

# Personified: Meeting Jesus on the Way to the Cross

Week 6 – March 22, 2021

Scripture: Luke 22:47-62

*Grab your Bible and a few people to connect with. Look up the verses below and share your thoughts. It's that easy!*

**Share:** Can you think of a time when someone you trusted did something hurtful that caught you off guard? (i.e. not being invited to a celebration or not sharing big news with you, etc) Share your experience.

**Read Luke 22:47-62 together:** Take turns reading if you prefer. Enjoy the different Bible translations we each read.

## **Discuss the following context:**

In week 6 of this series looking at 7 very real and human moments in Jesus' life, we examine Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial of Jesus. Jesus was hurt by His closest friends, but the heart of this message is not how Jesus chased after Judas and Peter to restore them, but how it affected Jesus – how it made Him feel and what He did. As Jesus stood alone to face this moment, the Father stood with Him. Jesus offers us hope through a promise that we are never alone. We can all identify with being hurt by a close friend or family member. We have the promise that Jesus will never leave us; He experienced the pain of it and made a way so we don't have to experience this feeling and existence.

When Jesus was on this earth He was fully God and fully human. He was moved by beauty, He faced human expectations, He served others, He loved those who hurt Him, and He was forced to face brokenness. Jesus' humanity offers us HOPE!

## **Share your thoughts about following questions:**

1. Talk about the consequences of living with a betrayal and not finding your way through it. What can happen as a result of not surrounding yourself with community and instead going through these moments alone?
2. Jesus spent 3 years with Judas and Peter. Think about the relationship they formed in that amount of time, as well as what they experienced together (the journeys, miracles, impact). Judas' betrayal demonstrates a great level of greed and deception; he fooled his fellow disciples (Luke 22:47-52). Peter had a level of leadership and strength that would allow him to lead the group when hard times came. When he denied Jesus he essentially quit and walked away (Luke 22:53-62).
  - a. How do you think Jesus felt at these two moments? Consider the range of emotions He experienced.
  - b. Read Isaiah 41:9b-10. How does this promise that our Father will never leave us change how we navigate betrayal and hurt?
  - c. Do you trust God's promise to never leave you, or do you find yourself doubting that it can sustain you in times of pain?
3. God invites us to turn to Him (prayer), turn to each other (community), and turn to Scripture (His truth) when we experience the pain of betrayal and hurt. Which of these are you strong in? Which of these areas can you grow in?

**Pray together:** Ask each other to share what is on your heart today. Thank God for His promise to never leave or forsake us. As we stand alone to face our greatest challenges, our Father stands with us! Thank God for the hope this gives us. Ask Him for daily strength to resist isolation and pain by turning to Him, other people, and His truth.