The Kingdom Culmination: The Importance of Christ's Atonement Matthew 26:17-35

Pastor Jeff Schwarzentraub January 30/31, 2016

The Word of God reveals that Jesus Christ...

Clearly knows those who reject Him and the punishment they face. (17-25)

Provides the means for the complete forgiveness of sins. (26-29)

Understands that without His atoning work we cannot <u>fulfill His will.</u> (30-35)

## Questions for Discussion:

What do you think was going through Jesus' mind and heart knowing Judas was about to betray Him? What do you think was going through Judas' mind and heart knowing he was about to betray Jesus? How do you think it is that someone can look like a believer to other believers and yet not be one?

What do you think was going through Jesus' mind and heart knowing Peter was about to deny Him? What do you think was going through Peter's mind and heart thinking he would never deny Jesus? What might be some ways we as believers in our day can deny Christ? Why might we be tempted deny Him in such circumstances? What could make the difference in us resisting such temptations?

What is your understanding of the meaning of the wafer and the cup of juice used during communion? Upon what is your understanding based – church tradition or Scripture? What difference does it make?

Pastor Jeff mentioned five benefits of the blood of Christ:

- -Redemption (1 Peter 1:18-19)
- -Fellowship (Ephesians 2:13)
- -Peace (Colossians 1:20)
- -Cleansing from sin (1 John 1:7)
- -Power over the Devil (Revelation 12:11)

Which one of these benefits means the most to you today? Why? Which one do you understand the least? Can others in your group help explain its meaning?