



**SERIES: John Believe**  
**SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD**  
**Tuesday, March 21, 2023**  
**Scripture: John 13:18-20**  
**TITLE: Get on the Bus**

Author Jim Collins said one of the jobs of a leader is to get the right people on the bus and in the right seats. I totally agree with him. But what would you think if a leader willingly and knowingly brought on someone who would attempt to destroy the organization? You'd think it's time for the leader to go.

But did you know Jesus did this very thing? It's true. Let's go Back to the Bible to find out why in John 13:18-20.

I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.' I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place, you may believe that I am he. Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."

Jesus has just washed the disciples' feet and challenged them to remember that whatever He was willing to do the disciples must also be ready to do.

And now, Jesus turns in His talk to make aware and remind His disciples that there is one of them who will betray Him. Jesus says, "I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.'" Jesus knowingly and willingly chose Judas as one of the 12. Judas didn't know what He would do when He first joined this band of disciples. But Jesus did. He brought Judas on the bus and put him in an intentional seat: the betrayal bench.

Why? It would fulfill a prophecy from Zechariah 11:12-13. 500 years before this moment, Zechariah predicted that Judas would betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. Not only that, but he would throw it on the ground in the temple. Just as Zechariah predicted.

Again, as Jesus says in back in John 13:19, these things were declared and took place so that the disciples might, and we too, may believe that Jesus is the Messiah.

And then, in verse 20, Jesus makes a seemingly odd and out-of-place statement. He says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."

These 11 were still apostles. They were the ones sent from Jesus. They are the only true apostles, but we all are sent ones for God. As Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 5:20, "We are ambassadors for Christ."

So here's my challenge for you today: live like an ambassador for Jesus. Thankfully, we have not been chosen to betray Jesus. Instead, we are called to be light in the darkness. We are salt that adds flavor to the world around us. We are to show people Christ every day in everyday ways. So do so. It's an honor and privilege to be on the bus for Jesus.

When we show Jesus to the world, we will win the day.