

DISCUSSION 1

Betrayal (vv. 21-28)

1. Discuss Jesus's emotions in verse 21 (see also John 11:33-35). How do you respond to that aspect of Jesus?
2. Jesus said one of his disciples would betray him, a statement that brought insecurity to the hearts of the disciples. Have you ever felt insecure about your relationship with Jesus? What can you do when those feelings arise? What did Peter and John do?
3. What characteristics do you see in Judas in this passage? How have you exhibited similar qualities when you've strayed from the Lord?

DISCUSSION 2

Love One Another (vv. 29-35)

1. Jesus predicts his glorification and departure to a place where the disciples cannot come. How do you think they felt? Do you ever feel like Jesus is not present? How can you overcome that lack of faith?
2. Jesus helps the disciples by giving a profound new commandment (v. 34). The "newness" Jesus refers to is related to the new covenant and is sealed by his blood. How are Jesus's followers to respond to this new commandment?

DISCUSSION 3

Denial (vv. 36-38)

1. In verse 37, Peter offers to lay down his life for Jesus. Do you think he was serious? Read John 18:15-27 and compare Peter's actions in this story to his earlier words in 13:27. What can we learn from Peter?

2. How do you respond when you feel distant from Jesus? How can the knowledge that Jesus is sovereign over life and death help you during times of doubt?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Ask your children if they have ever been in a situation where someone else did something wrong but they wondered if they would be blamed. Ask: How did you feel? Were you relieved when it was clear that you weren't the one who did something wrong? Why do we sometimes have this self-doubt?
2. When have you not shown love for your parents or siblings? When have you shown love? List two examples of ways you can demonstrate Jesus's love to your family members.
3. Have you ever been separated from your parents in a large area (Ex. a store or in the neighborhood)? How did you feel? When Jesus said he was leaving the disciples, they seemed to be afraid. How would you encourage them?

APPLICATION

- The next time you partake of the Lord's Supper, thank the Lord for his saving grace that allowed you to be like Peter and not like Judas. Consider praying through this passage as you reflect.
- To combat the doubt and fear about Jesus being with you, do a search in your Bible on the "nearness of God," and write down verses that stand out to you. Commit one or more of these verses to memory.