

Chapter-by-Chapter Bible Studies

John Chapters 12-21
Bible Study

**What Difference Would It Have Made
If Jesus Had Not Risen from the Dead?**

Bible Studies
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John Chapters 12-21 Bible Study What Difference Would It Have Made If Jesus Had Not Risen from the Dead?

This book has been put together for your use:

- In your personal devotional Bible Study time.
or
- For your Bible Study Discussion Group.

It is divided into several lessons; each lesson typically covers one chapter of the book of the Bible you are studying.

Each lesson has two (2) parts:

1. Questions for you to Answer.
2. My Comments and Thoughts.

I suggest answering the questions on your own before you read my comments on the passage. If you are studying as a group and not everyone has their own copy of this Bible Study, I suggest making sure each member of your group has a copy of the next week's questions in advance so that they can prepare if they want to. Preparation for a Bible Study is a great way to establish the habit of getting into the Word every day.

An online version of this study is available for free download at:

www.kathleendalton.com

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Introduction
What Difference Would It Have Made
If Jesus Had Not Risen from the Dead?
John Chapters 12-21 Bible Study

Over twenty years ago my husband, Ken, had a business acquaintance ask him: "What difference would it have made if Jesus had never risen from the dead?"

Jack and Ken had worked together on many projects, and been friends over the years. When he asked Ken this question it was because he knew he didn't know God at all, and was a little stumped about how to go about it.

Ken was only too glad to sit down with Jack that day, answer his question, and also tell him what it meant to put his faith in Jesus. When Jack realized all that Jesus had done for him, and that Jesus was without a doubt God Himself, that He had been murdered, but then raised from the dead two thousand years ago, and was alive today, Jack gave his heart and life to Jesus Christ. Two years later Jack died...but didn't. His body is in the grave, but Jack went to be with His Lord. He's living with Jesus today, and will for eternity.

Lesson 1
Questions for You to Answer
John 12 "Six Days"

Jesus is now six days away from His death and resurrection. What more does He want to teach His disciples about Himself before He is gone?

:1-8 _____

:12-19 _____

:20-24 _____

:25 _____

:26 _____

Lesson 1 John Chapter 12 Questions

:27 _____

:28-33 _____

:34-36 _____

:42-46 _____

:47-48 _____

:49-50 _____

Lesson 1

“Six Days”

John 12

Jesus is now six days away from His death and resurrection. What more does He want to teach His disciples about Himself before He is gone?

:1-8

- That His death and burial are imminent.
- That He has great value.
- That loving Him is the supreme goal of life.

:12-19

- That the world is waiting and wanting to welcome their Messiah.
- That before His glorious someday reign, the Gentiles, too, are going to be included in the family of God. (*Zechariah 9:9*).
- That He came as a servant.
- That He came as a king in the line of David (the donkey was the royal mount of choice in King David's day).

:20-24

- The time is come for Jesus to die.
- Those with more questions should just watch.

:25

- Don't love your life. Be willing to lose it. He is.

:26

- Serving Christ means being willing to follow Him wherever He goes – even unto death.

:27

- Jesus is not going to sidestep this horrible event. This is why he came.

:28-33

- He says: "I am going to die, and Satan's power will be forever broken."

:34-36

- I am the light you need. Stick close to me. Learn from me. Draw strength from me. I will not be here soon. Believe in me so that you will continue to have light when I am gone.
- To those who thought they knew that the Messiah, when He came, would never again leave them, He said, you're right....and you're wrong....

I am Messiah. I am leaving. Here are Old Testament verse which say I will leave: (*Daniel 9:26, Isaiah 53, Psalm 22*)

And I am forever, which means I will never leave you. Here are Old Testament verses which say I will be forever: (*Psalms 110:4, Isaiah 9:6,7, Ezekiel 37:25, Daniel 7:14*)

:42-46

- When you believe in me, step out in faith and declare it. Don't keep living in the dark. It's much nicer in the light.

:47-48

- I have come for mercy. Not judgment. At least not now. But judgment will come soon enough. Don't be there for it. My very words, which you reject now, will be your judge someday.

:49-50

- I say what the Father told me to say.

Lesson 2

Questions for You to Answer

John 13 "Do the Same for One Another"

Read the whole chapter through, then answer questions:

1. (:1) What was it Jesus did which showed the disciples the full extent of His love?

2. (:2-5) Traditional good manners said that a servant should wash the feet of the guests as they entered. Why hadn't a servant washed their feet already? Why hadn't they washed each other's feet?

