

SESSION 7

THE KING'S EARTHLY BANQUET AND CORONATION

OPENING PRAYER

Holy Spirit, through the mystery of the Sacraments, You offer us the very body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Today, open our eyes, our ears and our hearts in a new way, that we might embrace more deeply, the beauty of the Eucharist. Spirit, we thank You for Your enduring presence in our souls, our lives, our homes and our Church. Help us never to doubt Your love for us, nor the power that we have in You. Lord Jesus, may we be humble and bold enough to take You at Your Word, and may Your flesh and blood give us the strength we need to live in Your Kingdom, building it daily. Amen. *(Pray a Glory Be).*

If you go to Mass every Sunday and holy day of obligation, you will have heard the words of consecration more than 1,000 times by the time you reach adulthood.

Do these words from Scripture penetrate your heart or are they “lost” on you out of repetition?

Earlier in Matthew’s gospel, Jesus warned us about babbling on in prayer (6:5-7). Likewise, we need to be mindful during prayer of what is happening, especially at Mass. The Second Vatican Council affirmed that we are called to “full, conscious, active participation” at Mass. In this session, you will be reminded not only of where the liturgy of the Eucharist comes from, but to whom and by whom it is offered.

Be sure to pay close attention to what the King is doing here, it will forever alter your perspective of the altar.

THE CHAPTERS COVERED IN THIS LESSON

Matthew 26-27

OPENING QUESTION

Do you “give thanks” daily to God for what He did on the cross?

VERSE TO REMEMBER

Matthew 26:26 - “Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and bless, and broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said, ‘Take, eat; this is my body.’”

BREAKING IT DOWN

1. What is Passover? (Mt 26:1-5)
It is the feast that commemorates God’s delivery of His people out of slavery in Egypt.
2. What does the anointing of Jesus symbolize?
She is preparing Jesus’ body for burial.

3. How is *this* Passover meal so different than the others taking place?
There is no lamb mentioned because Jesus is the Passover Lamb.
4. Where are the words of consecration?
“Take, eat, this is my Body.”
5. What does “Gethsemane” mean? (Mt 26:36)
Gethsemane means “the place of crushing.”
6. What prayer is Jesus quoting in the Garden? (Mt 26:39)
The “Our Father”
7. What does “Barabbas” mean? (Mt 27:15-23)
Barabbas means “son of the father.”
8. How was the King adorned for His banquet? (Mt 27:27-31)
A crown, robe, and reed: the earthly symbols of a king.
9. What do Jesus’ words from the cross mean (27:46)?
“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”
The words come from the beginning of Psalm 22.
10. What is the significance of the torn veil in the temple?
The veil separated God from the people. Christ’s death gives us access to the Father.

Play the DVD - Disc 4, Segment 1

TALKING IT OUT

Discussion Questions

1. Why is the Eucharist so central to the Catholic faith?
2. Why would God desire for us to eat His flesh and drink His blood? Explain.
3. Why is it so important that St. Matthew recorded that scene of Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, when He is sorrowful, afraid and sweating blood?

THINKING IT THROUGH

Journal or Essay questions

Why is it so difficult for people to believe in Christ’s Real Presence in the Eucharist? What are the most common objections? What would your answers be to those objections? What would God’s answers be to those objections? What has to happen, in your opinion, for more people to believe that the bread and wine are actually Christ’s body and blood?