

Praying Together

Spend time praying together with your group, giving time to share joys and concerns, but making sure you have enough time to actually pray. Jot down your own prayer requests before your gathering begins.

Notes on How to Pray for Others

How to Pray for our Church

Pray for unity

Pray for wisdom as we move forward in the senior pastor search process

Pray for the staff and leadership board members during this critical time

Other:

Pray for our Community, the World, and our Missionaries.



"Betrayed"
John 13:21-30

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Opening Up:

Digging into Our Text:

1. Of all the gospels, John devotes the most words to depicting Judas' role in Jesus' story (see below), yet many questions remain unanswered. What questions about Judas seem important to you? Why do you think the author of John's gospel decided to tell the story as they did?

John 6:71

John 12:4

John 13:2

John 13:26

John 13:29

John 14:22

John 18:2

John 18:3

John 18:5

2. In examining the two, foot washing stories that occur at the beginning of John 12 (Mary and Jesus) and 13 (Jesus and the disciples), what contrasts might the author be trying to draw? How might Peter have experienced both foot washings? How about Judas? Unlike the other gospels, why do you think the author of John mentions *both* foot washings?

3. What do you make of Jesus' handling of Judas? Should Jesus have been more direct in confronting him, or do you believe Judas was just "destined" to betray Christ? Whatever your view, how does your opinion shape your understanding of God and God's justice?

4. Both Peter and Judas betray Jesus. How would you articulate the difference between the two and why does it matter?

Getting Personal:

1. In what ways do you feel Jesus has betrayed you or failed to meet your expectations?

2. In what ways have you been confronted by Jesus recently? How are you feeling about it? What appears to be at stake?

Things to Ponder:

Do you find yourself relating more to Judas or Peter today? How can your group pray for you?