**100 Days with Jesus**

**Study No. 19 Matthew 26:47-50, 69-75**

**Introduction**

What a pair! One, the ultimate celebrity traitor in history and the other the most famous friendship denier of all time. They are the two who are closest to Jesus in his darkest hour. What was going on?

There are four places in the New Testament where we get a complete list of the twelve disciples. In each one Peter is top of the list and Judas is the bottom. Peter was the leader and Judas the betrayer.

**Questions**

Read Matthew 26:47-50

1. Most Bible characters, even Peter had bad days. If you could be anyone in the Bible for one day, who would it be and why?
2. There are lots of theories as to why Judas betrayed Jesus. Which do you think is the most likely?
	1. He was having a bad day.
	2. He was a political terrorist (hence the name Iscariot) dedicated to the overthrow of Rome.
	3. He was a permanent outsider not very well accepted by the rest of the disciple gang.
	4. He had a strong liking for money.
	5. Maybe he betrayed Jesus in order to provoke him into action.
	6. Luke’s gospel suggests that he was taken over by Satan.
3. Do you think Jesus was angry with Judas? If not angry which word would you use?

Read Matthew 26:69-75

1. Are you surprised by Peters denial, or can you understand why he did it?
2. Can you think of examples of when you have found it difficult to stand up for Jesus?
3. How did Peter recover from denying Jesus to become the leader of the early Church? If you have made mistakes in your Christian life do you think Jesus can restore you?

 **Key question to finish: Who is God and how do we respond?**

**Prayer**

Father,

Forgive me for I have sinned

And am no longer worthy to be called your son.

I have been a Judas

I have been a Peter

Father, forgive me.

Amen