



Men's Discipleship Class – Week 5
October 18, 2018

Verses:

Matthew 26:24-26

Luke 6:12-16

Matthew 26:32-34

Matthew 26:47-50, 73-74

Matthew 27:1-5

Luke 22:60-62

Acts 2:14

Psalms 51:1-4

1 John 3:6

Godly grief produces this but not this. This is going to be key in a minute. Godly grief reduces repentance without remorse. Worldly grief is death. Repentance is life. This is death. Now. We are going to look at Peter and Judas. Generally the idea has been that Judas is called to this, and Peter is called to this. No. No. No. No. No.

I want you to look at the enormous similarity between these two guys. Look at Matthew 26. Slide over there. Now listen to verse 24.

24The Son of Man goes as it is written of him,

What does this mean? He is going to the cross regardless.

but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.” 25Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.”

Now. Jesus very clearly here states that Judas' betrayal is not his call. That is not his purpose. He very clearly states 'I am going to the cross.' You do not have to betray me. Now. Hang with me there. Go to Luke 6:12-16. They have the same calling but not the same purpose.

12In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God.13And when day came, he called his disciples and chose from them twelve, whom he named apostles:14Simon, whom he named Peter, and Andrew his brother, and James and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, 15and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon who was called the Zealot, 16and Judas the son of James, and Judas

Iscariot, who became a traitor.

These guys are called to be apostles. Okay? Same call for Peter. Same call for Judas. Now, Judas is going to miss it. Peter is going to get it. Their calling is identical. Matter of fact if you are really delving into it, you have the point in Acts where Peter again jumps where he shouldn't. They elect this apostle. Right? It never appears again in the New Testament. The Bible elevates Paul to that. What you probably have is this. If Judas had not betrayed Jesus then in the book of Acts, it would be about these two guys. Peter would start the book of Acts and Judas would end it. Paul took Judas' place. He executed Judas' calling. I do not have time to go into it, but when you read the New Testament accounts of the Lord's table, it is not Leonardo da Vinci. It was not a long table. It was a U-shaped table. The Greek word ἀνάκειμαι is the word for recline in the New Testament. When you ate at a meal, you laid on your left side. You ate with your right hand. The rabbi always had two people next to him on the head cushion. You leaned on a cushion. When you look at the New Testament, Judas was on his left side. When you wanted to honor a guy at the table, the rabbi would take a piece of meat or bread to dip in the sauce and give it to the guy that he was honoring. Judas is on his left side. He performs that act of honor for Judas. He is saying to Judas at the Passover 'Listen, I have got something for you that is incredibly important.' I think Judas was meant to be the second part of the book of Acts. Paul takes his place not because Judas is called to betray him. They got the same call. Jesus spends all night in prayer. He calls Judas and Peter both to the same purpose being whatever God has for them as apostles. Peter's calling was to the Jews. Judas' would have been to the Gentiles. He fails. Paul takes his place.

I want you to understand. They have the same calling. They are both warned. Go to Matthew 26:24-25. Then we will look at Matthew 26:32-34. Both guys are warned by Jesus about what they are about to do. Look at Matthew 26:24-25.

24The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born." 25Judas, who would betray him, answered, "Is it I, Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so. 26Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."

We have already looked at this. He warns him. Right? Now, look at verses 33-34.

33Peter answered him, "Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." 34Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times."

So, both guys have the same calling. Both are warned that they are going to fail. Both of them. Jesus does not let them just fall into the arms of Satan. He gives them both the same warning. Your calling is in danger of being damaged. Now. Look at Matthew 26:47-50 and look at Matthew 26:73-74. Be sure. Both betray him. They both betray him.

47While he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a great crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. 48Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; seize him." 49And he came up to Jesus at once and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" And he kissed him. 50Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you came to do."

So, there is a betrayal. Look in verses 73 and 74. We now have Peter's betrayal.

73After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.” 74Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know the man.” And immediately the rooster crowed.

Now, you have both guys betraying him. There is no difference. You cannot make a difference between Judas and Peter. They both betray him. They both turn their backs on him. They both deny him. You can use whatever semantic word you use, but they both deny Jesus on the night he is being betrayed. Both of them. So, you have the same call, the same warning, and the same betrayal.

Look at Matthew 26:75, and then also look at Matthew 27:1-5. Listen to what it says in Matthew 26:75.

75And Peter remembered the saying of Jesus, “Before the rooster crows, you will deny me three times.” And he went out and wept bitterly.

Now, look at Matthew 27:1-5. Let’s begin in verse 4.

to the chief priests and the elders, 4saying, “I have sinned by betraying innocent blood.” They said, “What is that to us? See to it yourself.” 5And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.

So, both show sorrow over their act. Peter weeps bitterly. Judas cries. He comes running into the temple. He throws the money down. We have sorrow shown by both of them. Look at Matthew 26:49-50. I will read you Luke 22. Listen to Matthew 26:49-50. We looked at this one. I want you to go back and see what he says.

