

Study Questions for the April 26 Sermon: “Hate, Love and Pride: How do We Respond to Jesus”

1. Peter and Judas have something in common: They both betrayed Jesus; Peter by denying him, Judas by assisting in his arrest. What is the most important way in which Peter and Judas differ?
2. In artistic portrayals of the Last Supper, Judas is often portrayed as a shady character. However, the real Judas was chosen as the Apostles' treasurer, so he likely appeared stable and trustworthy. Share one experience where your first impression of people was wrong; either they appeared (as Judas) to be trustworthy, but they were not, or they first appeared questionable, but you learned over time they had high character.
3. Verse 27 states that Satan entered into Judas. Apparently Judas demonstrated no signs of demonic possession, because the Apostles assumed he was going out to shop or donate money. How can you discern that a person is acting out of evil intent?
4. Verse 21 states that Jesus was troubled in spirit when he considered that Judas would betray him. Most people who lead organizations will tell you that they dread treachery (insiders undermining them) far more than they dread any outside opposition. How might you best respond to someone who you believe is undermining Northwest Baptist's leaders?
5. Pastor Paul made the point that, while associating with other Christians, and belonging to a church is important, it is not salvific. Didn't work for Judas. What was Judas lacking that saved people possess?
6. Jesus' love was sacrificial. And when he said “... love one another as I have loved you...”, he was referring to sacrificial love. One form of sacrificial love is confronting brothers or sisters in Christ about sin in their life, even though you risk losing your friendship with them. Ever do this and have a positive outcome?
7. Memory question: Pastor Paul gave a couple of reasons why love should begin in the church. Can you remember either?
 - [Loving each other is practice for loving the world.](#)
 - [Jesus uses the church body to sustain itself.](#)
8. Don't be like Peter and make commitments when you are safe and comfortable. Don't be like Herod and make commitments when you are drunk and watching a dancing girl. Have you ever made a commitment that turned out to be very difficult to keep?
9. Pastor gave a homework assignment: Make a list of: 1) Ways we have been loved by Christ. 2) Ways we can demonstrate Christ-love to others. Did anyone make such a list?