

No. 12      **Be Loyal, as Jesus Was (Symposium)**  
                  **-When Abandoned**

[PLEASE NOTE: This talk includes a video. Each part in this symposium will address (1) how our loyalty is challenged, (2) how Jesus maintained his loyalty, and (3) how we can maintain ours]

HOW IS OUR LOYALTY TO JEHOVAH CHALLENGED WHEN WE ARE ABANDONED?  
(2 min.)

Tests of loyalty may come from those closest to us

Unbelieving family members or friends may ostracize us for choosing to serve Jehovah [Read Matthew 10:35, 36]

Even within the congregation, a friend may withdraw somewhat as we put spiritual goals first in our lives

We might feel abandoned when we lose a loved one in death

HOW DID JESUS MAINTAIN HIS LOYALTY WHEN HE WAS ABANDONED? (3 min.)

When on earth, Jesus was abandoned by many of his disciples (Mt 26:56; Joh 6:66)

He never allowed their negative attitudes to influence his loyalty  
Jesus could endure any difficulty because Jehovah was his most intimate and best Friend [Read John 16:32]

He had complete confidence that Jehovah would never abandon him

He knew that loyal ones would continue the work he had started

Aside from occasions when they had a momentary lack of faith,  
Jesus' 11 faithful apostles were loyal friends (Lu 22:28)

Jesus knew that Jehovah would even reverse the effects of death

HOW CAN WE MAINTAIN OUR LOYALTY WHEN ABANDONED? (3 min.)

Like Jesus, we can remain close to Jehovah

Jehovah will never abandon us if we remain loyal to him

[Read Psalm 27:10] (w12 5/15 15 ¶4)

He can fill any void left by acquaintances who are disloyal

Stay close to Jehovah's organization

Elijah mistakenly thought that he was alone in serving God, but there were other loyal ones (1Ki 19:14, 18)

Our loyal service will bring us into contact with fellow worshippers who will become loyal associates (w09 10/15 18 ¶4)

Our loyalty may even motivate those who have abandoned us to grow spiritually and resume their friendship with God and with us

Jehovah comforts us with the resurrection hope (Joh 6:39)

In the following dramatization, note how a person can show loyalty when abandoned

VIDEO (3 min.)

BE DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN YOUR LOYALTY WHEN ABANDONED (1 min.)

May we follow Jesus' example and remain loyal even if some abandon us  
Jehovah promises that he "will never abandon" us (Heb 13:5)

Brother \_\_\_\_\_ will now present the final part of this symposium,  
"Be Loyal, as Jesus Was—When Facing Death"

TO BE COVERED IN 12 MINUTES