49And he came up to Jesus at once and said, “Greetings, Rabbi!” And he kissed him. 50Jesus said to him, “Friend, do what you came to do.”fThen they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him.

Now, you stay there. I want you to listen to Luke 22:60-62.

60But Peter said, “Man, I do not know what you are talking about.” And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. 61And 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.” 62And he went out and wept bitterly.

Both men see Jesus personally. You have two guys. We make a big deal about Judas. Here is the problem. You have both guys with the very same calling and purpose. Judas to the Gentiles. Peter to the Jews. Judas should have been the end of the book of Acts. Both guys are warned before they sin. Both fail him and betray him. Both show tears. They both go forward crying, ‘I’m sorry’. Both of them agree. Both see Jesus personally. This is going to have bearing in a minute. You have these similarities between these two guys. Now, what is the difference?

There are two differences. Look at Matthew 27:5 for Judas. We are then going to look at Acts 2:14 for Peter. Now listen to Matthew 27:5.

5And throwing down the pieces of silver into the temple, he departed, and he went and hanged himself.

Now, look at Acts 2:14. Peter does not do that. Here is what Peter winds up doing.

14But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.

Now, drop down to Acts 2:23-24.

23this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. 24God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

Now, what happens to Judas? He dies. What happens to Peter? He preaches to the same people he cursed Jesus in front of, and he lives out the life that God called him to. Now. The Bible says Godly grief produces repentance that leads to life which you see in Peter’s case. If you have remorse, it leads to death which you see in Judas’ case. They have the same calling, same warning, same betrayal, same grief, and the same contact with Jesus. So, why is Judas remorseful and Peter repentant? Why is that? What is the singular difference between the two? If you do not understand this, you are never going to reach maturity in Christ. It is one thing the Holy Spirit will try to produce in your life. Now. What is the difference?

Look at Matthew 27:3. Go back there. Look carefully. Matthew 27:3. I am going to read the English Standard Version. It is a bad translation. How many of you have the New American Standard? Anybody in here? Listen. Here is the English Standard.

3Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind

That is the English Standard. What does the New American Standard say?

3Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him, saw that He had been condemned, he felt remorse

That is the correct translation. The English Standard does not do that because the Calvinist wrote it. I still like it, but they alter that for a particular reason. In Matthew 27:5, it says that Judas becomes remorseful. That is why he dies. He never reaches repentance. Peter reaches repentance. He does not become remorseful, and he finds life. Obviously, the difference between repentance and remorse is not a different calling, not a different warning, not a different sin, and not a different grief. Remorseful people cry. Repentant people cry. Both men saw Jesus personally. What is the difference between these two guys? This is key. It is the difference between repentance and remorse. One of these will kill you. One of these will give you life. So, what is the distinction?

Now, look carefully again at Matthew 27:3.

3Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned,

When does Judas become sorry? When he sees the consequence of his sin. He had no idea. Remember, probably the Tuesday night before this depending on how you evaluate the schedule of the week, Jesus busts his chops. Remember the lady came in with the ointment and poured it on him? She was really rich. Judas stands up and says that we should have given that money to the poor. Jesus busts him in front of everybody. Judas leaves. He makes the deal with the chief priests and elders. He says that he will bring him to you. So, now is his chance. He walks up to

him and delivers him around 9:30 PM or ten at night. I do not know. We do not know the time. Maybe if they do the Passover meal, the Lord's Supper, and they walk Kidron Valley, and all that, let's guess. He betrays him. There is no sorrow until the morning. He is mad at Jesus. He wants Jesus busted. He had no idea he would be killed. So, when they deliver him to Pilate, he is asking 'What did I do?' He is worried about the consequence.

Look at Peter. Go to Luke 22. Look carefully at the response of Peter.

60But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about." And immediately, while he was still speaking, the rooster crowed. 61And 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." 62And he went out and wept bitterly.

What is Peter sorry about? Any consequence? What is he sorry about? He is sorry about his sin. He is sorry because he hurt the heart of Jesus. Jesus turns and looks at him. He sees Jesus' face. He realizes that he has hurt Jesus. All of a sudden, he is crushed over the fact that he has hurt Jesus. Judas is crushed over the consequence of hurting Jesus. If you take the consequence out, Judas will betray him every single day. Peter will not. He is bothered by the heart of Jesus. Judas is bothered by the consequence of the sin. That agenda is the only difference. Peter is sorry for the sin and the breaking of the heart of Jesus. Judas is sorry for the consequence. If you worry about the consequence instead of the sin, you are remorseful. If you worry about the sin in spite of the consequence, you are repentant. That is the only difference between Judas and Peter. They have the same call, the same mourning, same sin, same tears, and same confrontation with Jesus. One guy is bothered by the consequence. One guy is bothered by the fact that he broke the heart of Jesus. One guy is bothered, really if you sum it up, by what it happened in his life. One guy is bothered by what happens in the life of Jesus.

