

# DISCIPLES

## **WEEK 3: Judas**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The 12 disciples were an intriguing lot. Chosen by Jesus to be his closest followers, his inner circle, and yet they were full of flawed perspectives, limitations of belief, inability to understand, faulty ambitions and ego issues. Not what you would call a winning team. Today we are called to be disciples 2000 years later.

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What are your challenges / struggles trying to be the disciple of someone who lived 2000 years ago in a far away land, a different time, and a dramatically different culture?
2. Read Matt.8:23-27. He rebukes them for lack of faith and courage. Isn't their fear justified? Aren't our fears and doubts justified?
3. Read John.12:1-11. Who is this guy? Why would Jesus choose this guy? (Mark.3:19, Jn13.29) Why would he make him? What does this say about the teacher, the disciples, discipling?
4. Read John 13. After 3 years of discipling, it comes down to this... This relatively unknown disciple is going to hand him over to be killed, and during the trial, the confident/cocky one is going to be intimidated by a young servant girl and deny he even knows Jesus. What do you think when you read this? How does this impact your faith journey? How should it impact our attempts to disciple others?
5. Do you know what your FATAL FLAW as a disciple is? Does it disqualify you as a person of faith and follower of God? What does the gospel narrative indicate about how Jesus sees flawed followers?
6. What are the unique challenges today of trying to influence people to choose to follow Jesus? What makes it difficult to talk to them? What mistakes do we need to avoid in doing so? Why has "religion" become such a barrier?

### **MOVING FORWARD**

Develop the art/skill of asking questions ... of listening ... of seeking first to understand another person before you try to tell him/her what you believe, and think, and understand to be true.