



Discussion Guide for “Judas” *Empathy for the Devil* Week 5

We tend to end up in echo chambers, surrounded by people who look and think a lot like us. The danger of this is that we don't learn how to be challenged. The spiritual consequence is that we end up missing God – imagining God in our own image rather than learning to let God challenge us. Judas illustrates the reason we need to learn to be vulnerable, to open ourselves to strange friendships.

Scriptures for Further Reading

[Mark 14:1-10](#)

[Mark 8:22-34](#)

[Romans 12:1-21](#)

[Philippians 2:1-11](#)

Passage for Sacred Reading:

A sacred reading is a method of reading Scripture that invites God to speak to us through the text. If you have never done a sacred reading, here is [a simple step-by-step guide](#). This week's passage is [Romans 12:1-21](#).

Questions for Discussion

1. Who are people we often look at with contempt?
2. JR. claimed Judas betrayed Jesus because he had the wrong understanding of Jesus as the Messiah. Explain this view of Judas.
3. What does it mean that we only know God when we see him crucified?
4. How is choosing to cultivate strange friendships a way of following Jesus to the Cross?
5. How much do you live in an echo chamber? What's one thing you can do this week to get out of your echo chamber a little bit?