

An Invitation to the Struggling

Luke 22:7-23

1. Jesus' desires are personal

2. Jesus' desires lead through suffering

3. Jesus' desires are necessary to end suffering

1. Do you identify more with one of the characteristics of Jesus' disciples than you do with others—with avoiding suffering, seeking glory or just being flat-out confused? What's it like to realize that Jesus earnestly desires to be with you anyway and for you to be with him?
2. When was the last time you remember experiencing a sense of Jesus longing to be with you? What about that was meaningful to you?
3. When was the last time you remember realizing that your sufferings are just as much a part of God's plans as were Jesus's--*not* that your sufferings redeem you, but that they are needed to accomplish God's purposes in you and in his kingdom?
4. How have you been earnestly desiring to be with Christ—not just in the future, but right now?
 - a. What are you going through now, in which you need Jesus to be with you?
 - b. Would you consider making this something you pray and talk about with him during the next several weeks of Lent?