

PARENT GUIDE

JOURNEY

IDENTITY

Lesson 5.3: Judas, Rich Young Man, a Pharisee

► SCRIPTURE READING

- » Matthew 26:1–16; John 12:1–8
- » Mark 10:17–27
- » Luke 7:36–50
- » John 11

SUMMARY:

This week we studied the lives of three Gospel characters who allowed worldly things to prevent them from following Christ fully in faith.

- For **Judas**, it was money.
- For **The Rich Young Man**, it was his status and possessions.
- For the **Pharisee**, it was the religious rituals and rules he kept.

Each of these men held so tightly to the earthly things they loved, they forfeited their capacity to know Jesus and become more like Him, ultimately walking away from the gift He offered.

We also studied the life of a man who chose well. In one of the most stunning miracles of the Gospels, Lazarus was raised from death to life in Jesus' name. However, he was still bound by grave clothes. In order to submit to the full work of Jesus in his life, Lazarus had to allow them to be removed.

If we are to grow after we put our faith in Jesus, we must choose to submit to God's work in our lives, allowing Him to make us more and more like Christ. As Lazarus discovered, we will only fully live when we live submitted to our Savior.

► MEMORY VERSE OPTIONS

- » John 11:27*
- » Mark 7:8
- » Luke 16:13

► IDENTITY INSIGHT

Following Jesus will cost me something. I must choose to submit to God's work in my life and guard my heart against anything that could hinder my relationship with Him.

► IMPORTANT IDEAS:

PHARISEES: a group of Jewish lay leaders considered experts in God's law who served as intermediaries between the ruling class and general population

PHARISEE (MODERN DEFINITION):
"a sanctimonious, self-righteous or hypocritical person"⁶