Chapter 6: The Suffering Servant

• *In what ways do you think this reading describes Jesus?*

• *How did Jesus act like a servant?*

• Jesus’ attitude of humility and act of love point to him being a servant and call us to do the same. This is what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.
Saint Paul of the Cross (p78)

- **Paschal Mystery**: the Passion, Death, Resurrection, Ascension of Jesus Christ
- The Paschal Mystery is the heart of the Gospel.
- *How is the Cross a sign of God’s love for you?*
- *What other signs of God’s love have you experienced?*
- St. Paul of the Cross understood that Jesus’ death on the cross was the greatest sign of God’s mercy. He wanted others to understand this as well and so he spent his life preaching about God’s mercy & love.
Disciple Power (p78)

• *Mercy*: fruit of charity; loving kindness and compassion shown to one who offends us or to those who suffer
The Passionists

• The priests in this order gave parish missions and retreats especially in areas where there were few priests and the people had great spiritual needs.

• Also, trained priests to help those who were poor and uneducated.

• They see Jesus in people who are suffering. They believe that when they help the suffering, they are helping Jesus.
• Christ’s suffering and Death reveals that often the innocent suffer. We can offer our own innocent suffering with that of Christ.
The Paschal Mystery

• At the heart of the Gospels is the Paschal Mystery.

• *Paschal Mystery*: the Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus

• The Paschal Mystery is the great mystery of God’s love for us.

• *Paschal* means “passing over”; Jesus’ passing over from life on earth to a new life with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.
• The Gospels are at the beginning of the New Testament because they are the most important part of the New Testament.

• *Salvation*: the deliverance of humanity from the power of sin and death by God through Jesus Christ

• *How would you describe the mission of Jesus?*

• *What are the ways you show others that you are helping to carry on the mission of Jesus?*

  ❖ *What are two aspects of the Paschal Mystery?*
Each of the four Gospels includes a Passion narrative.

**Passion**: suffering of Jesus on his way to the Cross and Death on the Cross

- Why is the cross an important symbol for you as a follower of Jesus Christ?

- The Passion and Resurrection of Jesus took place during the Jewish feast of Passover.

- The Last Supper was a Passover meal when Jesus blessed the bread and wine, and distributed them as his Body and Blood.
• The Eucharist is a memorial of Jesus’ Passover – his work of Salvation through his suffering, Death, Resurrection and Ascension.

• We recall Jesus’ love for us in his suffering and Death during Holy Week.
The Risen Lord

• Three days after Jesus died and was buried, he rose from the dead (Resurrection).
• Forty days after the Resurrection, the Risen Christ ascended to the Father in Heaven.
• The Paschal Mystery is the center of the Gospel, or Good News. Through this mystery, all things have been made right (justified) in Christ with God – we are saved and will rise to life everlasting.