The Hope of Easter

A journey through the Easter story

Day 6: Jesus is arrested

Read Luke 22:47-53

Violence was common form of defense in the times of Jesus. The Romans had invaded the land of Israel in 63 BC. There were many rebels and revolutionaries to sought to overthrow the Roman occupation of the Jewish nation. Two revolutions were crucified either side of Jesus.

Jesus taught the disciples to love their enemies and pray for those who persecute them but the message didn’t appear to sink in. James and John ask Jesus if they should call down fire from heaven to consume their enemies in Luke 9:54. Now as Jesus is arrested Peter resorts to violence.

Jesus reminds Peter that those who use the sword will die by the sword (Matthew 26:52). Jesus heals the man’s ear. Instead of hurting his enemies, Jesus brings healing.

1. How well have you been loving those who make life difficult for you?
2. Are you praying for your enemies and seeking them to bless them?
3. Paul describes us as once being God’s enemies (Colossians 1:21). If Jesus died for us while we were his enemies; should that encourage us to show God’s love to our enemies?

We encourage you to take time to pray and thank God for saving us while we were his enemies (Romans 5:6-11)