

in your opinion? Do you believe that Jesus forgave Judas for his betrayal? Think about these questions and write your thoughts here.

Thursday, July 13

Read Matthew 27:1-5 and Acts 1:12-17. The deeper implications of the question, “What happened to Judas after he betrayed Jesus?” is did Judas go to heaven? We understand that God’s love and grace knows no bounds, but what does that understanding contribute to the concept of forgiveness and reconciliation? The reaction to the question of whether or not Judas is in heaven ranges from “There is no way Judas is in heaven!” to “Yes, because I believe in the complete forgiveness of sins and the reconciliation that God offers through Christ our Lord. What do you think? Where would you fit on a scale of “No forgiveness possible!” at one end and “Complete Forgiveness” at the other end? Contemplate these thoughts and write your reactions here.

Friday, July 14

Pastor Jack ended the message with a true story about the pastor in his hometown who was attacked by a fellow golfer in a league in which the pastor played. The tall and fit pastor believed that he could “take the guy” in a fight, but knew that his entire ministry would be judged by that action. While we hopefully have never been in a position to betray Jesus, how could a negative action on our part determine our legacy? Think about that question, pray for wisdom and write your thoughts here.

Message Notes – July 9, 2023

The Twelve – Judas Iscariot*

- I. An important part of this message series is the legacy that The Twelve have left behind as an inspiration to us to consider the legacy that we leave as a testimony of our _____ and _____.
 - A. Jesus, of course, was the incarnational presence of God in the world; as fully _____ and fully _____.
 - B. Then there’s Judas Iscariot whose name is equated with all sorts of _____ and _____.

- II. One of the questions often asked about Judas is, “What happened to Judas _____ he betrayed Jesus?”
 - A. The short answer is, he was remorseful, maybe _____, gave the thirty pieces of silver back to the Chief Priests and Scribes and then went out and hung himself.
 - B. Matthew uses two words that can be translated as “_____.”

 - C. The deeper implications of the question, “What happened to Judas after he betrayed Jesus?” is did Judas go to _____?
 1. I am astounded at the vitriol and certainty of many pastor and religious scholars in saying,

*Acts 1:12-17 and John 12:1-8

“Absolutely not! No way is Judas in _____!”

2. Unless you’re part of the _____, you don’t get to weigh in on that decision.
3. I do have an _____. I mean to say that I _____ Judas is in heaven, because if Judas is in heaven then most of us are probably a shoe in!

III. So where did it all go _____ for Judas?

- A. His name is a form of Judah which means “_____.”
- B. So what led to his _____? What led to his betrayal of Jesus?
 1. We’re told that the _____ or _____ entered Judas.
 2. Judas was definitely growing in is disenchantment with _____.
 3. It became apparent to Judas that Jesus’ _____ was not political but spiritual.
 4. I believe that Judas was pushing Jesus to make a declaration of his divine _____.

IV. The betrayal of Jesus is, for better or worse, a _____ for Judas.

- A. I’m not defending Judas; I am asking if it is wise to judge anyone by a _____, albeit tragic action.
- B. As we continue with our exploration of The Twelve, I will keep asking you about your _____ and your hopes for what you will leave behind for your loved ones, your church, and the world.

Daily Devotional Guide

The following is a daily devotional and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, July 10

The message began with a story, perhaps a legend about Leonardo Da Vinci about the same man being used as both the model for Jesus’ face and the face of Judas Iscariot. The man cried at the end of the story, "O, Da Vinci, I am your Christ!! I am the man you painted seven years ago as Christ! O, God, have I fallen so low?" The story might serve as a reminder that we all have the potential for good or evil. What did you think of the story? What lessons can you glean from it? How does the story make you feel? Contemplate these questions and write your response here.

Tuesday, July 11

Read John 12:1-8. When you read this passage of scripture, what do you think about? What feelings emerge? Do you agree with Judas that the cost of the perfume could have done a lot of good for others? What does this passage say about the legacy of Jesus and Judas? Judas’ reputation has received a wide range of objections from distrust to hatred and discuss. What do you feel is Jesus’ legacy? What do you think of the legacy Judas left behind? Does the fact that Judas committed suicide affect your view of him? Think about the legacy of both Jesus and Judas and write your reflections here.

Wednesday, July 12

Read Matthew 27:1-5. What did you think when Pastor Jack brought up the question of what happened to Judas after he betrayed Jesus? Matthew is the only description of Judas’ actions following his betrayal of Jesus. The facts are clear while the meaning of certain words remains a mystery. Some versions of scripture states that Judas repented while others say he expressed remorse. What is the difference between repentance and remorse