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## *Devotion for November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

*"When Jesus had finished all these sayings, He said to His disciples, 'You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.'"*

*- Matthew 26:1-2*

**How many times do you have to hear something before you understand it and remember it?** I can tell you that for me it is well above five times, but I have heard that some say 27 times. I remember taking a class in ancient Hebrew. I made an index card for each word in the vocabulary lesson for the day and I would go through them during the week until the next class. After each class I would add the new words to the stack and review them all each day multiple times. It was a lot of repetition, but eventually I came to learn the words and their meaning.

Jesus was reminding His disciples that He was going to die on a cross. This passage is from a time during Holy Week. Jesus had already entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and it would be two days before He would institute Holy Communion at the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday evening.

Previous to this, Jesus had told them three times He was going to be killed and He would be raised on the third day. It must have been difficult for the disciples to understand what Jesus wanted them to see, that He was the Messiah and the Son of Man and He would die on the cross and be raised on Easter morning, thus defeating sin and death and winning forgiveness of sins and eternal life for them and all believers.

Jesus knew that they weren't quite getting it, so He promised them the Holy Spirit to be with them after He was gone. They received the Holy Spirit on Pentecost and then began to see the Good News of what Jesus had done. You and I also received this very same Holy Spirit when we were baptized. He helps us to understand the teachings of Jesus and helps us overcome sin in our lives. Thank You Jesus for sending the Holy Spirit into our lives.

*In Christ,  
Rev. John Kyle, Associate Pastor  
Grace Lutheran Church & School*

