

April 3

## Communion is...

**Communion** is a choice... to eat from the tree of Life, or to reach for the food of death.

## Read Matthew 27:3-9

**Sometimes when we read a story, we tend to insert ourselves into it**, like imagining what we would have done if we had been there too. Verse 4 begins, *“Then when Judas, who had betrayed Him...”*

**As I think of myself in this story**, that would not be the description I would desire to follow my name. I would want the words describing me to be ones of someone who chose faithfulness and loyalty.

**As we keep reading**, we find that Judas comes to a realization of his choice to betray Jesus and he cannot bear the weight of it. Sin absolutely does produce death and sometimes we open our eyes to that reality too late.

**That’s what happened for Judas, but it didn’t have to.** Back in Matthew 26:20-25 we saw Jesus warn him, and make effort to persuade him, but at the time Judas’ response had been, *“Surely not I?”* At the time, his eyes were closed to the truth about himself and the choice he was making.

**But now that destruction has come**, he has full sight of it. If only he had listened.

**And what about me? And you?** If I was in this story, I hope a description of me would be written more like, *“Then when Sharon, who had worshipped Him, who had followed Him, who had trusted Him, who had obeyed Him, who had listened to Him, who had loved Him, stood by Him, served Him...”*

**The reality is, as a follower of Jesus, I am in His story. And you are too.** And every day, we have choices to make... choices that will determine what is said of us in relation to Jesus in the days to come. Left to our own choosing, we will end up in shame that leads to death, just like Judas. **But thankfully, the Lord has shown us a better way... a way of communing with Him and letting Him lead our choices.** A way of letting Him write our names in His story as faithful followers...

## Prayer Conversation Starter...

**Jesus, help me!** I am so prone to make choices that lead to death. You died to give me LIFE! Help me to listen to You as you guide my choices. **I want to be a faithful follower in Your story...**



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