



**“Encounters with Jesus”
Life Group Questions
Week 3: Judas | September 24, 2023**

ICE BREAKER: Can you think of a famous time someone switched sides or teams? You might consider things like Joe Montana on the Kansas City Chiefs or Tom Brady as a Tampa Bay Buccaneers? Or consider playing this video where the T-Mobile guy became the Sprint guy?!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgDG3sXj0k8>

1. Week 1 recap: The bottom line from our Week 1 sermon on John the Baptizer was, “An encounter with Jesus brings complete joy as He increases and we decrease.”
 - a. How have you seen this proven true in your life?
2. From the life of Judas, we saw that *proximity to Jesus ≠ intimacy with Jesus*. As a cautionary tale, what might a “proximity without intimacy” look like in our church today.
3. From John 13:1-27 (*you don't have to read all of it!*) we see the balancing truths that Jesus loves and serves traitors *and* Jesus tells the truth to/about traitors.
 - a. Why is it important for people and churches to get this right?
4. Read John 15:5 as a group. How does the combination of proximity and intimacy result in a fruitful/impactful life?
 - a. How have you benefitted from the fruitful life of another Jesus follower?
 - b. Who might you be able to influence/impact as you follow Jesus?
5. Of the 3 environments Jesus followers need to grow, which one is most consistent for you?
 - a. **How to grow close with God (3 environments)**
 - i. **Large group (church gathering)**
 - ii. **Small group**
 - iii. **Personal group (1-on-1 w/ God)**
 - b. Which one would you like to see growth in?
 - c. What's one practical first step you can take toward that growth this week? How can we help?
6. What other takeaways or thoughts did you have from the sermon or any of the passages we covered?