



Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2022



Take your Pulse

In honor of the classic car show in Monmouth, what is your favorite car of all time?

When did your car fail you and strand you in a difficult spot?

Today's Reading

Luke Chapter 22

Because each Gospel tells the story of Jesus' arrest and crucifixion differently, it is natural when reading through one Gospel to wonder why the details are included here that are not included in other Gospels. We want more information than the Gospels provide, as modern biographies we are used to reading are way more thorough in detailing motives and events. So how can we distance ourselves from those modern reading concerns and just read the Gospel as a witness to Good News as the author offers it? Is there Good News in Jesus lifting a cup and breaking bread? Is there Good News in two swords? Is there Good News here at all? When we peel back the layers of what we want out of the Gospel and instead just hear what is offered, the answer is yes—there is Good News in God fulfilling salvation before our eyes in the person of Jesus.



Start the Thinking

Earlier in the Gospel, Jesus sent his disciples out into ministry and ordered them to take nothing with them. Now, Jesus is offering his disciples a chance to take something with them, and included is two swords. What do we need today in order to carry out the ministry Jesus asks us to do?



Conversing with God

O Holy God, in the gifts of bread and wine you have established a new covenant with all creation. In this new covenant nothing will ever silence your grace, forgiveness, mercy, or compassion. In this new covenant all that suffers is given new life. Renew us within this new covenant and empower us to proclaim its majesty throughout all creation. In your holy name we pray. Amen



Be blessed

May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.