

# Which Way Should I Go?

Pastor Jeff Bucknam | John 11:45–12:8

NOTE: As a guide, use these questions to help with group and family discussion or for personal reflection. Not all questions are needed. Select the ones that will best serve your group as you grow in Christ together through His Word. *Soli Deo Gloria*.

**Recap:** Our sermon text was in John 11:45–12:8. Title: *Which Way Should I Go?*

Main points: (1) The Way of Caiaphas, (2) The Way of Mary, (3) The Way of Judas.

## Ice Breaker

What discontinued item would you want to bring back?

## Understanding the Text in Context

Read John 11:45–12:8 together. Discuss the differences in the reactions to Jesus from Caiaphas, from Mary, and from Judas. What do we see from the text about their motivations, their heart?

In the Gospel, why does Jesus evoke such dramatic responses?

## Connecting to Jesus and His Gospel

How was Caiaphas' statement in verse 50 better than what he intended?

What did Mary's worship show us about what Mary believes about Jesus and about worship?

## Living Out the Truth

What does the way you spend your time and money reveal about how much you value Jesus?

Where are you most tempted to protect your comfort, control, reputation, or relationships instead of obeying Jesus?

As you look back on your Christian life, have you witnessed similar examples from the text – negatively, like the way of Caiaphas or the way of Judas; and positively, like the way of Mary? Share some examples with the group, especially some of the examples like Mary.

Which response most resembles you right now: resisting Jesus like Caiaphas, worshiping Him like Mary, or appearing devoted while protecting yourself like Judas?

Pray for one another.

## Parenting Moment and Family Focus

On the outside, Judas looked like a follower of Jesus, but his heart told a different story. How can we make sure that what we do as a Christian family comes from genuinely loving Jesus rather than just looking like a “good Christian family”?

If someone watched how our family spends our time, money, and attention, what might they conclude about how valuable Jesus is to us?

## Further Study

Read [The Anointing of Jesus](#) - A devotional reflection.

For more background on the high priest's ...

- ... role in the later part of Jesus' life, read [What is the account of Annas and Caiaphas?](#)
- ... unintended prophecy, read [Learning to Trust God's Sovereignty through Irony](#)

The ways of Caiaphas, Mary, and Judas were rooted in their values and their views of the world. And their actions showed the heart of those worldviews. For a theological reflection of worldviews — with a distinctly Christian reflection on the complexity of society from recent history — listen to [BONUS: Remembering 9/11 with Chuck Colson ||| A BreakPoint Podcast Special](#)

In your new John Study Journals, look ahead to next week's sermon and text for John 12:20-50: “The Grain of Wheat,” “Troubled yet Resolved,” and “Whoever Believes.”