3. (:6-9) What is Peter struggling with?

4. (:10-17) What lesson was this foot-washing teaching?

5. (:18-30) Jesus tells them that one of them will betray Him. Do you see anything in this passage that indicates Judas had a choice?

6. (:31-38) Jesus tells Peter that he, too, will betray Him. How is Peter's betrayal different than Judas' betrayal?

7. (:34,35) What is the strongest possible proof to the world that our faith in Christ is genuine? (see also *Revelation 2:1-7*)

8. What can I do, today, with the following people, to live out the lesson of this chapter?

<u>Friends</u>	<u>Family</u>	<u>Acquaintances</u>

Lesson 2

“Do the Same for One Another”

John 13

Read the whole chapter through, then answer:

1. (:1) What was it Jesus did which showed the disciples the full extent of His love?
 - Initially, it was the “foot-washing”. But that was simply pointing to a greater event. A “humble/serving/by a friend” event, the cross.
 - Why would serving someone in humility be the greatest way to show love?
 - Serving (but not in a humbling way) could be self-serving, too.
 - But humbling yourself totally destroys any reward for yourself. The benefit is all for the receiver.
 - Pride is sometimes our greatest enemy in Christian service. Looking for ways to serve in humility is a tool to keep that pride right where it belongs...kneeling before the feet of a fellow believer.

2. (:2-5) Traditional good manners said that a servant should wash the feet of the guests as they entered. Why hadn't a servant washed their feet already? Why hadn't they washed each other's' feet?

They had no servant, and they had not thought yet of being servants to one another. They were still thinking in the world's terms about greatness and friendship. The world says friends are equal. Give 50% and get 50%. Jesus was teaching them the 100% rule. You: 100%, others: 0%.

3. (:6-9) What is Peter struggling with?
 - Love for Jesus – he knew Jesus was His Lord.
 - Not enough information. Once he had seen the cross and the resurrection he would understand. For now, he is not willing to react by trusting Jesus to know more than he knew.
 - Pride – he is bossing Jesus around.

4. (:10-17) What lesson was this foot-washing teaching?

- There is more you need to know. I will be serving you in a more humiliating way than you could ever imagine. Let me do it.
- Do the same for each other. – humiliating acts of service. (well, OK, maybe humble acts of service sounds better – but don't overlook the word "humiliation" – it truly helps us define what "humble" means. If it feels really good, and you come away quite proud of yourself, it probably wasn't humble.)
- Imitate me – not each other.

5. (:18-30) Jesus tells them that one of them will betray Him. Do you see anything in this passage that indicates Judas had a choice?

The very fact that Jesus talked about it and warned them all that it was going to happen, then passed a bit of bread to Judas after voicing a warning.... all that indicates to me that Judas had a chance to say "no" to the temptation he was facing.

6. (:31-38) Jesus tells Peter that he, too, will betray Him. How is Peter's betrayal different than Judas' betrayal?

- Wasn't Peter simply caught up in a moment of fear, and that's why he denied the Lord? Perhaps – but perhaps Judas, also, was afraid...afraid of what the Jewish authorities would do to all of them.
- Peter didn't have time to think about and plan his denial, Judas did.
- Judas was inspired by Satan. So was Peter.
- What makes Peter's denial different than Judas's betrayal? Read about it in *Matthew 26:27* and *Matthew 27:5*.
- Peter repented. Judas did not.

7. (:34,35) What is the strongest possible proof to the world that our faith in Christ is genuine? (see also *Revelation 2:1-7*)

Our acts of love toward one another. Not our feelings. The world cannot judge our feelings. The watching world can only see our actions.

8. What can I do, today, to live out the lesson of this chapter?

Fill out these three columns with lists of people you know. Then make a plan to show humble acts of love to each person in the coming days, months, or whenever the opportunity presents itself

<u>Friends</u>	<u>Family</u>	<u>Acquaintances</u>

Lesson 3
Questions for You to Answer
John 14 “Don’t Let Your Heart Be Troubled”

1. (:1-14) What commands do you see in these verses?

2. (:1-14) What messages of hope do you see in these verses?

3. (:4) Jesus said in verse 4 that they would know the way to the place where he was going. How would they know that?

4. (:8) Why did Philip say “*Lord, show us the Father...*” in verse 8?

5. (:15-26) What do we learn about the Holy Spirit in these verses?
:16
:16
:17
:17
:23
:26

6. How was the “counselor” going to help them?

7. (:20) What “day” is He talking about?

