

Sermon series: Life to the Full; delivered by Dr. Josh Moody, senior pastor, on January 13, 2019

Bible text explored: John 13:21–30

²¹After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, “Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” ²²The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. ²³One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table at Jesus' side, ²⁴so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. ²⁵So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, “Lord, who is it?” ²⁶Jesus answered, “It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it.” So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, “What you are going to do, do quickly.” ²⁸Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. ²⁹Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, “Buy what we need for the feast,” or that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night. [ESV]

Review and application:

1. How has Jesus' divine insight into the treachery by a member of his inner circle already been disclosed? (See *John 13: 11 and 18*.)
Jesus is now (v. 21) visibly upset, and tells his intimate companions why. How does this underscore that Jesus was, and is, fully human as well as fully God?
2. When we feel pain, what does recognizing the pain Jesus felt over his betrayal tell us about whether or not . . .
. . . God loves us?
. . . Jesus feels our pain?
. . . He is able to provide healing?
3. How (vv. 22-29) was it a gesture of honor for Jesus to pass a morsel of dipped bread to Judas?
Was it also a final appeal to Judas to break off his secret contacts with the high priests? (See *Matt. 26:14-16*).
Is it ever too late to turn to Jesus?
4. Was Satan's entry irresistible, or an inevitable outcome of Judas's decision to betray Jesus?
What does Peter's experience tell us about second chances? (See *John 13:36-38 and 21:15-17*.)
5. Since, as Pastor Moody observed, the church is a “hospital for sinners,” are we immune from the possibility of betrayal?
But our pain is never a waste. How, after all, did God use Judas's betrayal to accomplish his purpose?
6. The last verse (30) is factual. But what spiritual significance do you think John is conveying about soul darkness and the Light of the World?
Meditate on how Jesus, at the cross, took on the dark night of *our* betrayal so that we might have life to the full.