



Date: 2.18.24

Title: Jesus Knew and Judas Ate Too

Scripture: Matthew 26:47-56

Introduction to Analog

The word, Analog, means “something that is similar or comparable to something else.”

Analog is designed to be a tangible way to take another deeper, look into each week’s Sunday morning message. Individuals, friends, small groups, and families can use Analog for further discussion and exploration of the Sunday teaching. May this tool help you explore the expansive heart of God and practice love in the ways of Jesus.

Teaching Season

Over the next 6 weeks we’ll be exploring the season of Lent. Lent is historically a preparation time for Easter. In its earliest iterations in the 4th Century Lent was introduced to prepare new converts for the commitment they were making in joining the faith. This participation was extended to those who had wandered from the faith as a means to bring them back to the faith. As we journey through Lent this year, we will consider the journey towards the cross from the 1st person perspective of Jesus, in hopes that we will better understand what we are being called into.

Teaching

It was night, there were torches, a dispatch of soldiers, swords, groggy disciples and a kiss of betrayal. What a painful moment for Jesus. He knew where this was all going. In the midst of the scene of Jesus being arrested, a disciple grabs a sword and cuts off the ear of the servant of the high priest. Why this? Well, apparently it was a repeat of history. It was recorded that generations before Antigonus cutting off Hyrcanus’ ears to prevent him from serving in the Temple. It seems the disciple’s action was no accident. It was a retaliation.

In the midst of the commotion Jesus demands a halt to all of this. He is not leading a rebellion, and there is no need for swords and clubs. He knows what he has been called to do, and he is willing to go to the place God has in store for him. He does not blame, condemn or even retaliate. This teaches us something about the heart of Jesus – a heart that is set on the things of God – not on the ideas of human beings.

Listen to the teaching [online](#) or on the DCC App

Opening Question for the Group: Start your group discussion with the question below.

1) How are you participating in the Lent season this year?

Questions for Discussion or Reflection

Here are some questions for discussion or reflection. Don't feel like you have to cover them all, and you may have questions of your own to ask. The Spiritual Practice for this week could be very meaningful for you or your group, so plan on 10 minutes or so for this exercise. If you are using this in a group context, read through these questions and the Spiritual Practice before your group meets to familiarize yourself with this material. You may want to send this out to the group before you meet.

1. What's been your experience with Lent to this point?
2. As you read this text in Matthew, what stands out to you in the passage?
3. In what ways have you experienced a loss of self when you have faced betrayal in the past?
4. What does finding yourself "in Christ" mean?

Spiritual Practice:

This week for our formation practice, we invite you to listen to our guided time of prayer and reflection. You can listen to this guided prayer by clicking on the link below. You can also access the spiritual formation podcast through the DCC App.

[Spiritual Formation Podcast: Lent Week 1](#)