

Your Time Is Now - Luke 22:14-16

By Adam McLane When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God." -- Luke 22:14-16

As Jesus ended his earthly ministry he shared an intimate meal with his crew. These people had walked with Jesus, tried out ministry, witnessed some of the most amazing moments in the planet's history, and stuck with Jesus. (Remember, some didn't; John 6:66)

When Jesus took the cup and bread off the table he passed a new relationship on to these emerging leaders. As they literally took the elements into their bodies, spiritually speaking they took Jesus with them wherever they went. He was in them! When Luke recorded "the hour had come" it was both an hour of tremendous suffering and a turning point in human history as the Jesus' disciples were called to action.

As youth workers, our time is now. Never before in human history has our ministry demographic -- 12- to 19-year-olds -- been so influential. When I think about the students in our ministries today I get exhilarated with the potential. We all know that the great historical movements of the earth (good and evil alike) have not grown from world leaders but from young people. You and I have the exciting opportunity to present the truths of Scripture and help encourage them to bring a shadow of the Kingdom of God into their world. Just look around and you will see students activated in your community for all sorts of causes... imagine what would happen if they were to get activated for a cause that truly mattered.

The hour has arrived. We need to stop making excuses and allowing the hour to be tomorrow. You don't need a single "thing" for this to be the hour. Resources, ideas, time, technology, or talent may be lacking-- but just look back to the hodgepodge, ragtag gang of people around the table with Jesus. They lacked resources, lacked ideas, lacked time, lacked technology, and lacked talent.

Even better than knowing that today is the day and the hour is now is the knowledge that you are not alone. Youth workers are better connected to one another than at any other time. You don't have to figuratively know we are all in this together, you can literally experience it by joining the growing community of youth workers around the world.

Back at the table, each person had to feel so alone as Jesus spoke those words. This would be the last meal he shared with them. At the same time, they were forced to look inwardly around the table at the community Jesus' departure created.

So here we are - a community of leaders. The time is now! Our time has arrived. We aren't alone. Let's work together and help this generation realize the full implications of the hour arriving.