**Sermon Notes – Sunday 1st May**

**The Passion Narrative of Luke – Lessons from the life of Judas**

Read Luke 22:1-6, John 13:18-30, Matthew 26: 47-50, 27:1-5

What strikes you from these readings of the life of Judas?

Let’s remember:

* He had been chosen to be a disciple of Jesus
* He was given a place of great trust as the treasurer for the group
* For 3 years he had shared fully in the life of Jesus, heard his teaching, saw his miracles, given the same authority to go out on mission and do what Jesus did.

In the light of this how could Judas be so intentional in his resolve to betray Jesus (Luke 22:1-6)? Note the final words of John 13:30, ‘And it was night’.

* How significant is that?

Twice reference is made to ‘Satan entered him’ (Luke 22:3 and Jn 13:26).

* What does that suggest about how the ground of Judas’s heart had been preparing for this to happen?
* Would you say Judas was a genuine disciple or a ‘Great Pretender’ (pretending to be something he was not?).
* To what extent might we also live parts of our lives in pretence, that we conceal from others? Where might we find a safe space to bring the things we keep hidden into the light?

(If someone in the group wants to follow this up with a private conversation, who might they go too?)

* What do you learn about how Jesus repeatedly reached out to Judas from these passages? Can you identify those occasions?
* The end for Judas was tragic (Matthew 27:5). How could it have been so different?

**Pray for one another that we might be honest and transparent about our shortcomings and reach out to others with the love, grace and the forgiveness of God.**

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