



Family Conversation Guide

(September 26, 2021)

In this week's passage from the **Book of John**, the subject is betrayal. **We will look at Judas and Peter, both of whom betrayed Jesus.** See if you can figure out what was different in their stories!

READ AND DISCUSS

Ask family members to find [John 13:21-38](#) in their Bibles. Give them pens and paper so that they can take notes as they listen to the sermon. Before starting, ask your family: **What does it mean to be betrayed?** (*It is when someone you trust does something to hurt you or disappoint you- to affect your reputation, and sometimes even put you in danger*). **Has it ever happened to you?** Discuss.

1. In last week's scripture, Jesus had just washed the feet of His disciples, including Judas, who would soon betray Him. After he washed their feet, in **John 13:21**, Jesus was troubled in His spirit. **Why was He troubled?** (*the word means "agitated"*). (Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say unto you, one of you will betray me.")
2. **Have you ever felt troubled in your spirit?**
3. Sitting next to Jesus was John, called "the one whom Jesus loved." Peter asked John to find out who Jesus was talking about. **When John asked Jesus, what did he say?** (**Verse 26**. Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot.)

4. Read **verse 27**. At this moment, Satan entered into Judas, and Judas decided to do what Satan had been tempting him to do all along- betray Jesus.
5. **What did Jesus say to Judas when he gave him the morsel of bread?** (*He told Judas to go ahead and do what he was going to do, quickly*) **How did Jesus know what Judas was going to do?** (*Jesus was God, and he knew everything, every thought that Judas was having.*)
6. Jesus knew what Judas would do, even though Judas had the choice to do so. The disciples didn't understand why Jesus said this to Judas. **What did they think?** (**Verses 28, 29**--*they had no idea Judas was betraying Jesus*) **What was Judas in charge of as Jesus and the disciples traveled?** (*The money bag*) So, they thought Jesus may have sent Judas out to do something concerning money giving money to the poor.
7. In **verse 31**, Jesus said that now God would glorify Him-**What does that mean?** (*Judas was going to betray Him, setting forth the process where Jesus would be arrested, hang on the cross, and die for us. He would save us from our sins, and He would be glorified in this, returning to the Father in heaven.*)
8. Read **verse 33**. **What did Jesus call the disciples?** (*Little children*) **What is he telling them in this verse?** (*That He would be leaving soon, and that they could not go where He was going.*) **Where would Jesus be going?** (*To die on the cross and go to heaven.*)
9. Read **verses 34, 35**. Jesus gives a new commandment to those who would follow Him. **What was it?** (*Love one another, just as He has loved them. This commandment is for all who follow Jesus! By doing this, all people would know that we are His disciples.*)
10. **What is this kind of love?** (*Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7*)

11. In **verse 36**, Peter asked where Jesus was going. Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." Again, this is in reference to the cross. **What did Peter declare to Jesus in verse 37?** (*He questioned why he could not follow Jesus now, and said he would lay down his life for Jesus.*)

12. In **verse 38**, **what did Jesus tell Peter?** (*That he would deny Jesus 3 times before the rooster would crow- Peter would betray Jesus 3 times.*)

13. **What are the characteristics of a traitor?**

- They operate in secret, they work behind the scenes, they are anonymous.
- The betrayals are carefully planned. Judas secretly went to the religious leaders and made an agreement to betray Jesus for money.
- Most betrayals are "shock and awe." They do it when you are least expecting it, to catch you completely off-guard.
- Traitors are good fakers. None of the 11 other disciples knew that Judas was a betrayer. Judas traveled with the other disciples and he did what they did, but his heart was far from Jesus, he did not really know Him. The devil loves to sow tares in the kingdom- they look like wheat but they never bear fruit. The other disciples were not aware. This is true in the church as well- there are tares- those who say they love Jesus but they are sown by the enemy to make the church look bad. Read **Matthew 7:20. What does Jesus say about pretend followers of him?** (*That at the final judgment He will say that He does not know them*)

14. **Why do traitors do what they do?**

- **Money-** Judas loved money and stole from the money bag. He also betrayed Jesus for money.
- **Selfish ambition-** the love of power and control .Judas thought Jesus would be a king on earth, but Jesus came to show a different kind of

kingdom- a kingdom of the heart, of love for one another. Read **James 3:16**, about envy and selfish ambition. It invites every evil thing in the world.

- **Revenge-** to get back at someone. When you betray someone, you are walking in darkness.
- **Led by Satan-** Any betrayal is demonic. The devil was a betrayer. God created angels, but Satan led a rebellion in heaven against God, fighting against God's purposes. The enemy wants to kill, steal and destroy.
- **It could be part of God's plan-** Look at **Psalm 41:9**. Judas is the one who lifted his heel against Jesus. God knew from the beginning, it was part of God's plan. It was also God's plan to forgive us, through Jesus' pain and suffering, and the betrayal He suffered through Judas and Peter as well. God uses everything for his purposes.

15. **How do we treat a betrayer?** Love them. (*Jesus commanded us to do this, **verse 37**- and he loved Judas, even when He knew Judas would betray Him.*) We have all betrayed God in our sin. But He sent Jesus to love us and to die for us, so we could be forgiven. God has forgiven us, and Jesus commands us to love each other, even our enemies. The world will know we love Jesus by the way we love one another.

16. **What was the difference between Peter and Judas?** (*Peter knew he had betrayed Jesus, but Jesus met Peter on the Sea of Galilee and forgave him. In **John 21**, Jesus affirmed 3 times that He loved Peter. After this, Peter became the leader of the church.*)

What was the difference? Judas ran away in regret and killed himself, and Peter ran away but ran back to Jesus. And he was forgiven!

FAMILY CHALLENGE

Have everyone **write the name of someone who has hurt or betrayed them** on an index card. On the other side of the card, **write the name of someone you have hurt**

or betrayed. Ask family members to find a quiet place and (1.) Pray for the person who betrayed them, and (2.) Ask forgiveness for hurting someone else.

PRAYER

“Jesus, Thank You for forgiving us even though we have betrayed You with our sins. Help us to forgive those who have betrayed us. Help us to love our enemies, just as You have loved us. In Your name we pray, Amen.”