

# Judas Betrays, Peter Denies

## Station 3

Matt. 27:3-5 (ESV) 3 Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders, 4 saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." They said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." 5 And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.

Luke 22:60-62 (ESV) 60 But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. 61 And the Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the saying of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the rooster crows today, you will deny me three times." 62 And he went out and wept bitterly.

### **COULD JUDAS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN IF HE ASKED?**

Both Peter and Judas turned their backs on Jesus on the night of his arrest; both dramatically recognized the horrible things they had done. Peter was forgiven and restored. Judas committed suicide.

2 Cor. 7:10 (NLT) 10 For the kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin and results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death.

The value of something is the price someone is willing to pay for it. Clearly Judas found that 30 pieces of silver was not enough to betray Jesus once he had time to think about it. The price paid for your forgiveness was the very life of God: Jesus.

Judas chose not to ask God for forgiveness; he refused to forgive himself. The Bible is full of men and women who were forgiven for doing even the worst things you could imagine; there was no reason Judas could not have been forgiven. Why do you think he did not ask for forgiveness?

If Jesus did everything He did so that we could be forgiven by God even for the very worst things we have done and will ever do, why do we struggle to forgive others or ourselves?

### **AS YOU GO FROM HERE:**

Take some time in prayer to ask God if there is anything you need to forgive yourself or someone else for. Make a list on your phone to share later with someone you trust. Make an appointment to talk to God about forgiving yourself and to talk to anyone you need to forgive.

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