

MEN'S BREAKFAST - FRIEND BETRAYS JESUS

1. What persons in history or literature are known as traitors?
 2. *Why is trust important to a friendship?
- When you are troubled, what symptoms show on your face? In your spirit?

John 13:18-30 (NIV) 18 "I am not referring to all of you; I know those I have chosen. But this is to fulfill the scripture: 'He who shares my bread has lifted up his heel against me.' 19 "I am telling you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe that I am He. 20 I tell you the truth, whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me; and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me."

21 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."

22 His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. 23 One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. 24 Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means." 25 Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?"

26 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. 27 As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. "What you are about to do, do quickly," Jesus told him, 28 but no one at the meal understood why Jesus said this to him. 29 Since Judas had charge of the money, some thought Jesus was telling him to buy what was needed for the Feast, or to give something to the poor. 30 As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night.

Discussion: For most meals the Jews sat, for special feasts or meals they reclined, their bodies went out away from the table at an angle, they usually rested on their left elbow eating with their right. Dipping of bread and giving it to someone was a sign of friendship, fellowship, sign of honor.

1. What did Jesus say about the person who shared His bread? ([13:18](#))
See Psalm

2. Why did Jesus tell His disciples He would be betrayed? How would his prediction dispel any doubts the disciples might have and strengthen their faith ([John 13:19](#))?

3. What did Jesus say about His disciples? ([13:20](#))

4. What do you think Jesus was feeling? . In foretelling his betrayal, what do you sense in Jesus: Resolution?

Resignation? Restlessness? What do you sense in his disciples? In Judas?

5. *Why was Jesus troubled? ([13:21](#))

6. How did Jesus treat Judas before this?

7. Did you suppose Jesus loved Judas?

8. Do you suppose that Judas had private chats with Jesus?

9. Was Judas created to betray Jesus? Did Judas Have a choice in this?

10. How did Jesus protect Judas?

11. How did Jesus' disciples respond when He said one of them would betray Him? ([13:22](#)) Evidently, the disciples did not know who would betray Jesus ([John 13:22](#)). What does this tell us about how Jesus had treated Judas?

12. What did Peter do? ([13:23-24](#))

13. How did Jesus answer the beloved disciple's question? ([13:26](#)) (note: this was likely not mentioned to the whole group)

14. What happened to Judas when he took the bread? ([13:27](#))

15. What did Jesus say to Judas? ([13:27](#))

16. *What did the other disciples think Jesus was telling Judas to do? ([13:28-29](#))

17. What did Judas do? ([13:30](#))

18. If you were a movie director, how would you capture the drama of verses 18—22?

19. If you had been sitting at this table, what would you be feeling? Saying?

20. Is Judas to be excused or held responsible when "Satan entered into him" v. 27;

Matthew 10:1-8 (NIV) 1 He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. 2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon (who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. 5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. 6 Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. 7 As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.' 8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Luke 6:12-16 (NIV) 12 One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God. 13 When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them, whom he also designated apostles: 14 Simon (whom he named Peter),

his brother Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, 15 Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Simon who was called the Zealot, 16 Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Psalms 41:9 (NIV) 9 Even my close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.

2 Samuel 16:15-23 (NIV) 15 Meanwhile, Absalom and all the men of Israel came to Jerusalem, and Ahithophel was with him. 16 Then Hushai the Arkite, David's friend, went to Absalom and said to him, "Long live the king! Long live the king!" 17 Absalom asked Hushai, "Is this the love you show your friend? Why didn't you go with your friend?" 18 Hushai said to Absalom, "No, the one chosen by the LORD, by these people, and by all the men of Israel--his I will be, and I will remain with him. 19 Furthermore, whom should I serve? Should I not serve the son? Just as I served your father, so I will serve you." 20 Absalom said to Ahithophel, "Give us your advice. What should we do?" 21 Ahithophel answered, "Lie with

your father's concubines whom he left to take care of the palace. Then all Israel will hear that you have made yourself a stench in your father's nostrils, and the hands of everyone with you will be strengthened." 22 So they pitched a tent for Absalom on the roof, and he lay with his father's concubines in the sight of all Israel. 23 Now in those days the advice Ahithophel gave was like that of one who inquires of God. That was how both David and Absalom regarded all of Ahithophel's advice. **2 Samuel 17:1-3 (NIV)** 1 Ahithophel said to Absalom, "I would choose twelve thousand men and set out tonight in pursuit of David. 2 I would attack him while he is weary and weak. I would strike him with terror, and then all the people with him will flee. I would strike down only the king 3 and bring all the people back to you. The death of the man you seek will mean the return of all; all the people will be unharmed." ... 23 When Ahithophel saw that his advice had not been followed, he saddled his donkey and set out for his house in his hometown. He put his house in order and then hanged himself. So he died and was buried in his father's tomb.

REFLECTION:

1. Why is it hard to maintain an intimate and growing relationship with another person?
2. *How would it feel to be betrayed by a close friend?
3. Whom do you know who has been hurt by betrayal?
4. *What can you do to build trust in all your friendships?
5. How do we betray Jesus with our words or by our life-style?
6. Why and how are we tempted to betray Jesus?
7. What are the consequences of betraying Jesus?
8. What behavior that betrays your relationship with Jesus will you ask God to help you change?

9. What is the first step you can take toward building trust in one personal relationship this week?

10. If you knew ahead of time that someone would stab you in the back, how would you treat that person? How does Jesus show you what love is all about?

11. Given three years of very intimate fellowship with Jesus, how could Judas turn around and betray him? Have you ever betrayed Jesus? If so, how?

