**1. Motivate**

Who comes to mind when you think of “loyalty”?

* the family dog
* a favorite uncle, aunt, or grandparent
* my car
* the claims on TV in lawyer advertisements
* a neighbor
* someone on the pastoral staff at church
* husband or wife

A video introduction is available. Watch it at <https://watch.liberty.edu/media/t/1_e2we023n> . If you have no wi-fi where you teach, best to download to your computer from <https://tinyurl.com/yuydmpvu>

* a grandchild
* one of your neighbors

**2. Transition**

Certainly, the Lord is loyal to us.

* Connection to Christ calls for our consistent loyalty to Him.

**3. Bible Study**

3.1 Aware of Betrayal

Listen for Jesus’ clue.

John 13:21-27 (NIV) After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me." 22 His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. 23 One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. 24 Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means." 25 Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?" 26 Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon. 27 As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. "What you are about to do, do quickly," Jesus told him,

The passage says that Jesus was “troubled in spirit.” What kinds of emotions do you think this phrase was describing? How have you felt when betrayed by a friend?

* sadness
* dismay
* discouragement
* abandoned
* all alone
* “How could they do that?”

How did the disciples react to Jesus’ saying a betrayer was in their midst?

* stared at one another, at a loss to know who it might be
* had been too busy arguing about who was the greatest disciple
* Perter catches John’s attention, signaled him to ask Jesus

Judas had been with Jesus three years, following Him, watching the miracles, listening to the teachings. How do you think He was able to turn and betray Jesus?

* he held a cynical attitude the whole time
* he refused to believe in who Jesus really was
* maybe he saw the occasional pettiness of the other disciples (arguing who was the greatest)
* he had a love for money that superseded his love for Jesus
* he was influenced by Satan

In what ways do believers today betray Jesus? Why does this happen?

* Jesus might not really have first place in our lives
* we place more importance on our “stuff” or on popularity or personal pleasures
* talk spiritual in church on Sundays
* during the week they have more of an R rated language
* they look good among their church friends
* but in their business, they skate a little close to the edge of the law
* possible to feel disillusioned by actions of people we looked up to
* Satan convinces us that the way life has turned out is not fair, we respond by disobedience and rebellion

⇨ There is no doubt that this will hurt our Lord and cause Him to be “troubled in spirit” over us.

What specific things can we do to avoid falling into Satan’s trap of temptation to betray Jesus?

* as mentioned previously, to pursue that one-on-one relationship with Jesus
* to continue on in awe of who Jesus is, what He has done for us
* daily commit to place Jesus on the throne of my life
* be sensitive to His warnings through the indwelling Holy Spirit
* tell Him your feelings, your discouragement, your inability to deal with daily problems
* Jesus knows these things, telling Him is confession … agreeing with Him that your own personal abilities are insufficient …
* know that His power is sufficient
* be in daily communication with Him
* read God’s Word and apply it to your life … daily
* talk to God in prayer … more than just recite a list of people with illnesses

3.2 Live for God’s Glory

Listen for how God will be glorified.

John 13:31-33 (NIV) When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. 32 If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. 33 "My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come.

Jesus stated that He will be glorified, and God the Father will be glorified. How would this happen?

* raised from the dead
* returned to heaven to be at the right hand of the Father
* accomplish our salvation by His substitutionary death

Consider Philippians 2:9-11 (NIV) *Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

How was Jesus glorified through the cross?

* God the Father exalted Him to the highest place … heave, at the right hand of the Father
* God gave him the name that is above every name
* that name, that authority will demand and deserve *every* knee to bow
* every person will confess that Jesus is Lord

How is God the Father glorified in the cross?

* what Christ accomplishes glorifies God the Father
* we worship God the Father for having accomplished the salvation for every person through the substitutionary death and resurrection of God the Son

Who or what does our culture glorify?

* money
* material possessions
* property
* entertainment experiences
* popularity
* sports or entertainment fame
* power … business, politics
* good looks, attractive appearance

Instead of glorifying these kinds of things, how can we glorify God in our lives?

* daily communication with Him
* our relationship with God must be more than a Sunday only event
* allow God to guide and direct all that we do
* applying God’s principles to our lives
* allow God’s Holy Spirit to demonstrate the Fruit of the Spirit in our lives
* what we say, how we act should bring glory and honor to Jesus

3.3 Love One Another Loyally

Listen for what is new.

John 13:34-35 (NIV) "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Jesus previously confirmed this statement of the teacher of the law, *'Love your neighbor as yourself.'* So what was new about this command (look at preceding verses)?

* demonstrated just before this by His washing of their feet
* unsolicited acts of kindness … done with no expectation of reciprocity

Jesus says, “Love as I have loved you.” How has God shown His love for you?

* Jesus died on the cross for our sins
* God daily provides our needs
* God protects us
* God works in our lives – gives wisdom, guidance, direction

What is the benefit of demonstrating the love of God toward others?

* they see Jesus in us
* it is a far more effective testimony than what we might say
* it is allowing Jesus’ Holy Spirit to love others through us
* our faith becomes more than just words or things we do to look like a Christian (Sunday church)

How is love for one another one way to demonstrate loyalty to Jesus?

* we obey Christ by loving others as He told us
* we must surrender to Him to channel His love through us
* it is Jesus’ Holy Spirit that is at work in our lives, demonstrating all the Fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control

What are some tangible ways we can show that we love one another?

* speaking kindly, even if slighted (intentionally or unintentionally)

Use the last page as a handout so your learners can take home the application points of this week’s lesson.

* unsolicited acts of kindness
* help, support one another when in need
* declaring our love or friendship, our appreciation of them
* acts of kindness for which you neither require nor expect reciprocity

How does our love for one another point others to Christ?

* it will become evident that this sort of kindness is motivated and empowered by God at work in our lives
* we are salt and light and draw people to Christ by our actions and attitudes
* unbelievers do not act this way
* we are unique, distinct, different from unbelievers – the definition of holiness

Application

Confess.

* Confess to God any way you’ve been disloyal to Him. Ask Him to forgive you.

Memorize.

* Consider choosing one of these verses about God’s glory to memorize this week: John 1:14; 2 Corinthians 4:6; Psalm 19:1; Philippians 2:10-11.

Share.

* If you share on social media, consider posting about a brother or sister in Christ.
* Share how someone has loved you, encouraged you, or helped you experience more joy in Christ.

Cryptogram Puzzle



The Olympic attaché from our consulate in Brudaguya found this message in a Dr. Pepper can at a message drop location in a tram station recycling bin. The decoding key is in the grid below. You can see the sample “Hello World” below which shows how the code works. Our decoding staff is at Disney World on spring break, so we need your help. Forward the decoded message to your head deacon. If you need technical help, go to <https://tinyurl.com/yuydmpvu> . Other intriguing Family Activities can also be found.