



Betrayal vs Belief
Matthew 26-27; John 21
04/14/2019

Main Point

We will all fail Jesus, but He is ready to forgive when we are ready to repent.

INTRODUCTION

As a child, did you ever feel betrayed by a friend? What happened and how did you respond?

How do you view betrayal and forgiveness differently now than you did when you were a child?

UNDERSTANDING

| Matthew 26:14-19

When you look at the life of Judas, what were some of his core problems? (Greed, Power-hungry, he looked at the temporary instead of the eternal)

What was Judas' response to Jesus being anointed by the woman with perfume? Has there ever been a time that you overreacted? How was your response similar (maybe not to point of betraying someone, but did you get angry and say or do something you regretted)?

From your personal experience, share about a time that you reacted without the big picture in mind? What are ways that we can focus on the temporal versus the eternal? How do our perspectives change when we keep focused on Christ versus our personal preferences?

When you think about the expectations that you have for your life, how can you become frustrated? How does keeping the gospel central to our lives help us to not overreact?

| Matthew 26:20-25

In what ways are we like Judas? What can we learn about ourselves and our relationship with God through Judas?

We know more than Judas did, yet we constantly betray Jesus by disobeying Him. Why do we betray Jesus?

How was Jesus feeling about the impending betrayal? Does that surprise you? Why or why not?

| Matthew 27:1-10 and John 21: 15-17

What can we learn about sin from the story of Judas in our own lives? (Cost you more than you want to pay, keep you longer than you want to stay)

Why do you think Judas regretted his actions? Has there been a time that you did something you regretted? How have those decisions been irrevocable? How has God redeemed you from those regrets?

What is the difference in grief over actions and genuine repentance? Which did Judas demonstrate in this passage? Peter? How can we lean towards grief instead of repentance?

How does Peter's affirmation help us to see that there is forgiveness available at even our weakest and terrible moments in life? How does this encourage you? Why is it important to know that there isn't anything that you go through that taking your life is worth doing?

APPLICATION

Who is someone that you can pray for that may feel like they have gone too far in their betrayal? Find a way that you can encourage them to see the forgiveness of the Lord?

Write down ways that you have been the betrayer against the Lord? Write down as well ways that you can have accountability in your life so that it doesn't happen again?

Share with the group ways you can encourage each other to have a motivated love that reflects redemption and restoration.