Go to Psalm 51. David screws up badly in the Old Testament. Psalm 51 is the psalm that David wrote. The Bible says 'At a time when kings go out to war, David stayed at home'. He is at home and looks out on the palace. If you are in Jerusalem and look out onto the old city, the palace is up. Jerusalem is on Mount Moriah. The palace slants downward. He gets out and sees Bathsheba who is a really hot chick. He has all sorts of women, but she looks hot to him. He calls her up and has sex with her. He ships her back home. She then sends him this chilling text. I am pregnant. Now, what is the problem with that? She is married. They know he is out of town. Who has to condemn her? David. What is the penalty for adultery in the Old Testament? Stoning. Who has to judge her and then have her stoned? The guy that slept with her. So, now he is in trouble. He brings her husband back. Anybody know who her husband was? Uriah. What was Uriah? What group was he part of? He was a part of David's toughest guys that would die for him. David brings Uriah back and asks about the battle. David tells Uriah to go home and enjoy his wife, but this guy has such incredible character that he comes back to David and says that he cannot sleep with his wife as long as Joab and his men are out fighting. Uriah is a better man than me. I would have been home going 'baby'. The next night David sends Uriah back home, and he gets drunk. It doesn't work. David tries to get Uriah drunk, and that does not work. David finally sends Uriah back to Joab with a note. Uriah carries the note saying to put him against the wall and kill him. It is all over. David brings Bathsheba up. They marry. Everything is great. One day Nathan, David's best spiritual advisor, comes in and tells him a story. He says there is a guy in the kingdom who has four thousand sheep. There is a family down the road from him who has one little lamb that is petted by everyone. He had some guests come in and took the lamb and killed it. He did not kill any of his sheep. We need to do something about it. David jumps up and asks who it is. Nathan says, 'It is you'. David then writes Psalm 51. Now listen.

1 Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;

This is why David is man after God's own heart. It is not that he does not sin. It is because of his reaction to his sin.

1 Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy
blot out my transgressions.
2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!
3 For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
4 Against you, you only, have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,

That is an amazing statement. He sinned against Bathsheba. He sinned against his wife. He sinned against the nation of Israel. He sinned against the man who would have died for him. He sinned against his family by violating a character as a man and as a husband and a father. He sinned in a bunch of different ways. When he comes to it and Nathan confronts him, he looks at God and says, 'None of these other people matter'. Why? They are consequences. Sin is not sin because you hurt someone's feelings. Sin is sin only when you violate the character of God. Repentance comes when your heart is broken because you violated his character, not because there is consequences.

I remember I had a young couple come to me in my second church. Actually, it was the dad that came to me and said that his daughter was pregnant. She was in the church youth group. I have told them they need to come and talk to you. So, we sat in my office and began talking about different things. Finally, I looked at them and asked for an honest answer to this question. Are you sorry because you had sex before marriage or because you are pregnant. They looked at each other. The guy looked at me, and said if they were honest, they were sorry because they were pregnant. We are not really sorry for what we did. I asked them to go home and pray that Christ would move them from here to here. If you are only sorry about the consequences of your sin in your life, you are never going to live out the call of God on your life. Repentance is the key.

When I was in college, I had a sin in my life. I do not want you boys to worry about homosexuality, so I am just telling you that. I could not control it. I prayed about it. I read my Bible and went to church. I did all the stuff and still could not control it. Finally, one night I am walking across campus, and I am praying. I am begging God to take it out of my life. I just sensed the Holy Spirit ask 'Why do you want it out of your life?' I remember answering. What is wrong with you? You called me to preach. If I am going to be effective as a preacher, I cannot have this sin consistently in my life. The Holy Spirit revealed to me that the sin is not wrong because it damages your ministry. It is wrong because it breaks my heart. That was a profound alteration in my life. I was living out a Judas life instead of a Peter life. I wanted the sin out of me because it was going to damage my calling because of the consequence in my life. He brought me back to the repentance instead of the remorse. I am telling you one way to know which way you live here is private and public. If you are different privately than you are publically, you are probably remorseful. If you are really worried about the heartbeat of God, it will not matter whether you are private or public. You will want his heart not damaged by what you are doing.

Judas and Peter. Judas kills himself because he is remorseful. That does not mean that everyone

who is remorseful is going to commit suicide. It does mean that you never reach the fullness of the calling he has on your life if you are remorseful if you are just sorry for the consequence. As a husband if you are sorry because you have failed your wife or as a dad because you have failed your children, that is remorse. You are not sorry because you failed your wife. You are sorry because you failed the Father in relationship to your wife. You are not sorry as a dad because you hurt your children. You are sorry because you have failed your Father in relationship to your children. Repentance is when you are grieved as Peter is by the face of Jesus and the breaking of his heart versus Judas' and the consequence of what I have done. Now, that is a pivotal key.

One of the things the Holy Spirit is going to do to you is change this. This is why you have the verse in 1 John 3:6 that says a Christian cannot continue in sin. He is going to continue to alter this as he makes this shift in your life. I think part of this comes when you are filled with the Spirit. So, there you go. There is the difference between Judas and Peter. Everything is the same except repentance versus remorse.