

STUDY GUIDE

NOTE: Often when people are near death, they speak from their hearts; Jesus' sayings were a window into His heart, into God's plan for our salvation; none were uttered lightly

- 1. Luke 23:34 (Father forgive them ...)** The cross gives us glimpse of how God sees our sins and this view made it possible for God to forgive us; essence of sin has always been same – our refusal to love God as much as He has loves us
- 2. Luke 24:39-43 (Truly I say to you, this day you shall be with me in paradise.)**

Jesus visited St Jerome in a vision; Jerome asked, “*What do you want from me?*” Jesus said “*Give me your sins. That is what I came for.*” He wants us to give all to Him. God's forgiveness is an infusion of divine life into our very existence. The cross is only a transition. We believe that the holiness of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the righteousness of the saints and the good deeds done are the work of Jesus made possible by the cross. Jesus assumed our humanity that we might receive His divinity; the *Son of God* became the *Son of Man* so that sons of men could become *Sons of God*.
- 3. John 19:26-27 (Woman behold your son...Behold your Mother)** Besides King in a kingdom, there is also a Queen (not a wife but the mother of the king). God made Mary w/an *Immaculate Heart*; at the cross, Mary transcended her own natural, maternal love for Jesus to become our *spiritual mother*. Mary undid what Eve started in Eden.
- 4. Matthew 27:46 (My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?)** While the flesh of His humanity was calling out, He demonstrated the love of the Trinity for us throughout eternity. Jesus was quoting **Psalm 22: The Prayer of an Innocent Person** (See attached); the essence of love is *self-donation*; we are called to *master our appetites*; to control our passions, to possess ourselves so that we, like the Father, the Son and the holy Spirit, can give ourselves away; the cross of Christ makes suffering powerful if we unite with Jesus, we harness the power of heaven
- 5. John 19:28 -29 (I thirst...) and 6. (It is finished)** Jesus is referring to the 4th Cup of the Passover where He stated He would not drink of this fruit (wine from grapes) until the day when I drink it with you new in the kingdom of my Father. (Matt 26:29) (See page 2); in the process of fulfilling the Passover, Jesus had to suddenly interrupt it to so He could be transformed into the Lamb of God; the Passover of the *New Covenant*; had to follow Mosaic Law of slaughtering the lamb, sprinkle the blood, roast the lamb and then to complete the covenant, EAT the lamb – this is the institution of the Eucharist, the perfect sacrifice of the Lamb of God, the new Exodus, the New Covenant; *I Thirst* wasn't because Jesus was thirsty but that history had reached it *redemptive climax*; Jesus laid down His life *freely*; as Moses was instructed in the Exodus and first Passover – the lamb was no broken bones, the priest sacrificing lamb in temple had to wear a *seamless* robe, it was the 10th plague, God's firstborn given to God the Father for all
- 7. Luke 24:46 (Father, into your hands, I commend my spirit.)** This last saying of Jesus sealed the covenant which lead us out of bondage, out of idolatry, out of death into life, into communion with the Father as His family and gave us full passage to the to our true home, Heaven. This was Jesus' homecoming statement. In Matthew 16:25, Jesus told us “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”. Scott Hahn's story about his

family and his relationship with his father with special insight into the last few years up to his Father's death. God transforms us with pain through suffering.

1. Last supper closely followed ancient Passover liturgy; did not include the fourth cup of blessing (God represents the four expressions in describing the exodus from Egypt and the birth of a nation by using four cups of wine at the Passover meal (See explanations/comparisons pg. 2)

2. Mark 14:24 – 25: After 3rd cup, Jesus stated he would not drink the *fruit of the vine* until He was in the *new kingdom* of God. The correlation between the 4th cup and the last supper was celebrating the true *Lamb of God*. Death of Lamb of God correlated with crucifixion: Jesus death on cross became more than just an execution/religious martyrdom but a gift of sacrificial lamb directly to heavenly altar; the *sacrifice* became a *sacrament!*

Following ritual of original Passover had to kill a lamb, sprinkle blood on doorpost, roast the lamb and *eat the lamb* to fulfill God's instructions

1st Cup: recite *Kiddush* & blessing; read *Exodus* story; "*I will take you out...*"

2nd Cup: Grace over meal: "*I will save you...*"

3rd Cup: the great *Hillel* "*I will redeem you...*"

(Jesus blessed the cup and they drank but left for Gethsemane)

4th Cup: Psalms/Hymns of praises to God; "*I will take you as a nation...*"

(The Old Testament Covenant.)

<p>1. Roasted Lamb, unleavened bread, bitter herbs</p> <p>2. Specific time given for celebrating – 14th day of first month (Ex 12:1-3)</p> <p>3. Lamb was type (pointed to coming of Messiah)</p> <p>4. Took place on 14th of month Num 9:1</p> <p>5. #4 Annulled at Death of Christ</p> <p>6. (Ex 12:14) – kept "forever" (In Hebrew <i>OLAM</i> – <i>for extended time</i> (until cross)</p> <p>7. Cost paid by blood of animal (Old Testament)</p>	<p>1. Bread, wine</p> <p>2. No specific date for celebration (1Cor 11:23-30)</p> <p>3. Christ was anti-type; fulfilling prophecy of Messiah</p> <p>4. Took place 24 hrs. before Passover (John 13:1)</p> <p>5. To continue until Christ returns (1Cor 11:23-30)</p> <p>6. To continue until Christ returns(1 Cor 11:23-30)</p> <p>7. Costs paid by blood of Christ (New Testament)</p>
---	--