

RCMI L-Path Teaching
September 25, 2022

Title: Facing Betrayal (Pagharap sa Pagtataksil)

Text: John 18:1-11

- Betrayal means a violation of a person's trust or confidence.
- Trust is a central part of any relationship and is essential for healthy close relationships.
- “The saddest thing about betrayal is that it never comes from your enemies.” — Unknown

How to face betrayal?

I. Show supreme courage.

John 18:1–4 (NIV)— When he had finished praying, Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was a garden, and he and his disciples went into it.

² Now Judas, who betrayed him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. ³ So Judas came to the garden, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and the Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons.

⁴ Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, “Who is it you want?”

Why did Jesus choose to go to the garden?

- **v. 2** “Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with His disciples”
- **Matthew 26:4–5**— and they conspired to arrest Jesus in a treacherous way and kill Him. “Not during the festival,” they said, “so there won’t be rioting among the people.”
- **Jesus was not hiding! He showed great courage in the face of betrayal.**
- **In the face of betrayal, Jesus did not betray His mission.**

II. Show supreme control.

John 18:4–6 ⁴ Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, “Who is it you want?”

⁵ “Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied.

“I am he,” Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.) ⁶ When Jesus said, “I am he,” they drew back and fell to the ground.

- **What happened when Jesus told the crowd HE was the one they were seeking? They stepped back and fell to the ground.**
- **Why? It was because Jesus displayed supreme power!**

- **We need to face Betrayal with control, control of our emotions, actions, and thoughts.**
- “If you spend your time hoping someone will suffer the consequences for what they did to your heart, then you’re allowing them to hurt you a second time in your mind.”—
Shannon L. Alder
- **Romans 8:31** (HCSB) What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

III. Show supreme love.

John 18:7–9 ⁷ Again he asked them, “Who is it you want?”

“Jesus of Nazareth,” they said.

⁸ Jesus answered, “I told you that I am he. If you are looking for me, then let these men go.” ⁹ This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: “I have not lost one of those you gave me.”^[a]

- **In the face of betrayal, Jesus was still thinking of His disciples.**
- **John 17:12** ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by^[a] that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.
- **Romans 8:35–39** ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”^[a]
³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,^[b] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Love can still be present even if we face betrayal, Love for God and for others. It can help us bring our senses to the right judgment and not be poisoned by bitterness and resentment.

IV. Show supreme obedience.

John 18:10–11 ¹⁰ Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.)

¹¹ Jesus commanded Peter, “Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?”

- **Jesus was focused on carrying out His mission no matter what.**
- **Jesus displayed supreme obedience in the face of betrayal.**
- **Luke 22:49** ⁴⁹ When Jesus’ followers saw what was going to happen, they said, “Lord, should we strike with our swords?”
- Our Testimony as Christian should not be set aside even though we experience betrayal. It is a great opportunity to show what kind of Christian we are, we can still obey God and not compromise our faith even in times of betrayal.

- “Crushing sadness led Judas to suicide without repentance. Crushing sadness led Peter to restoration with repentance.” - John MacArthur
- This is a crucial moment. Both knew they were betrayers: one kills himself, and the other is restored.

Challenge: Often our attention is focused on the betrayals committed by people we trust. Because we've been hurt, we find it difficult to forget, but there are also times in our lives when we also betray not only people but also God. Try to do the right thing if you have been betrayed or you are the one who betrayed.

Discussion:

1. Have you ever been betrayed, or have you betrayed someone? (Share with the group)
2. Give an example of betrayal that a Christian does to God.
3. How can you apply in your life what Jesus did when he faced those who betrayed him?