WHY DO WE NEED A NEW COVENANT?

Getting Ready:

From before the foundations of the world, God planned to save people from their sin. God has slowly been revealing more details of that plan, but the promises have always been present. Many of the truths that we take for granted today were veiled and hidden in ages past but, thankfully, in Christ, all has been made clear.

Let's all pray that God will help us to see the plan, to trust the Lord's promises, and to put all our faith into Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

To Discuss:

How many times does God make a covenant with someone in the Bible? What does that teach us about the God who makes promises?

Why is it important to see and understand how God keeps the promises he made in the past?

When God made a new covenant, did that mean there was something wrong with the Old Testament Scriptures?

Do the apostles, prophets, or other writers of the New Testament letters ever make a distinction between the Old Testament and New Testament writings? What do they mean when they use the word "Scripture"?

What Scriptures are referenced most often to teach about the New Covenant? What does that teach us about God's promises? What book of the Bible did Jesus reference most often?

Why is it important to know when something is prophecy? Do we read prophecy the same way we read other types of writing? Is it possible for there to be multiple fulfillments of a single prophecy?

Read Ezekiel 36.16-38 and Jeremiah 31.31-40. How do these apply to our question?

To Do:

Make a list of all the passages promising a new covenant and meditate on what they mean.

Read the letter to the Hebrews and note the comparisons that are made and why they are made.

Praise God and grateful for the forgiveness we have in Christ; use this emotion to create a holy fire in our hearts compelling us to love, obey, and share Jesus.