

QUESTION 5

- a) Up until now there had been a way back for Judas; but at this moment he was in effect handed over to Satan.
- b) Jesus had shown His love to Judas but it had not been reciprocated.
- c) It can be hard to understand why that if it was part of God's plan that Judas should betray Jesus (**Psalm 41:9**); he should be then held responsible for it.

QUESTION 6

- a) It certainly seems a strange and unnecessary piece of information.
- b) Yet it is a powerful reference to the spiritual darkness of the moment; both in Judas' heart and also in the world of sin.
- c) Judas was under the control of the power of darkness.
- d) Light is a regular theme in John's gospel and is mentioned 16 times; e.g. John 1:4-5; 8:12.

GROUP LEADERS NOTES – STUDY 3

QUESTION 1

- a) Jesus already knew that Judas would be the one who would betray Him. Yet in this chapter we see the continuing patience and love He showed towards him.
- b) The reference to loving the disciples to the end in verse 1 includes Judas.
- c) It has been suggested that when in verse 26 he gives Judas the dipped morsel of bread; that Judas must have been sitting in the place of the honoured guest next to Jesus.
- d) That being the case, we again see Christ's love demonstrated to sinners. We could suggest further that if Judas was seated in this position he would probably have been the first to have his feet washed.

QUESTION 2

- a) Firstly, Jesus knows that His hour has come (verse 1). Compare that to the statements made in **John 7:6-8**.
- b) Secondly, Jesus knew that the Father had given all things into His hands and that He would return to the Father (verse 3).
- c) It is no coincidence that John in verse 2 includes a passing reference to the devil already having put the thought of betrayal into the heart of Judas. Despite this; Jesus goes ahead because He has been given all authority. He remains Lord!
- d) Notice how Jesus refers to the betrayal in verses 10-11; even though the disciples would have not grasped the significance at that moment.

QUESTION 3

- a) These chapters are often looked at simply as preparing the disciples for Jesus' death.
- b) Whilst this is true; we must not miss the fact that they also prepare those disciples for their mission; to go into the world with the gospel.
- c) Therefore we have this reference to this sending: "*whoever receives the one I send receives me...*"
- d) Judas' treachery would not change their mission. They were to keep believing in who Jesus was (verse 19).

- e) Jesus shows them that they need not be overwhelmed by this. It all had to happen and it would reveal who Jesus really was; God ('I am' was the special name of God, YAHWEH). Here is another big theme in John's Gospel which includes the seven 'I am' statements (see also John 8:58).

QUESTION 4

- a) Jesus knew all along what He was going to have to endure. As He looked at His disciples the true horror of it came over Him; one that came out of true love for sinners.
 - b) It is important that although Jesus knew what was going to happen and it was all under His control; He still suffered greatly.
 - c) We also have here evidence of the heartache of the betrayal by one who sat there next to Him; even though none of this was a surprise to Jesus.
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- a) However Judas was fully responsible for his sin; as we are today. He couldn't blame God for predetermining that event; and he couldn't blame Satan.
 - b) This is how we all stand before God. Adam and Eve tried the blame game; but it doesn't work (Genesis 3).