

# YOU CAN'T KILL JESUS

## Summary

There a lot of factors that played roles in the death of Jesus. Caiaphas plotted to kill him. Judas betrayed him. Pilot approved the request to crucify him. And, our sin set the stage for him. However, none of these factors ultimately killed Jesus. Since Jesus is God, no one can kill Jesus except for God. This series looks at the people that played factors in Jesus' death and shows how we have more in common with them than we might think. Thankfully, Jesus has victory over his enemies and death.

## Week 1

*Josephus Caiaphas // John 11:45-52; Matthew 26:57-75*

Joseph Caiaphas was the high priest at the time of Jesus. Jesus was a threat to his power, wealth, beliefs and his success. As the high priest, Caiaphas knew better than anyone that the law clearly stated, "thou shall not murder". Yet, Caiaphas lead the plot to kill Jesus in order to protect his power, wealth, beliefs and success. Caiaphas thought that killing Jesus would end Jesus' influence, but the complete opposite happened. After Jesus' death, His influence became even stronger and Caiaphas' influence dwindled. Caiaphas was successful in a lot of ways, but the problem was he was successful in things that don't ultimately matter.

Big Idea: We should be less afraid of failure and more afraid of succeeding at the wrong thing.

## Week 2

*Judas Iscariot // John 13:18-30; Mark 14:43-45; Matthew 27:3-10; Matthew 26:14-16*

Judas learned all about Jesus and spent a lot of time around Jesus, but when he realized Jesus wasn't going to give him what he wanted, he betrayed Jesus. Judas cared more about money than he did anything else. When he realized that following Jesus would not give him the life he wanted, he ended up trading a relationship with Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. For Judas, Jesus was a means to an end. Do you see Jesus as a way to get the things you want? Following Jesus will likely result in you making sacrifices, but we should find comfort in knowing that Jesus sacrificed for us, more than we could for him, and he gives us more than we could have imagined.

Big Idea: Following Jesus will cost you, but not following him will cost you much more.

## Week 3

*Pontius Pilate // Matthew 27:1-26; Mark 15:1-15, 42-45; Luke 23:1-24; John 18-19*

Pilate had an idea of what was right, but everyone around him pushed him to do the opposite. Instead of standing up for the truth, Pilate passively denied truth. Pilate let the crowd influence him and tried to wash his hands of it. We all have crowds in our lives that will attempt to influence us. What voices are you listening to? What voices do you need to turn down and which voices do you need to turn up?

Big Idea: Who you listen to will significantly impact who you become.