



## Taking Some Time to Reconnect with God

April 2, 2020

### **Prayer:**

O Lord, no one on earth knows the hour of Your return. Only keep us watchful and awake, that we might always be at work in Your kingdom, for the sake of Jesus, amen.

**Read:** Mark 14:10-11

**Mark 14:10-11** New International Version (NIV)

<sup>10</sup> Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them. <sup>11</sup> They were delighted to hear this and promised to give him money. So he watched for an opportunity to hand him over.

### **Reflect:**

Judas was one of the Twelve. Judas sat at the feet of Jesus, listened to Jesus teach, had firsthand experience of Jesus' miraculous power. And Judas betrayed Jesus.

Every time I think about Judas' betray of Jesus, I want to know why he did it. Lots of ink has been spilt trying to answer the question, so I won't add my feeble contribution here. But I want to know why, so that I don't end up in the same boat.

Not surprisingly, Mark has little to say about Judas' motivation. He only says that Judas intended to betray Jesus. Something Jesus said, something Jesus had started to teach didn't sit with Judas. So he decided, like the chief priests and teachers of the law, that it had to stop. Essentially, he decided that he knew better than Jesus.

If that's correct, that—whatever Judas' motivation was—he decided he knew better than Jesus, then we can learn from that. If we don't want to end up where Judas did, we need to be on constant guard for places in our thoughts and our hearts where decide that we know more than Jesus. So we need to ground ourselves in prayer and in the Scripture. We need to keep putting ourselves in places where we continue to hear The Word of God, the Word Made Flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. And then we need to continue to struggle to be shaped by The Word of God, and not to shape our understand of it in our own image. In short, questioning the Bible to understand it better is important, but deciding that we know more than Scripture leads us to. . .well, Judas.

How do you celebrate The Word of God, come alive for us, through the Scripture?

### **Be Blessed:**

May you find peace in the life of day to day, trusting that God will keep you in the fold even at the end. Amen.