**“Surely, not I?”**

Going deeper in Mark 14:17-26

**INTRODUCTION –** On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, Jesus sent two of his disciples into Jerusalem to secure a room and make preparations for the Passover meal. He gave them specific instructions on how to go about this. “The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.”

**READ** – *Read (passage) aloud. Read it several times. Listen for what the Spirit of God is saying, don’t just think about it.*

**17**When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. **18**While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me.”

**19**They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, “Surely, not I?”

**20**“It is one of the Twelve,” he replied, “one who dips bread into the bowl with me. **21**The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.”

**22**While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take it; this is my body.”

**23**Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

**24**“This is my blood of thecovenant, which is poured out for many,” he said to them. **25**“Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

**26**When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

**ENGAGE** – *Questions for going deeper. God is speaking… to you.*

1. How would you have felt if you had been sharing this Passover meal with Jesus?

2. Why didn’t Jesus name the one who would betray him?

3. Why didn’t Jesus reassure his disciples when they asked, “Surly, not I?”

4. What/who are the disciples focused on as they recline at the table?

5. How is the humanity of Jesus highlighted in the Last Supper?

6. What hope can we find in the events of the Last Supper?

7. What profound new meaning does Jesus give the Passover Bread? The cup?

**PRAY** – *God has spoken. So, reply.*

\*Give thanks for the radical love Jesus holds for each and every one of us!

\*Give thanks that though you are a sinner, Jesus invites you to his table.

\*Ask for forgiveness for the times you have “betrayed” our Lord.

**LIVE** – *This is where the rubber hits the road.*

Jesus reclined and ate with Judas who would betray him unto death. He also ate with those who would deny him and leave him. Yet, knowing what he did, Jesus spoke words of truth and love to them. During this Lenten season, how will you respond to the words of truth and love Jesus has for you?