8. (:27) What else, besides the “Counselor”, was Jesus going to leave behind with His disciples?

9. (:28-31) Who put Christ on the cross?

10. (:30) What does “ruler of this world” mean?

11. What are the reasons the disciples should want Jesus to go to the cross?

Lesson 3

“Don’t Let Your Heart Be Troubled”

John 14

Discussion Opener: If you had been on one of the 9-11 planes, and were able to make one call, who would it be to, and what would you want to say?

Chapters 12-17 are Jesus’ 9-11 call. The word “love” is mentioned thirty-three times in Chapters 12-17 of John, as compared to six times in chapters 1-11.

1. (:1-14) What commands do you see in these verses?
 - a. Do not let your hearts be troubled.
 - b. Trust in God.
 - c. Trust also in Me.
 - d. Believe Me when I say....

2. (:1-14) What messages of hope do you see in these verses?
 - a. Your heart doesn’t have to be troubled.
 - b. You can trust God.
 - c. You can trust Me.
 - d. God’s dwelling place has lots of room.
 - e. I’m going to that place to get things ready for you.
 - f. And I will come back to get you.
 - g. You will soon be where I am.
 - h. You will be able to get there...you know the way.
 - i. I am the way...you can get there through Me.
 - j. I am the Father...He is Me.... you know me.
 - k. If you have faith in me, you will be able to do what I’ve been doing.
 - l. In fact, you will do more than I have been doing.
 - m. We will be partners. You ask, I will carry it out.
 - n. We will both be bringing glory to God in that way.
 - o. Ask for anything in My name...I will do it.

3. (:4) Jesus said in verse 4 they would know the way to the place where he was going. How would they know that?

Jesus Himself was the way. They knew Him, so they could follow Him to where He was going. They could keep their eyes on Him, and end up at their destination.

4. (:8) Why did Philip say “Lord, show us the Father...” in verse 8?

Philip still wasn't understanding that Jesus was God. Jesus said “Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father.” Does this seem clear to you? Why is this so hard to “get”?

5. (:15-26) What do we learn about the Holy Spirit in verses 15-26?

(:16) The Father gives Him.

(:16) Once given, He is there forever.

(:17) He is the Spirit of Truth. When we are not sure something is true, it is He who divides the truth from lies for us.

(:17) He is not given to “the world” – the general population, but only to believers in Jesus.

(:23) If you love Jesus, the Holy Spirit comes to make His home in you.

(:26) The Holy Spirit's job is to remind believers of everything Jesus said, and to teach us everything we need to know

6. How was the “counselor” going to help them?

He would be there when Jesus left. They would not be “orphans”. They were not left on their own. He would take over and remind them of truth. Keep them going.

7. (:20) What “day” is He talking about?

From verses 17-19, it looks like Jesus is referring to the day the Holy Spirit would be given - the Day of Pentecost. The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was essentially just same as Jesus returning, to live within us. The Holy Spirit in me is the same thing as the Father in me, and Jesus in me. They are all three the same. That is

why we use the phrase: “ask Jesus into your heart”. It is the Holy Spirit who comes to live in my heart when I believe in Jesus, but it is also Jesus. They are different from One Another, but also the same as One Another.

8. (:27) What else, besides the “counselor”, was Jesus going to leave behind with His disciples?

Peace. No fear was necessary. Fear is a natural gift from God, to help us to survive, and to spur us to movement when danger approaches. But it is not needed in our relationship with Jesus. When Jesus left the disciples to go to heaven, peace was the rule of the day because the Holy Spirit would always be there.

9. (:28-31) Who put Christ on the cross?

Satan did. But then again, he didn't. Couldn't. He had no hold on Jesus. Satan prompted men to do it. But men could have done nothing unless Jesus agreed. The Father and Jesus and the Spirit allowed Satan to move against Christ.

10. (:30) What does “ruler of this world” mean?

Satan is the “ruler of this world”. He is also called the “prince of the power of the air”, (KJV), or the “ruler of the kingdom of the air” (NIV) –*Ephesians 2:2*.

Meaning that for a short time, since the sin of Adam and Eve, Satan has had limited rule over God's created universe.

That's why John was so grief-stricken at the end of his life when he sees the throne room of God in *Revelation 4&5*. He realizes that the scroll in the hand of God the Father (the title deed to planet earth) needs to be claimed by a man who has proved worthy to take it back from Satan. But in *Revelation 5:1-4*, that man can't be found. John had to have been thinking...Oh, no – where is He? Where is the One who can save us from all this horror which surrounds us? Surely Satan will not be able to rule the earth forever? Read the rest of *Revelation 5* to see the rest of the story.

