

To the end 2: Betrayal and denial

Text: John 13:21-38

We continue our series looking at the last hours Jesus spent with the disciples before He went to the cross by looking at His betrayal by Judas and Peters denial

1. Betrayal
2. Peters Denial
3. Dealing with betrayal and bitterness

Reflect

1. What was the root cause of Judas's betrayal?
2. What is the significance of Jesus gesture in handing him the bread to dip into the bowl? How did Judas respond to Jesus' love? Do we ever respond like this in the way we live our lives?
3. Why is Peter questioning Jesus's direction? What is the root cause of his denial? (You may want to look at one of these passages Matthew 26:33-35, 69-75; Mark 14:29-31,66-72; Luke 22:31-34, 54-62; John 13:36-38, 18:25-27, 21:15-19)
4. How does Jesus restore Peter's denial when at last Peter understands Jesus' call in his life? (John 21:15-35) How does grace allow us daily to receive this restoration in our own denials of our calling?
5. Why is bitterness and hurt so dangerous to harbor in our heart?

Respond

1. Who has betrayed you or denied you or hurt you? Have you forgiven them like Jesus forgave you? Break into pairs to discuss this
2. What is behind us sometimes betraying Jesus and denying our calling to follow Him? Spend some time asking the Holy Spirit to help you hear and respond to Jesus's question do you love me enough to follow me?
3. Is there a relationship that you have betrayed? What steps can you make to restore that relationship and seek forgiveness? Is there someone who has hurt you? What steps can you take to forgive that person? Are there ways you have denied Christ through your daily decisions? Bring these to God in repentance and receive his forgiveness.

To the end 3: The way the truth and the life

Text: John 14:1-14

After the shocking news that one of them will betray Jesus and Peter will deny Him – Jesus encourages them. We look at three revelations of hope He imparts:

1. Place
2. Person
3. Purpose

Reflect

1. What is comforting about the statement that He has prepared a place for the disciples in the Father's house? Do we know the way? Do we live in the good of this when our heart is troubled?
2. Is Jesus the only way? Is He the truth?
3. Have you ever said this is the life – meaning total immersion in Christ's life and calling? What would your life's fulfillment look like?
4. Jesus is the only way to the Father – do we need to rebrand this message? What does Jesus mean we will do greater things than He?

Respond

1. Spend some time in prayer rejoicing in the Place Jesus has prepared for you. Rejoicing in the Person of Jesus who is the way, the truth and the life. Rejoicing that you have a purpose in Christ to love.
2. What is the difference between having a 'church member' mentality and a 'disciple of Christ' mentality? What would the difference look like in your life?
3. What are the things we most often forget about God in troubled times?
4. What opportunities might we find in our day to bring the truth of Jesus into a situation (ours or others)



To the End

1. An example to follow

2. Betrayal and denial

3. The way the truth the life

4. The promise of the Holy Spirit

5. Abide in me

6. Facing opposition

7. The prayer of Jesus

8. Schemes & Sovereignty

9. Resurrection Response