

Mentor/Student Discussion Guide

Judas Iscariot

February 2023

*Your goals in your time together today are check in with one another and to discuss Judas and his role in the salvation story.

*Remember that kids this age are at various levels in their ability to grasp abstract concepts and that you are not expected to have all the answers.

*Today you will need a pencil, paper, and a Connect Bible.

*It is just as important for youth to get to know mentors as it is for mentors to get to know youth. Both mentor and student should answer the questions for one another.

*Neither person should be made to feel that they should share more than they are comfortable sharing.

*You do not need to make sure you have answered every question listed below. They are provided merely as a way to guide your discussion. Neither should you feel limited to these questions.

*You will not be reporting answers to anyone. If it is helpful to write answers or take notes, feel free to do so knowing that it is not necessary.

*Please take a moment to pray together at the beginning of your time together. You may pray your own prayer or use the following (spoken by one person or both together).

Loving Lord, you call us to be your disciples, to love one another as you love us. Sometimes we get it right and your grace shines through our words and actions. Other times we completely miss the mark, putting our own desires before the needs of others. Help us to be the people you call us to be – faithful, humble, loving, always. Amen.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Check in

*Check in about any events that have happened the last time you met and what you are each looking forward to in the week ahead.

*Each person share a high and a low (something good and something no-so-good that happened) from the previous week.

VIDEO

*What surprised you about the video? About Judas?

*What are two words you would use to describe Judas?

BIBLE

*Read John 12:1-8.

-Imagine that you didn't know that Judas had betrayed Jesus and that v. 6 didn't refer to him as a thief. How might that make us feel different about his complaint in v. 5?

-How should we decide what are appropriate ways to spend money and what are not?

*Read Matthew 26:36-56.

-What do you think Judas might have been thinking and feeling as he approached Jesus? After Jesus was arrested?

-What do you think Jesus might have been thinking and feeling as he saw Judas coming to betray him?

*Read Matthew 27:3-10.

-Why do you think Judas felt so hopeless?

-What do you think Jesus would have said to Judas if he had gone to him and asked for his forgiveness?

FURTHER DISCUSSION

*Discuss the word "betrayal." What does it mean? What are some examples? When have you experienced or witnessed an act of betrayal?

*Judas believed in Jesus enough to become his disciple. What are some reasons that a person might betray someone they believe in and care about?

*With what part of Judas' story do you most connect? Why?

