

Who's In Charge
Matthew 26:17-35

Review:

1. No matter how confident we may be in our knowledge and our skills, all of us are helpless in the face of life's storms unless we have Jesus with us.
2. And that's because Jesus is the One Who is really in charge of everything that happens to us.
3. But Jesus exercises His authority by dying for His people, shedding the blood of the covenant so that we might be saved.

Reflect:

1. In what parts of your life do you feel confident and in control? How does knowing more about Jesus' power change your perspective?
2. In what parts of your life are you less secure, or even fearful? How does knowing more about Jesus' love help in each of these areas?

Go further: Read Exodus 24:1-12

1. Who did the Lord tell to come up on the mountain? How were they supposed to worship Him?
2. Who did the Lord say was the only one who could draw near to Him?
3. What did Moses tell the people in verse 3? What did they promise to do in response?
4. What did Moses write down in verse 4? What did he have built?
5. What did the people offer to the Lord in verse 5?
6. In verse 6, what did Moses do with the blood of the sacrifices?
7. In verse 7, what did Moses read to the people, and how did they respond?
8. What did Moses do with the blood of the sacrifices in verse 8? What did he call this blood?
9. Who went up on the mountain in verse 9?
10. What did the people see in verse 10?
11. What did God not do to the people in verse 11? What were they able to do in the presence of God?
12. After the ceremony was over, what did God promise to give to Moses in verse 12?

Summary and Application:

1. Given the large number of people that made up the nation of Israel, it is likely that when Moses put the blood of the covenant on the "people" in verse 8, he actually sprinkled it on the twelve pillars he had built close to the altar. What do you think the blood on the "people" meant to those who were promising to obey God's commandments?
2. At the Last Supper, Jesus said that He would shed the blood of the covenant. Which parts of the covenant ceremony in verses 4-8 foreshadow Christ's work on the cross?
3. After the covenant ceremony was over, the leaders of God's people were able to eat and drink in God's presence. How is this situation similar to the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper? How is it different?