

Jesus is Betrayed by Judas
Read Matt 26: 47-56
March 30, 2014

Icebreaker: What do you think of when you hear the name Judas? Why? Is there someone's name that, when mentioned, evokes emotion for you (positive or negative)?

Read Matt 26:14-16. What stands out to you in the passage? Why?

Why did Judas seek to betray Jesus? [Note, there is not one correct answer here.]

Judas was one of Jesus' twelve called apostles. What makes it so shocking that one of the twelve would betray Jesus? If one of the twelve can be a disciple today and a betrayer tomorrow, what warning does that offer us?

Why did Jesus call Judas to follow Him in the first place?

Read Matt 26: 47-50 and then have someone recap the passage in their own words.

Here the priest, the elders, the crowd and even Jesus disciples betray and abandon Jesus. Why? What does that teach us about who is responsible for Jesus' death?

What do you make of Judas betraying Jesus with a kiss, an action normally associated with affection, even love?

How do you think Jesus felt when Judas betrayed Him? How do you think Jesus feels when we personally betray Him?

What should we make of Jesus still calling Judas "friend" despite his betrayal?

Who's really in charge in this biblical scene—and throughout Jesus' trial? What gives you that impression?

Jesus still washed Judas' feet at the last supper (see Jn 13). What do Jesus' actions teach us about how we should interact with those who oppose us—even those who want to kill us? [if you have time, see also Matt 26:51-56]

Pastor Kim pointed out two things we can learn about sin from Judas actions: that sin is progressive and that sin deceives us. How do you see those observations in Judas' actions? How do you see those observations in our actions?

Application: Read James 1:22. Although Judas heard Jesus' words, he did not ultimately do what Jesus said. We often do the same. Lent is a season of self-reflection and repentance where we examine our relationship with God. Have your group members break into twos and name one area where you would like to do better what Jesus says. Then pray for one another.

