

Almost Judas?

Justin Terry, August 8, 2021
Small Group Discussion Questions

Getting Started

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

Pacing Your Group

Move quickly through "observation" leaving enough time for "reflection", "discussion", and "surrender."

Scripture Reading

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

Observation: What does this scripture passage say?

Take some time to look up and read: John 12: 1-8, John 13:18-30, Matthew 26:14-16

- 1. What do these scriptures tell us about Judas' character?
- 2. How does Jesus identify the disciple who will betray him?
- 3. Why did Jesus "let him go" without stopping him?

Reflection and Discussion: What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures? Talk together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life.

- 4. Satan's part in the betrayal of Jesus does not remove any of the responsibility from Judas. When thinking about our sin struggles, where does Satan's influence begin and end? Where does our responsibility begin and end?
- 5. Judas is not the only one to betray Jesus. Peter, in close timing to Judas' betrayal, denies him three times. Jesus knew exactly what was going to happen, but he did not change the situation, nor did he stop loving them. Judas couldn't understand this, and his life ended tragically. Peter understood, and despite his shortcoming, his life ended triumphantly because he never let go of his faith in the One who loved him.
- What does it mean to be in relationship with a God who knows exactly what you will do to hurt him, yet he still loves you unconditionally and will forgive you when you ask for it?
- 6. Whatever Judas was thinking in the context of his betrayal, Satan assumed that Jesus' death would end his mission and thwart God's plan. Like Judas, Satan did not know that Jesus' death was the most important part of God's plan all along.
- What does it mean to be in relationship with a God whose plans cannot be thwarted?
- How can the story of Judas and Jesus help us to understand the complexity of our world and culture?

Surrender: Responding to God's voice.

7. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?

** Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today **