



# Judas and the Boundaries of Forgiveness

## Session 1: Judas as Object of Curiosity

### Super Wednesday Bible Study: 9/12/18

#### 1. Why should we care about Judas

*This will be a five week class:*

Week 1: Judas as Object of Curiosity

Week 2: Judas as Object of Horror

Week 3: Judas as Object of Hatred

Week 4: Judas as Object of Sympathy

Week 5: Judas as Object of Hope

#### 2. Brain Starter

*Prodigal Son* by Thomas Hart Benton (1939)

#### 3. Primary Resources

- Bible
- *Judas: Images of the Lost Disciple*, by Kim Paffenroth, 2001 Westminster John Knox Press
- *Judas: A Biography*, by Susan Gubar, 2009 W.W. Norton & Co.

#### 4. Paul and Judas" παρεδόθη

- Romans 4:25
- Romans 8:32
- Galatians 2:20
- 1 Corinthians 11:23
- Ephesians 5:2, 25

#### 5. Mark: Fulfillment and Epitome (Part 1)

- Mark 3:13-19
- Mark 14:10-11
- Mark 14:17-21
- Mark 14:43-50

## 6. Was Judas real or a storytelling device?

“It is difficult to imagine any apologetic purpose that the early church would have had to invent the story of one of the chosen disciples helping in Jesus’ capture.” *Paffenroth, p. 9*

## 7. Mark: Fulfillment and Epitome (Part 2)

“Judas is an enigmatic figure in Mark whose **only role** is to hand Jesus over to the authorities. He has **no character** beyond this, and no details are given about him that do not contribute to this role. His character is effectively confined or limited to its narrative function. Judas’s role in Mark is seen as **fulfilling scripture** and also **epitomizing** the ironic and tragic failure of the disciples in general.” *Paffenroth, p. 10*

## 8. Historicity: The Field of Blood (Compare/Contrast)

- Matthew 27:5-8
- Acts 1:18-19
- Papias, Bishop of Hierapolis, ca. 60–130

## 9. Why Judas is an Object of Curiosity

Judas “was the perfect foundation on which to build a character and a story: here was a man who, on the one hand, needed no introduction but, on the other, definitely needed a conclusion. As we will see, there were many possibilities for what that conclusion could be, and with each new conclusion, a new meaning and purpose for Judas’s story was crafted.”  
*Paffenroth, p. 15*

## 10. Next Week

*Judas as Object of Horror*