



Betrayal

WARM UP

If you could change your occupation, what would you choose to do?

SET IT UP

If you've ever been betrayed by someone – you're not alone! The pain of betrayal can stop us in our tracks or steer our lives into the ditch of bitterness and self-pity. But there has to be a better way. Let's talk about it.

CHAT IT UP

1. **What do Benedict Arnold, Caesar's Brutus, and Judas all have in common?** (Answer: Known for betraying others.)
2. Think about the person in your life who has hurt you most deeply. Raise your hand to let me know that you have them in mind.
3. **Betrayal doesn't usually bring out our best. How do people respond to betrayal?** (Answers: Anger, bitterness, seek revenge, constant inner turmoil, etc.)
4. **Read Matthew 5:43-44. How can we, as Christians, respond differently to those who have wronged us?** (Answer: We are to love them do kind things for them.)
5. **We have all betrayed Jesus in our sin. How did He respond to our betrayal?** (Answer: He gave us His life to pay for that sin. See Romans 5:8.)
6. **Have you ever been betrayed? If you're willing to share, what happened? Have you been able to overcome it yet? How do you know?**
7. At our best, we often walk away from those who have wronged us. We might even forgive them. **But Jesus takes it a step further, what is your reaction to Jesus telling us *to be kind* to those who have betrayed us?**

WRAP IT UP

When someone does something TO you that you don't deserve, do something FOR them that they don't deserve. Pray for them; serve them; speak well of them; forgive them. The truth is, we are all betrayers at some level. In spite of our betrayal – Jesus offers us something that we don't deserve: grace!

LEADER TIPS

- Betrayal is a heavy topic. Treat it with the gravity it deserves. One of the most important things you can do for people with emotional scars is to give them room to air them. Be that safe place for your group.