11. What are the reasons the disciples should want Jesus to go to the cross?

- a. (:28) He is going to the Father, completing the plan of God.
- b. (:31) This is the way the world will learn of Jesus. Jesus wanted to go to the cross. We need to walk with Him and learn of Him, and grow to the place where we want what He wants.

Lesson 4
Questions for You to Answer
John 15 "Bearing Fruit...Being Hated"

1. (:1-17) The key to understanding this passage is figuring out the symbolism. Read through these verses and then take a guess: what do you think each of the following symbolize in this passage?

- "Vine" means: _____
- "Gardener" means: _____
- "Branches" means: _____
- "The cut-off branch" means: _____
- "Remain in Him" means: _____
- "Fruit" means: _____

2. So from verses 1-17, what facts do we learn about "fruit"?

:2

:4

:5

:7

:8

:16

3. Now, we need to ask the question: What “fruit” is he talking about? What, exactly, is fruit?

In order to define “fruit”, check out the following verses, and match each verse with the correct definition in the chart below. (hint: a couple of these verses are interchangeable)

- *Hebrews 13:15*
- *Colossians 1:9-11*
- *Matthew 3:8*
- *Galatians 5:22,23*
- *Philippians 1:9-11*
- *Proverbs 8:19*
- *Ephesians 5:9*

Match a verse above with one of the definitions below:

Verse	Definition of “fruit”
	Repentance...changed life and actions
	More valuable than gold
	Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control
	Righteousness, sincerity, glorifying God
	Good works
	Praise to God
	Goodness, righteousness, truth

4. (:2-4) So, if we are bearing fruit, but want to bear “more fruit”, what needs to happen?

5. (:5-8) And if we are bearing fruit, but want to bear “much fruit”, what needs to happen?

6. (:9-17) What does loving each other have to do with bearing fruit?

7. (:14-15) Why does Jesus call us “friends”, and not “servants”?

8. (:16-17) How does that affect the way we love each other?

9. (:18-20) Now...as we begin to obey God, love each other, and bear fruit, what is definitely going to happen?

10. (:21-25) Why would anyone hate us? If we are being loving, why will people hate us?

11. (:26-27) What should we do about being hated?

Suggestion: John 15: 1-17 would be a terrific passage to memorize!

Lesson 4

“Bearing Fruit... Being Hated”

John 15

1. (:1-17) The key to understanding this passage is figuring out the symbolism. Read through these verses and then take a guess: what do you think each of the following symbolize in this passage?
 - “Vine” means: Jesus .
 - “Vinedresser” means: The Father.
 - “Branches” means: Me (or any believer in Jesus).
 - “The cut-off branch” means: Is this the religious person who has never known Christ? Or, is this the true Christian who is not bearing fruit, in other words, not walking with the Lord? Keep this question in the back of your mind as you study this passage.
 - “Remain in Him” means: Abide in Him. Put roots down into Him. Obey Him. Here’s a good question: How do I remain? Is remaining, or abiding, something I have to try to do, or is it something which automatically happens because I am a believer and the Holy Spirit is working in my life?” (see verse 10)
 - “Fruit” means: As you answer the next two questions you will get a good idea of what fruit is.

2. From verses 1-17, what facts do we learn about “fruit”?
 - :2 To be fruitful you need pruning. If you are not fruitful you are useless.
 - :4 Fruit only comes from abiding in Christ.
 - :5 You cannot produce fruit any other way besides abiding in Christ.
 - :7 Prayer, and its results, are fruit.
 - :8 God wants us to bear much fruit.
 - :16 We were saved so that we would bear fruit.

3. Now, we need to ask the question: What “fruit” is he talking about? What, exactly, is fruit?

In order to define “fruit”, check out the following verses, and match each verse with the correct definition in the chart below. (hint: a couple of these verses are interchangeable)

- *Hebrews 13:15*
- *Colossians 1:9-11*
- *Matthew 3:8*
- *Galatians 5:22,23*
- *Philippians 1:9-11*
- *Proverbs 8:19*
- *Ephesians 5:9*

Match a verse above with one of the definitions below:

Verse	Definition of “fruit”
<i>Matthew 3:8</i>	Repentance...changed life and actions
<i>Proverbs 8:19</i>	More valuable than gold
<i>Galatians 5:22&23</i>	Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, good faithfulness, gentleness and self-control
<i>Philippians 1:9-11</i>	Righteousness, sincerity, glorifying God
<i>Colossians 1:9-11</i>	Good works
<i>Hebrews 13:15</i>	Praise to God
<i>Ephesians 5:9</i>	Goodness, righteousness, truth

4. (:2-4) So, if we are bearing fruit, but would bear “more fruit”, what needs to happen?

