

Lessons from the upper room
September 6, 2026 Discussion Guide
This week's reading: John 13:18-38

CHECK UP:

Memory work: Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. – John 13:14-15

How did you follow the example of Jesus in service of others this past week?

OPEN:

- What was a high and low of your past week?
- How have you been hearing God's voice for your life?
- What stood out from this week's reading? How do you already feel challenged to obey?

READ and ASK: John 13:18-38

- What most gets your attention from this passage? Why?
- What was the reason for Jesus telling the disciples that one of them was going to betray him?
- How do you think it is possible for one of Jesus's disciples who saw his miracles, experienced his compassion and witnessed his teaching, to betray him?
- How do you see the theme of "light and dark" in this passage?
- As Jesus begins what is known as the "farewell discourse", what key instruction does Jesus give?
 - o What is "new" about the command?
 - o What does it mean to love one another as Jesus loved them?
- How do you process or see yourself in Peter?

APPLY:

- What lessons from Jesus do you see in this passage?
- Do you have any behaviors or thought processes that "betray or deny" Jesus?
How do you need to deal with those?
- How do we glorify God?
- NEXT STEPS: How do we proactively "love one another" in a way that the world will identify us with Jesus?

Memory Work:

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." – John 13:34-35

Next Week's Reading:

OPEN