The Death of Jesus

Chapter 15 Summary

Chapter Learning Objectives

The participants will examine the events of Christ’s Passion and death.

The participants will understand that through his suffering and death, Jesus frees us from sin.

The participants will reflect on the theme of sacrifice in their own lives.

Content Summary

1. In Christ’s Passion, his suffering and death on the cross, his saving work is completed. The Passion is Christ’s final act of love for us.

2. In his suffering and death, Jesus gave himself freely for each of us.

3. During Holy Week and the Easter Season, we hear about Jesus’ final sacrifice and about the victory of his Resurrection.

4. The events of Jesus’ Passion are recorded in all four Gospels, but our handbook summarizes the account of the Gospel of Luke.

5. Jesus’ Passion and death teach us how much God loves us. We learn both patience and compassion.

6. The New Testament compares Christ in his suffering and death to several images that Jewish readers would recognize: the Passover Lamb, the Good Shepherd, and the Suffering Servant.

7. The mystery of how Christ’s Passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension save us from sin and death is called the Paschal Mystery.

8. Suffering itself is a mystery. The suffering of Jesus reminds us that God, who loves us, brings good out of every evil.

9. If we unite our sufferings with the sufferings of Jesus, we can help Christ’s saving action in the world.

10. Jesus accepted human death for our sake, so that we might know that death is not a final ending but a new beginning through his Resurrection.

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