

# Approaching Easter

A Devotional Series: Week of March 27

“Under Arrest” (Luke 22:1-62)



# Day 1 | Luke 22:1-38

## Appetizer

Betrayal: the breaking of a trust or confidence in a relationship. What is it like to be betrayed? How have you seen betrayal impact family relationships? What did it take in order to restore trust in the one who was the betrayer?

## Big Idea: Betrayed by One of His Own

Oh the sweetness and sorrow that filled Jesus' road to the Cross. His last hours had finally come and they were filled with betrayal, arrest, and denial. But, as hard as the journey for Jesus was, **verse 37** makes it clear that this road was already paved by the Father and fully accepted by Jesus Himself. And in **verses 1-34**, we see Jesus responding with humility toward the disciples and submission to the will of God the father.

## Main Course

1. If you were Jesus, how hard would it have been for you to participate in the Last Supper with Judas? Knowing that Judas was about to betray you, what would you have done?
2. Why do you think the disciples began to argue over who would be the greatest? In what areas of your life do you find yourself pushing against humility and desiring recognition or position? What can you learn from Jesus' response to the arguing disciples?

## Dessert

As a family, and following dinner this evening, turn to **John 13** and read the account of Jesus washing the disciple's feet. Then, wash each other's feet asking the following question: whose feet would it be hard for you to wash and why?

# Luke 22:1-38

## Day 2 | Arrested and Alone::Luke 22:39-54

### Appetizer

Let's say you have been sentenced to death and you know you are going to be sent into eternity tomorrow. What would be your last request? How would you spend the last hours of your life? What would it be like to spend your last hours alone?

### Big Idea

Jesus knew his arrest was close at hand and instead of going “sky diving, or rocky mountain climbing, or trying to ride a bull named Fu Manchu” (Tim McGraw), Jesus chose to spend his last moments with the Father in prayer. And for support, He asked those closest to Him, Peter, James, and John, to accompany Him. But instead of proving to be a support to Jesus in prayer, they gave into their flesh and slept. Then came His betrayal and unjustified arrest.

### Main Course

1. Jesus spent His last hours of freedom in prayer and with those closest to Him. How would you have spent your last hours?
2. What were the reasons behind Jesus' request of the Father to “remove this cup from Him”? His arrest was unjustified. Jesus had done nothing wrong. Read **verse 42** again. How would you have responded knowing that your unjustified arrest was at hand?

### Dessert

As a family, read **verses 47-53** then discuss the following: the disciples with Jesus were ready to take the kingdom with the sword. What did this say about what they thought of the Messiah and what they wanted from Him? Are you any different? In what areas of your life do you wish Jesus would simply take by force? Unkind friends? Mean teachers? Unfair boss? What?

Luke 22:39-54

# Day 3 | Denied by a Friend::Luke 22:55-62

## Appetizer

It's a busy Saturday morning at the grocery store and you have spent the last hour fighting aisle traffic in order to get the groceries you need for the next week. You stand in the checkout line for an additional 20 minutes. The total is \$50.00 more than you expected and as you swipe your debit/credit card, you receive the message DENIED! How are you feeling right now?

## Big Idea

Denial is one of the most relationally painful experiences that one ever has to endure. And just as Jesus predicted, Peter denies Jesus three times. And, his denial of knowing Jesus was within earshot of Jesus. Jesus had just been betrayed by one of His disciples, unjustly arrested, and now we see one of those closest to Him outright denying even knowing Him. What a painful experience that must have been.

## Main Course

1. We see in **verse 62** how Peter responded to his denial of Jesus, but in what situations that life presents have you been guilty of denying Jesus? How do you feel after denying Him?
2. Peter wept bitterly because of His denial of Christ, but how do you think Jesus felt? How have you experienced denial in your life and how did you respond to the pain?

## Dessert

As a family, spend some time discussing **2 Timothy 2:11-13**. Then, as a family, commit to memorizing these verses. End your family discussion with prayer thanking God that He remains faithful!

Luke 22:55-62