

What To Do When Someone Mistreats You

Lesson 37

John 13:2-5; 21-30; 18:2-9

Memory Verse

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. Romans 15:7

Introduction

Have you ever had someone be mean to you? It makes us feel so sad and rejected. No one likes feeling this way. Let's see what Jesus did when someone was mean to Him.

Jesus had 12 friends that traveled with Him around the country. They had different jobs before they met Jesus. They stayed with Jesus for three years. They learned many things about God and about Jesus. They also got to see Jesus do many special miracles.

One of the men that walked with Jesus was named Judas Iscariot. He knew Jesus but did not love Him with all his heart.

Judas had heard Jesus talk about God and how Jesus was the way for people to go to Heaven. Judas followed Jesus, but he did not really love Him.

One day, Judas quietly left the group and went to see the leaders of the town. He had a sneaky, evil idea. He asked the men how much money they would give him for helping them to capture Jesus.

They were delighted and told him that they would give him 30 silver coins for his help. After that time, Judas looked for a chance to betray Jesus. That means that he looked for a time to turn Jesus over to His enemies.

Juan 13:20-21

Scripture

I tell you the truth, whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me; and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me."

After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me."

Soon afterwards, Jesus and His friends prepared to eat a special dinner together. It was a special celebration and all 12 of His friends were present including Judas.

Ask: What sad news did Jesus share with his disciples?

Jesus shared some sad news that soon something would happen to Him.

He gave thanks to God for the bread and juice and helped His friends see that He would die. Jesus knew that Judas would be the one to help capture Him. Believe it or not, Jesus loved him and had no bitter or mean feelings towards him.

John 13:2-5

The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Ask: What did Jesus do for his disciples?

Jesus also took a towel and washed His friends' dirty feet. This was an embarrassing thing for most people to do. Only a low servant was supposed to do this. Jesus' friends could not believe that He was doing such a stinky job. Jesus used this time to help His friends see that they should be helpers and servants to others. He wanted them to see that it is more important to love and serve others than be proud and uncaring. Jesus washed all His friends' feet. That includes Judas! Yes, even though Jesus knew that Judas was going to do an evil thing, He cared for him and washed his feet too.

John 3:26-28

Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon. As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him.

"What you are about to do, do quickly," Jesus told him."

Ask: What did Jesus say to Judas?

Shortly after that, Jesus told Judas to do quickly what he was going to do! None of the others at the table understood what Jesus meant.

Later, Jesus went to a special place to pray. He visited this spot often and Judas knew exactly where it was.

John 18:2-3

Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. So Judas came to the grove, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons.

They charged Jesus with a crime and nailed Him to a cross. We know that Jesus did not do anything wrong. In fact, He willingly died on the cross. He did this for a special reason—for us! Jesus knew that there was no way for us to go to Heaven because of the wrong things we have done. So, Jesus took our punishment for our wrongs when He died on the cross. When He rose from the grave three days later, He made a way for us to go to Heaven.

Application

Ask: How should we react when we are mistreated?

Jesus understood why mean, horrible things happened to Him. Instead of fighting back or hurting with mean words, Jesus chose love and kindness. Instead of retaliating, Jesus was caring. When we have a hard time or someone is mean to us, try Jesus' way. Be nice to them and see what happens!

If we believe in Him and ask Him to clean all our wrongs, He will forgive us and make us clean on the inside. Jesus will come into our hearts and stay with us forever. He promises to take us to Heaven one day.

When Judas left, he went to the leaders who had a group of soldiers waiting. The soldiers followed Judas to the special prayer place. They came to the place armed with weapons and torches. They arrested Jesus and took Him away. Jesus' friends all ran scared into the night.

Ask: Would you like to invite Jesus to be a part of your life?

God wants to change our lives and our hearts. God wants us to know Him and to know His love. God does not force us to follow Him. God waits for us to invite Him to be a part of our lives.

Romans 10:9-10

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:9-10 tell us that we need to do two things. First, we have to confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord. Second, we have to believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead. Then we will be saved and we will have a new life.