

## 1. Get Acquainted: Icebreaker / Fellowship

- What separates an accident from a plan?
  - What was an accidental bad or good that you experienced this week?
  - What was a planned bad or good you experienced this week?

## 2. Worship: Anticipation as Worship. Exhaustion as worship. Pain as worship. Struggle as Worship. – Past, Present and Future

Song of the Week – Worthy of Your Name

<https://open.spotify.com/track/1hQEZ8Bm6cXO1mZ7fXZqkU?si=7c7Wvpp-S1ivn7NK63-txw>

Spend some time developing the skill of worship by praising, honoring and thanking God through the following Past, Present and Future:

Anticipation of future events:

- Examples:
  - Jesus said he “earnestly desired” to eat his Passover before He suffered.
  - What are future events you earnestly desire that you can worship God for NOW?
    - Weddings – yours, your kids, ours with Jesus
    - Feast of The Lamb – The Party of Parties
    - Conversions of Enemies to Children of God

Exhaustion from Past, Present or Future Events:

- Examples:
  - Being Head Master, Home room Mom, PE coach, Social Coordinator, Teacher, Computer Tech Expert and more and more
  - Over Zooming
  - Sinning against each other in close quarters of the home life
  - All News-ed out

Pain from Past, Present or Future Events:

- Examples:
  - Hurting from missing contact with friends
  - Uncertainty
  - Anger at Others

Struggle from Past, Present or Future Events:

- Examples:
  - Keep your:
    - Marriage Going
    - Kids Happy
    - Bills Paid
  - In the fight against discouragement

### 3. Kingdom Centered Prayer:

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US...

1. Worship the LORD for His sovereign power, wisdom and goodness, especially in His work through suffering. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He is in control and that no one can possibly unseat Him.
2. How have you lived as if you’re a victim and that God is your greatest offender, *when in reality we have betrayed Him?* Confess your foolishness and unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and change your heart.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for choosing to suffer to meet your needs – to remove your guilt and makes you whole when no one else would. And thank Him for loving and enduring with you when no one else could.
4. Who do you know that has suffered and it has them discouraged? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help and encourage them in Christ; especially that they see how Jesus can turn even *death* into redemption.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to grow you in wisdom. Pray for a heart to read God’s Word every day; to know the LORD more and more; and to grow in true loyalty to Him as your good King and Savior.

### 4. Sermon Reflection:

**Proclamation of God’s Word**

**Text:** Luke 22:7-23 (ESV)

**Title:** The Instincts of Jesus: His Willingness to Suffer **Teacher:** Tim Rice

<sup>7</sup> Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup> So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.” <sup>9</sup> They said to him, “Where will you have us prepare it?” <sup>10</sup> He said to them, “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters <sup>11</sup> and tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ <sup>12</sup> And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there.” <sup>13</sup> And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover. <sup>14</sup> And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, “I have

earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. <sup>16</sup> For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” <sup>17</sup> And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. <sup>18</sup> For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” <sup>19</sup> And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” <sup>20</sup> And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. <sup>21</sup> But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. <sup>22</sup> For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!” <sup>23</sup> And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

Intro: What separates an accident from a plan? Answer: Will

**Goal of this Sermon: Move each of us one click in our willingness to suffer for others**

Tim expressed great concern that he not come across harsh, hard, or demanding about our need to suffer but actually communicate hope in our suffering. The tension or urgency comes from the great value in suffering and then the great good that comes from it and all of that good work is veiled or hidden from most of us. Jesus suffered to live, die and be raised so that we might be saved which should cause in us the same “worth it” wisdom for us to suffer out of love for the betterment of others. If we will not suffer others will not be bettered. If we will not suffer and learn to thrive in our sufferings, we will not accomplish our mission – a transformed life and a transformed City. Our everything hinges on our response to God’s invitation to join in Jesus’ sufferings for God’s Global Redemptive Plan.

**GOD’S DELIBERATE PLAN – Jesus is no victim**

Jesus is no victim.

- He chose to suffer
- Fulfill the promise, here to pay the penalty
- He knew what He was in for
- Desired, Desired – double down wanted to
- Love The Plan – The What and Why
  - The what – Offer His life and Death to redeem
  - The Why – He loves His Father and He loves Us

Do you think the work Jesus did was worth the pain and loss He experienced?

Do you think the reward of the souls saved and the eternity of blessing was worth the suffering He endured?

**OUR ARTFUL DODGE – Our culture deifies will, eschews pain**

Most of us are scared of suffering and pain so we labor, even meditate, on how to avoid it. But many of us have suffered for our good and found it worth it. All us have gone in to suffer avoidance and then missed out or experienced greater troubles. The very few have mastered the skill of thriving in suffering. A huge difficulty to communicate in Christianity or to win ourselves to enjoy is the truth that to suffer now means you will escape the eternal suffering to come or the other option is that you can escape suffering now to endure suffering forever.

What are some things you have endured or suffered that gained you or others a blessing?

What are some opportunities for suffering that you avoided and what has it cost you? Was it worth the comfort?

What are some of the ways you avoided:

- Your chores growing up
- Your school work
- Fitness
- Paying your taxes
- Giving to Charities
- Being a Blessing
- Crucial Conversations
- Telling the Truth

What if you had developed ways to thrive rather than avoid difficulty?

- How would you be different?
- Your attitude?
- Your marriage?
- Your experience of being single?
- Your family

**WHAT SHAPES HOW WE ACT – God’s power, wisdom, love**

Jesus suffered to make suffering make sense to us.

- How does the story of Jesus “win” you or “excite” you TO suffer for others?
- To love is to suffer
  - Who suffered for your betterment?
  - Who risked crossing you to help you?
  - Who did you reject cuz they loved you enough to require more of you than you thought you had?
  - When did it hit that they were loving you and you went back to thank them?
- Hesed love is the love that suffers rejection and loves all the more
  - Who loved you when you walked away from them?
  - Who are you currently loving who has rejected you?

How are you:

- Humble, Secure and Motivated by the suffering of Jesus for you?

## 5. Mission: On Mission to Sacrifice for the Good of Others Blesses US

- How does this motivate you to sacrifice for “others”?
- Look around you, who needs your sacrifice?
- How does benefiting those in need motivate you more?