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Judas Iscariot Betrays the Lord

Chapter

John 13:21–30, Matthew 27:3–10

Today's Lesson:



1. To understand the life and miserable end of Judas Iscariot who forsook the love of Christ until the end.

2. To understand that even a disciple who was a follower of Christ eventually betrayed Him.

Open Your Heart



Have you ever betrayed someone?

Have you ever coldly turned your back on someone who was extremely close to you?

Have you ever severely hurt that person's feelings?

If you have, what was the reason?

And now...how are you living?



Understanding Today's Lesson

Though Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, was not from Galilee but rather from Judea, he was called to be a disciple by Jesus Christ. Along with the other eleven disciples, Judas was able to walk with Christ and witness the various signs and miracles Christ performed, and hear all the words with which Christ taught the multitudes. Furthermore, Judas was given an opportunity to be able to partake in the ministry of Christ Himself alongside the eleven. Despite all these things however, Judas was unable to understand the glory, power, and love of Christ and merely considered Jesus an avenue to success. Judas was put in charge of the money sack, and Judas started to skim some of the money to use for himself, which eventually led him to commit even greater sins. Satan was able to see that Judas loved money above all else in his heart and used this to his advantage in tempting Judas to sell Christ. Eventually, Judas was used by Satan and sold Jesus over to the Jewish elders for merely 30 pieces of silver. Judas, who was formerly a disciple of Christ, became the one who had betrayed Him.

Although Jesus knew that Judas would betray Him, Jesus loved Judas until the very end in the same way He loved the other disciples. However, Judas refused that love until the very end as well. Because Judas was unable to understand the unconditional love of Christ, Judas was stricken by guilt when he saw the suffering that Christ was put through. And, in a fit of despair, Judas threw the 30 pieces of silver at the feet of the priests in the temple and hung himself on a tree and died. Although Judas had been given the miraculous opportunity to follow Christ in His ministry for three and a half years, Judas was unable to understand anything about Christ. Jesus Himself spoke of Judas in this manner—that it would have been better for him if he had not been born at all.

Notes:



Memorizing Bible Verses

The Son of Man indeed goes just as it is written of Him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born.

(Matthew 26:24)



Meditate

On These Verses

1. After you have meditated on the following verses, give a title of the verse or write a short summary of the verse. Also, write down things you have felt about the verse, or other verses that it has reminded you of.

(John 12:3–6)

(Acts 1:15–20)

(1 Timothy 6:7–10)



Changing

Directions

Because Judas hardened his heart and rejected the love and grace of Christ until the very end, he received the most pitiful and miserable ending. Let us consider the love of Christ and the warnings Christ gave to Judas.

1. When Jesus washed the feet of His disciples, He also tenderly held the feet of Judas and washed them as well. However, during this event, Jesus issued His first warning to Judas. Read John 13:10–11 and write down the warning.

2. After washing their feet, Jesus sat down with His disciples for supper and issued His second warning to Judas. Read Matthew 26:20–25 and write down the second warning.

3. Jesus gave a third warning to Judas in John 13:24–27. Read the passage and write what that warning was.

4. Although Jesus warned Judas on three separate occasions, according to John 13:28–29, none of the disciples understood the warnings Christ gave. Why do you think was the reason behind this?

5. Judas' refusal to understand the love of Christ, and his ignorance of all the warnings he was given, eventually led him to sell Jesus for merely 30 pieces of silver. Read Luke 22:47–48 and write down the last words Jesus spoke to Judas.

6. Am I truly considering and heeding the warnings that Christ is giving me now?



Applying

The Word to My Life

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.
(James 2:26)

1. Please write down how you will apply what you learned today throughout this week.

1.)

2.)

3.)

2. Look back and reflect on how successful you were at applying last week's lesson.



Praying

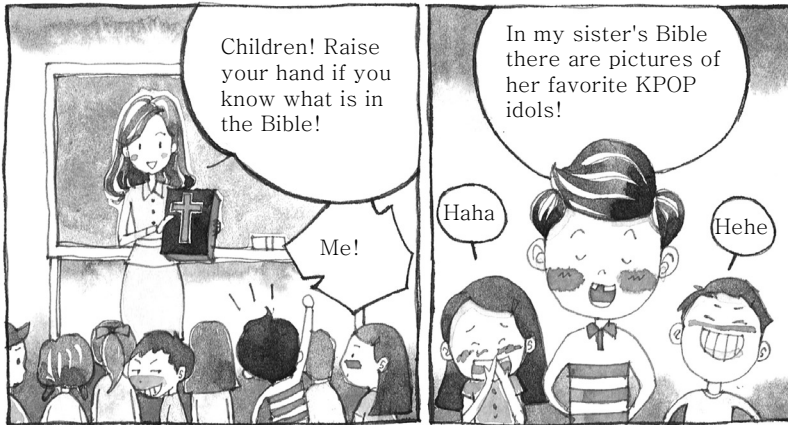
To Live According to the Word

Let us pray that the Lord upholds our hearts so that we do not stray from loving and serving Him. Let us pray so that we can become those who react sensitively to the Word of God, and likewise those who forsake the sins of our hearts and repent.



Our Story

What is in the Bible?



When we listen to the Word of God, or when we sing praises, at times our minds can be filled with worldly thoughts.

That is no different from keeping pictures of my favorite celebrities in my Bible.

How about you?

Are you secretly daydreaming about worldly things while you are listening to sermons, singing praise, or having fellowship?

Let us make sure that we focus properly when we are before the word of God!

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Luke 12:34)

The Thing that Cannot Be Bought with Money

In the olden days, gold was also known as the "black death". This was because gold was viewed as having the ability to darken a person's heart, obscure intelligence, make judgment murky, corrupt the conscience, and extinguish the flames of passion. The relationship between money and people is like that of a boat and water. Without water, the boat is useless. However, when water enters the boat itself, the boat sinks. Our material wealth is essential for our survival, but when it dominates our mind and our hearts, we become like shipwrecked ships with no hope. That is why the Bible says, "the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil." Many people today still believe that money can solve everything. These thoughts ruin nations and people and corrupt churches. These are some quotes about money.

You can buy a bed with money, but you cannot buy sleep.
 You can buy books with money, but you cannot buy intelligence.
 You can buy food with money, but you cannot buy an appetite.
 You can buy a building with money, but you cannot buy a loving family.
 You can buy medicine with money, but you cannot buy health.
 You can buy luxurious things with money, but you cannot buy culture.
 You can buy pleasurable things with money, but you cannot buy happiness.
 You can buy a golden cross with money, but you cannot buy our Lord Jesus Christ.

This is true. There are many things you cannot buy with money. God, life, heaven, and of course our salvation cannot be purchased with money. The things of this world can be bought with money, but the eternal things of God cannot be bought even with all the treasures of the world.

