

IT'S NOT ME, IT'S YOU

HOW TO DEAL WITH
DIFFICULT PEOPLE

Week #1

Judas

(Those Who Betray You)



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HOW TO LEAD YOUR YCI CLUB



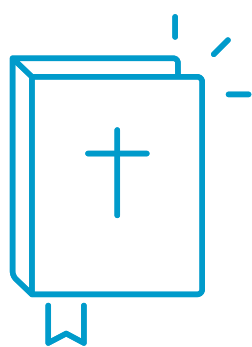
Play

Play a game together.



Pray

Spend time praising and thanking God in prayer.



Grow

Learn from Scripture about who God says He is and how we should respond to Him.



Go

Look for opportunities to share the Gospel, and serve others in your community with your YCI club members.



TIPS FOR USING THIS CURRICULUM

THREE RECOMMENDATIONS AS YOU LEAD YOUR FRIENDS IN PLAYING, PRAYING, GROWING & GOING

1) FAMILIARIZE

Prior to your weekly YCI club gatherings, spend time reading the curriculum to make sure you understand the game and devotional. Leading is easier when you are well-prepared!

2) ORGANIZE

The "Grow" portion of the YCI Club Curriculum gives you the "pieces" for a devotional, but it is up to you to put the pieces together. You may want to give "Book, Hook, Look & Took" a try:

- 1) Book:** Read the Bible verses.
- 2) Hook:** Share a brief personal story or idea that relates to the Scripture.
- 3) Look:** Share the context of the Scripture.
- 4) Took:** Share the takeaways from the "Learn & Apply" section.

3) CUSTOMIZE

Since every YCI club is different, it is important that you modify this content to fit your context. If you need help with this, we encourage you to reach out to your club's Campus Mentor!



FORTUNATELY & UNFORTUNATELY

First, the YCI club should form one large circle. Next, one person should share the first sentence of what will become a story that the group creates together. Moving in a clockwise motion, each YCI club member should take turns sharing their addition to the story by alternating between starting with “fortunately” and “unfortunately”. For example, if the first student starts the story by saying, “Once upon a time, there was a boy named Billy who loved tacos”, then the next student could elaborate by saying, “Fortunately, he won a special sweepstakes that gives him free tacos delivered to his house every day”. Then, following the alternating pattern, the next student would take the story in a negative direction such as, “Unfortunately, Billy couldn’t eat any of the tacos because bears would steal them from his front porch as soon as they were delivered.” Unlike most games, there is no way to win or lose. Instead, the goal is to get everyone laughing as the ridiculous story unfolds!



ASK GOD FOR HIS WILL TO BE DONE IN THESE AREAS:



CLUB TIME

Pray that God will speak to everyone in the room through His Word.



GROUP NEEDS

Take time to discuss and pray over the personal needs and requests of those in attendance.



SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Ask God to move in situations that are unique to your school and community.



WHERE WE'RE GOING

HOW DID JESUS DEAL WITH DIFFICULT PEOPLE?

When we face difficult circumstances, we can take comfort in knowing that “we do not have a high priest [Jesus] who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin”
(Heb. 4:15 ESV).

Particularly in the area of relational stress and struggle, no one in all of human history is more experienced than Jesus.

From his birth in Bethlehem to his ascension on Mount Olivet, he regularly interacted with people that stood in opposition to His mission. However, regardless of the individual, Jesus’ response consistently included themes of:

- 1) **Identity**
- 2) **Understanding**
- 3) **Purpose**

In the **“It’s Not Me, It’s You”** curriculum, we’re going to take a closer look at three difficult people Jesus interacted with in **Matthew 26:**

- 1) **Judas** (Those Who Betray You)
- 2) **Caiaphas** (Those Who Persecute You)
- 3) **Peter** (Those Who Abandon You)

Prayerfully, as we look closer at how Jesus responds to each of these individuals, the Holy Spirit will strengthen and equip us to love the difficult people in our lives!



WEEK #1: JUDAS THOSE WHO BETRAY YOU

MATTHEW 26:14-29 (ESV)

“14 Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests **15** and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?” And they paid him thirty pieces of silver. **16** And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him. **17** Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?” **18** He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” **19** And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover. **20** When it was evening, he reclined at table with the twelve. **21** And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” **22** And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?” **23** He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. **24** The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.” **25** Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.” **26** Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” **27** And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, **28** for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. **29** I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.”



HOW DID JESUS DEAL WITH HIS BETRAYER?

IDENTITY

When Jesus reveals to His disciples that one of them would betray Him, He emphasizes that “the Son of Man goes as it is written of him” (Matt. 26:24). In other words, He understands His identity (Son of Man) as well as His impending death (goes as it is written of him). Rather than openly exposing Judas and immediately inflicting wrath upon him, Jesus keeps His eyes on His rescue mission, knowing that Judas is being used by God to secure salvation for His people. Similarly, when we have confidence in our identity as children of God, it strengthens us to deal with those who intentionally hurt or betray us.

UNDERSTANDING

In addition to having confidence in His identity, Jesus understands the difficult position Judas is in: “...but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born” (Matt. 26:24).

Similarly, when someone betrays us, it helps to pause and consider what is influencing their actions. Oftentimes, those who intentionally hurt others are facing their own difficult circumstances. This does not excuse their harmful behavior, but it does help us make sense of what is taking place.

PURPOSE

In the midst of being betrayed, Jesus invites His disciples to tangibly experience His purpose in coming to earth. The wine symbolizes the blood that Jesus would shed for their forgiveness, and the bread represents His body that would be broken for their transgressions (Isaiah 53:5). Judas’ betrayal is certainly painful, but it is nothing compared to the purpose He came to fulfill!

LET'S TALK ABOUT THIS

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS
(IF TIME ALLOWS)

QUESTION #1

What is one thing that “jumped out” to you while reading Matthew 26:14-29?

QUESTION #2

What role does understanding your identity as a child of God play in dealing with people who have betrayed you?

QUESTION #3

If you are comfortable sharing with the group, discuss a time when you were betrayed. How did you handle the situation, and how can today's teaching help you going forward?

Note: While it's important to demonstrate the mercy and grace of Jesus, there are times when it's unadvisable, and maybe even unsafe, to reconnect with someone who has hurt you. If it's dangerous for your physical, emotional or spiritual health, do not restore contact with the individual.



BEFORE YOU GO

BIG IDEA



Judas' actions represent the most infamous betrayal in human history. Through confidence in His identity, an understanding of Judas' situation and passionate focus on His purpose, Jesus was able to navigate this incredibly painful situation.

SHARING TRUTH



Who is someone in your life that needs to hear about what we discussed today? Pray for them, and find time this week to encourage them.

MEETING NEEDS



What is something your YCI club can do to show God's love this semester?



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