

**Follow 04: "What I Want to Want"**  
**Matthew 26 and John 12**

April 21, 2024

**Main Idea:** We all begin our faithwalk as consumers, but eventually your agenda will collide with God's. What you do in that moment determines the kind of follower you will become.

**Self-serving Faith – "Meet Judas"**

Judas was a political activist, a zealot. There were those in Jerusalem who were looking for the long-awaited Messiah. The Jewish Messiah, they believed, would throw off Roman tyranny and liberate God's people. When Judas saw the crowds drawn by Jesus, His ability to heal and change lives, Judas very likely assumed Jesus was the Messiah. Jesus was his political Messiah. He was a means to an end – Judas' end. Like Judas, many of us became Jesus-consumers before we became Jesus-followers.

**The Problem**

The problem was that Jesus didn't seem very interested in defeating the Romans. In fact, He didn't hate the Romans the way Judas did. Worse yet, Jesus was continually offending the most powerful people in the community – the Pharisees. If Jesus were ever to be recognized as the Messiah, He needed the Pharisees in His corner.

**Big Truth! God's hand cannot be forced; His plan cannot be undone.**

So why did Judas betray Jesus? He probably didn't think anything bad was going to happen to Jesus. He probably just wanted to push the process forward. He wanted to get Jesus in front of the Sanhedrin and hopefully they would recognize Him as Messiah. Judas wanted what he wanted. That was his agenda. But God had His own.

**Open Your Hand**

Every serious follower of Christ will eventually let go of their agenda and embrace God's. It is difficult when my agenda collides with God's, but this is how we move from consumer to follower. These are the growing pains. You are growing! God wants to make you want what He wants for you more than what you want for yourself.

**Consumer: "I want what I want."**

**Follower: "I want what God wants."**

**Compromise: "I want to want what God wants."**

This is where God can take you. This is where He took Abraham, Moses, David, Peter, Paul, and many more! You may not want what God wants all the time but like those I mentioned, you should pray.

**Family Night Big idea – Read Matthew 26:1-16**

Help your children understand that Judas only followed Jesus in order to get what he wanted. We should follow Jesus because He loves us and wants what is best for us.

**Elementary School** – Ask, "Why were the disciples angry with the woman who gave Jesus the perfume? Why did she anoint Jesus with perfume? What did Judas get for betraying Jesus?"

**Middle/ High School** – Ask, "Why is it difficult for you to trust Jesus? Why did Judas hang himself (Matthew 27:3-5)? What are some things Jesus wants for you that you find difficult to want for yourself?"

**Prayer:** "Father we want to want what You want for us more than what we want for ourselves. Amen."

**Velocity (Middle and High School Students)**

**Velocity:** At the church this Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Gravity:** Meet in the Community Room today.

**Today's Songs**

*Praise You Anywhere*.....Brandon Lake

*How Deep the Father's Love*.....Hillsong

*You'll Come*.....Hillsong

**Our Church Remodel is Complete!**

Thanks to your generosity and giving to our building fund, we have been able to build new additions and update the old. We have completed our project with the renovation of our Velocity Theater for our youth. Everyone is welcome to walk over and check out the Velocity Theater at Open House next Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Surfs Up**

Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30. Fun and games in KidsJAM. Sign up today!

**Mother's Day High Tea**

Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm. There will be performances, a speaker, and refreshments. Cost is \$20 per family. Please sign up in the Lobby.

**Graduate Recognition**

Seniors will be recognized on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Baby Dedication**

Baby Dedication Service is May 12<sup>th</sup> in both services. It is important that you pick up an information sheet when you sign up in the lobby. Please note which service you prefer.