued reflection during Holy Week.

Consider: How does this prophecy, written 700 years before Christ, deepen your understanding of the cup Jesus drank?