

Discussion Guide

Section #17: THE BETRAYAL OF JESUS

Group Question:

1. When the Roman captain in charge of executing Jesus saw what had happened he said, "Truly this man was the son of God." Why do you think this unbeliever began to see the truth?

Leader Information: Possible responses: He saw many supernatural things happening; He saw God reflected in Jesus; Jesus spoke directly to God; Jesus forgave His persecutors.

Group Question:

1. We have seen in this section of the video a great deal of anger directed toward Jesus, but people have shown other attitudes in the story of Jesus' life. If you had been in the crowd, what type of attitude do you think you would have?

Leader Information: Possible answers: Doubting, mocking, wait and see, strong faith, sadness...

Group Question:

1. Jesus suffered greatly in this segment of the video. What was His attitude through it all?

Leader Information: He was angry at the corruption in the Temple, but mostly He was quiet and accepting of what would happen to Him. He showed forgiveness and great love toward everyone, even toward those He knew would betray Him.

Read this Scripture to the Group:

"And as they sat and did eat, Jesus said, 'Truly I say unto you, One of you which eats with me shall betray me" (Mark 14:18).



Show the Following Segment from the *God's Story* video:

Begin with "After 3 years of teaching" (back of Jesus teaching with hands up in air)... through... "sealed and guarded by Roman soldiers." (Tomb shot fades to black) 7 min 56 sec



"And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified Him... Then said Jesus, 'Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.' And they parted his raiment, and cast lots" (Luke 23:33-34).

Group Questions:

- 1. Jesus talked about the forgiveness that we can receive because of His own death on the cross. If Jesus really can forgive people of their sins, what difference could it make in the life of a criminal?
- 2. In my life or yours?
- 3. How could you live differently knowing you had been forgiven?
- 4. Why now do you think that ornate curtain, the veil in the Temple split down the middle when Jesus died?



Leader Information: A weight should be lifted. The power of "If only" can be broken. We can overcome the past. Mostly we will have a restored relationship with God. For centuries that veil had separated the people from God, and only the main highest priest could go into the holy presence of God. After Jesus died on the cross for our sins, the veil, the separation was no longer needed. Jesus became the Great High Priest, our go-between, our mediator, so that each of us who trust Him could have access to God's presence.

Read this Scripture to the Group:

"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5).



Leader Information: Optional question to use if you believe they are right for your group. These are designed to further verify the supernatural nature of the Bible and the authenticity of Jesus as the prophesied Savior.

Group Question:

1. List some of the prophecies you saw fulfilled in the ministry, betrayal and crucifixion of Jesus.

Leader Information: They were give the list of prophecies on handout #3, from section 14. This question is to find out if they recognized any of those prophesies fulfilled in the life and death of Jesus Christ.

They might list: He was a righteous man; humble man; He arrived riding on the foal of a donkey; knew in advance that one of His close friends, with whom He ate bread, would betray Him; the price of the betrayal was thirty pieces of silver; was tortured, by whipping; His face

was spat on; his hands and feet were pierced; his bones were not broken; He said "My God, my God, why have You forsaken Me?"; onlookers laughed and ridiculed Him; the onlookers said "He believed that the Lord would deliver him"; His bones were out of joint; was given vinegar to drink; the soldiers divided His clothes among themselves; they gambled for His robe (If they mention any of the earlier prophecies surrounding His birth and baptism, that is fine also).

Transition Statement: Probably one of the most important parts of this story comes next. Many great leaders have come and gone, but of course none lived a perfect sinless life as did Jesus. But what comes next sets Him in a class above them all. If any of you here fear death, you will happily welcome the next (and very last) portion of The *God's Story* video overview of the Bible now (*or* next time when we meet).