



CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH  
Loving God, Loving People

**The Great I AM**  
**“The Plot and Problem of Pragmatism”**  
**John 11:45-57**

**1. The Problem (vv. 45-48)**

**2. The Plot (49-53)**

**Matt. 10:38-39 38 And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it**

**2 Cor. 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.**

**3. The Pause (54-57)**

**Apply this to your life:**

- (1) God is sovereign over everything - even over the death of His own Son.**
- (2) Christ is your scapegoat.**

---

**Food For Thought:** After the resurrection of Lazarus, the Jewish religious leaders and enemies of Jesus, plot his murder as a pragmatic plan to hold on to their own religious system – a common mistake made by those who wish to be more practical than holy .

- 1. What are the chief concerns of the religious leaders from this text?**
  - 2. How does the Sanhedrin like so many people today, misunderstand the role and mission of the Messiah?**
  - 3. How does Caiaphas’ murderous threat actually point to the cross?**
-

**Bible Text**  
**John 11:45-57**  
**(ESV)**

**The Plot to Kill Jesus**

45 Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, 46 but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. 47 So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. 48 If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." 49 But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. 50 Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." 51 He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, 52 and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. 53 So from that day on they made plans to put him to death. 54 Jesus therefore no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed with the disciples. 55 Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. 56 They were looking for[a] Jesus and saying to one another as they stood in the temple, "What do you think? That he will not come to the feast at all?" 57 Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him.

---

**C.C.C. Media Ministry:** if you missed a recent message and would like to catch-up or would like to download them to your MP3 player, you can access our most recent inventory at <http://www.sermonaudio.com/christcommchurch>. Our sermons are now available in Spanish on this site.



*Pastor Bernie's weekly "My Captive Thought" blog is available on-line at  
<http://mycaptivethought.wordpress.com/>.*

*Christ Community Church Web Page*

Please be sure to visit our web page! <http://www.christcomchurch.org/>

**Lots of information and quick links to selected sermons in English and Spanish. Links to our Facebook page, sermon audio page, and Pastor Bernie's Blog. Be sure to check out the Announcements to keep up with our current series and what's next!**

***Our Mission: Christ Community Church exists to worship God, fellowship in community and build the body of Christ by making disciples, baptizing them and teaching them until the Lord Jesus Christ returns (Acts 2:42-47, Mt. 28:18-20, Eph. 4:11-16).***

**Rev. Bernie Diaz**  
**Pastor, Christ Community Church**  
**[www.christcomchurch.org](http://www.christcomchurch.org)**  
***"Love God, Love People"***



**CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**Loving God, Loving People**

*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and prayers. – Acts 2:42 (NKJV)*