



# DO NOT WAIT UNTIL FRIDAY

## THEME FOR April: DELIVERANCE

**The Goal:** To examine and align our hearts before Friday so our response to the cross is real and not just routine.

**Icebreaker:** Be honest, have you ever thought you were stronger than you really were, until a situation proved you wrong?

### 1. Judas — A Divided Heart

**Matthew 26:14–16**

Jesus is moving toward the cross, and at the same time, Judas is making a deal. While Jesus is preparing to give His life, Judas is negotiating a price.

Observation: Judas walked with Jesus but chose something else.

Truth: A divided heart will eventually choose.

Conviction: What are you holding onto that is competing with Jesus?

Takeaway: You can walk with Jesus and still choose something else.

### 2. Peter — An Overconfident Heart

**Luke 22:31–34**

Jesus is warning Peter, letting him know what's coming. But Peter is so confident in himself that he misses the warning.

Observation: Peter believed he would never fail but ignored the warning.

Truth: Confidence without dependence will fail.

Conviction: Where are you relying on yourself instead of God?

Takeaway: You are not as strong as you think without God.

### 3. The Disciples — An Unaware Heart

**Matthew 26:40–41**

Jesus is in the garden. He is under pressure. He is praying with intensity. The disciples are present but not aware.

Observation: Jesus was praying while they were asleep



### **3. The Disciples — An Unaware Heart**

**Matthew 26:40-41**

Truth: Jesus was in a serious moment, and they missed it.

Conviction: Where is God moving right now, and you're not paying attention to it?

Takeaway: You can be in the moment, and still miss the moment when you're spiritually unaware.

### **4. Pilate — A Compromising Heart**

**Matthew 27:22-24**

Jesus is standing innocent, and Pilate knows it. But in a pressured moment, he chooses the crowd over conviction.

Observation: Pilate knew Jesus was innocent but still gave in to pressure.

Truth: You can know what is right and still not do it.

Conviction: Where are you compromising even though you know better?

Takeaway: Neutrality is still a decision.

### **5. Barabbas — An Unresponsive Heart**

**Matthew 27:15-26**

Jesus is about to take a place that wasn't His, and Barabbas is the one who benefits.

Observation: Barabbas was set free, but the text is silent about his response.

Truth: You can experience something powerful and never respond.

Conviction: What has God done for you that you have not responded to?

Takeaway: He was set free, and we don't know if he ever changed.

### **What kind of heart should you have?**

A surrendered heart. A dependent heart. An aware heart. A courageous heart. A responsive heart.

### **Closing:**

God is able to deliver. He can break chains, forgive sin, and make you whole, but deliverance begins when you deal with your heart. Don't wait until Friday; check your heart today.

### **Challenge:**

- ◆ Spend intentional time with God each day
- ◆ Read the crucifixion story slowly
- ◆ Reflect honestly on your heart
- ◆ Surrender something specific