

## DENYING JESUS

John 13.21-33, 36-38, // April 18, 2021

### THE TALE OF TWO BETRAYALS

In the Upper Room for the Passover meal, the disciples would have been reclining around a table. John to Jesus' right, and Judas to His left, with Peter across the table. Jesus prophesies that someone there will betray Him, which surprises them all. No one even suspected that it would be Judas.

#### **Judas walks away from the True Light and into the darkness.**

Jesus also gives a prophetic warning to Peter. Peter, in his naïve bravado, declares that he will always follow Jesus, even to the death. Jesus, however, gives him a stinging truth that before this night would be over, Peter would actually deny Jesus three times.

### NO SURPRISES

As devastating as these betrayals are, none of this was a surprise to Jesus. For us, it ought to strike a sobering humility and fear in our hearts as we see the ease by which these two Christ followers denied their Savior in their own way.

John 6.70 // 2 Corinthians 13.5 // Luke 22.31-34

**When we judge other believers,  
we are having within our hearts the argument,  
“Lord, who among us is the greatest?”**

If we would be wise, we would recognize that we are always only one step away from denying Christ. It is only by the grace of God and His intercessory intervention that we continue in our faith. This ought to humble us to serve others by the washing of feet.

### STRENGTHEN YOUR BROTHERS

After Jesus raises from the grave, He finds Peter and restores him, telling him to “feed My lambs” and “tend My sheep.” This hearkens back to the Last Supper when Jesus foretells of Peter's denial, but also tells him “when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”

John 21.15-19

Peter indeed would eventually follow Christ unto prison and death, and he would do so at the hands of Rome, crucified upside down in public. But before the day of his death, Peter became a shepherd who would feed Jesus' lambs, tend His flock, and strengthen his brothers and sisters through humble, self-sacrificing, foot washing service.

## NOTES:

#### **This Week's Scripture to Memorize:**

**Colossians 1:18**

And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

## ARE YOU NEW HERE?

### WELCOME TO LIFE MISSION!

We'd love for you to **fill out a Connection Card** so we can welcome you and answer any questions you may have. You can drop it in the offering basket during the service or take it to one of our teammates at the **Connection Booth** outside. Feel free to grab some coffee and snacks in the courtyard and hang out. We hope you'll **join us next Sunday** and consider making us your church family.

### WHAT ABOUT THE KIDS?

Our childrens' ministry, which we call **Kids on Mission**, has classes for **newborns - 5th grade**. We have a great team of volunteers who have all been screened with background checks for extra security. Each week your child will get to **worship** with their class, followed by an **age-appropriate lesson** that points them towards Jesus and helps root them in the Word of God.

Visit our website to read more about the vision of Kids on Mission and a walkthrough of our curriculum. If you have any questions, email **Amber Willis at [amber@lifemission.tv](mailto:amber@lifemission.tv)**

### JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL

Our **6th - 8th graders** begin each Sunday by **worshipping with the adults** and then head to their classroom with their teacher and classmates for the rest of service. Visit our website to read more about our junior high ministry and a walkthrough of our curriculum.

Our **9th-12th graders stay in the service** with the adults because we believe that it is crucial for them to not “graduate the faith” when they graduate high school.

For more information about our Junior High & High School ministries, email **Tyler Willis at [tyler@lifemission.tv](mailto:tyler@lifemission.tv)**.



## Contact Us

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## COMMUNITY GROUP HOMEWORK

Before group starts, who can share the **Memory Verse**?

Read **John 13.21-33, 36-38**. What stands out in this passage and from the sermon on Sunday?

### Preaching the Gospel to Yourself

Peter denies Jesus in a major way. But when you read of Jesus' response to Peter in **John 21.15-19**, how does this more full picture of Peter's failure and Jesus' response give you hope for a brighter future in your own life?

### Your Life Mission

Jesus told Peter that when he would return from denial, to then "strengthen your brothers." We are all called to be light to those around us who are living in darkness, despair, and weakness. Who among you needs strengthening, and how can you be a blessing to them?

End the evening in a time of prayer, praying through the theme of the night using the **P.R.A.Y.** model with your group. Pray for these people you have mentioned and for your heart and plan as you pursue them in love.

- **Preaching the Gospel to Yourself** (Matthew 6.9, 10)
  - Always begin your time of prayer focusing on God's goodness, who He is, and what He has done for us. Pray truths from this week's text.
- **Repent and Confess** (Matthew 6.12)
  - Real repentance begins where blame-shifting stops. Your circumstances don't need to change, your heart needs to change. Confess any particular sin that prevents you from walking out what God calls us to in the text, or any other particular sin you are wanting to fight. Ask Him to help you have strength to repent and run towards Him.
- **Ask for Provision** (Matthew 6.11-13)
  - Ask God for new perspective and for the things that you need. Once our hearts are fixed on Him, we can ask Him to help us with our needs. When your heart is begin filled with the Gospel first, your asking will be far more in line with God's desires and will. Ask Him to work in the relationships in your life that you are hoping to share God's love with.
- **Yield with Thanksgiving** (Matthew 6.10)
  - End your prayer by giving God thanks for His faithfulness and ask Him to help you trust and yield to His work and ways.



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## SUNDAYS AT 10AM

Life Mission Church Meets at Classical Academy High School  
207 E Pennsylvania Ave, Escondido 92025

GET TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US ONLINE

LIFEMISSIONCHURCH.COM