We need to be “pruned”. What does that mean? Pruning is something which is uncomfortable or even painful that removes uselessness from our lives and opens up room for more fruitful growth. It is a healthy thing, but not always pleasant. How do I get pruned? God does it – you don’t do it to yourself.

5. (:5-8) And if we are bearing fruit, but would bear “much fruit”, what needs to happen?

We need to “abide” even more in Christ. Put our roots way down into Him. Obey Him. Do things His way. And we need to pray. Ask for what we need. Our idea of what we need will actually change as we abide and grow and bear much fruit. Soon we will be asking for different things than we did at first.

6. (:9-17) What does loving each other have to do with bearing fruit?

Loving each other is a fruit of abiding in Christ, because Christ is love. Therefore, the more we abide in Him, the more we love. In other words, when we abide in Him, His characteristics become our characteristics.

7. (:14-15) Why does Jesus call us “friends”, and not “servants”?

Because we aren’t obeying blindly. We are entering into a relationship, a partnership.

8. (:16-17) How does that affect the way we love each other?

When I know I am not a servant, but a friend, then I realize that other Christians are my partners, my friends, and that we are in this together, working together to bear fruit. My love for others becomes an essential part of getting the job done.

9. (:18-20) Now, as we begin to obey God, love each other, and bear fruit, what is definitely going to happen?

Part of the unsaved world will hate us. And part of the unsaved world will believe us, believe in Jesus, and love us.

10. (:21-25) Why would anyone hate us? If we are being loving, why will people hate us?

If we are abiding in Christ, we are not like the world....and if they don’t want to change, then they hate us because we remind them that they need to change. If they don’t know God, they may see how much they need God and respond to our message, or they may be angry that our fruit is good and theirs is not. Our fruit is lasting and theirs fades away.

11. (:26-27) What should we do about being hated?

- First of all, we can accept being hated as part of our service for the LORD.
Philippians 1:29
- Then, we can be encouraged by knowing that the Holy Spirit will tell us what to say when hatred comes.
- Finally, we can keep on abiding in Christ and telling the world about Him.
We don't stand down.

I challenge you to ask yourself: How does the world feel about me? If you are very popular with the unsaved world, you may want to ask yourself if you are acting like your friend, Jesus.

Suggestion: John 15: 1-17 would be a terrific passage to memorize!

Lesson 5
Questions for You to Answer
John 16 “Overcoming the World”

1. (:1-4) In these verses Jesus warns the disciples of the persecution they will suffer once He is gone. Why hadn't he told them this before?

2. (:4-8) What does Jesus mention in verse 8 as one of the jobs of the Holy Spirit?

3. (:9-12) Did Jesus have more things He wanted to tell the disciples that He had not told them yet?

4. (:13-15) In verse 13 Jesus mentions another job of the Holy Spirit. What is it?

5. (:16-24) What did Jesus mean by “a little while”?

6. (:25-30) In verse 29 Jesus' disciples said “now you are speaking clearly” ...what had Jesus said which all of a sudden seemed so clear to them?

7. (:31,32) They said they finally believed in Him. They said they finally understood exactly Who He was. Why, then, was there going to soon be a time when they would desert Him?

8. (:33) In Jesus we will have _____
In the world we will have _____
But don't worry! _____

9. Does that mean Jesus will keep bad things from happening to me? If it doesn't mean that, then how can I keep from worrying?

Lesson 5

“Overcoming the World”

John 16

1. (:1-4) In verses 1-4 Jesus warns the disciples of the persecution they will suffer once He is gone. Why hadn't he told them this before?

Up until this point Jesus had always been with them. When He was there they had learned not to be afraid. They saw His boldness, they saw the crowds' reactions, but they knew that with Him they were safe.

The temptation once He was gone would perhaps have been to run away in fear when persecution came and He was not there. They needed to know what was coming, so they would not be taken by surprise and spend the whole rest of their lives running. This warning would help, but not until after the crucifixion. His death on a cruel Roman cross was so out of their scope of possibilities that most of them did, indeed, run. But later, this warning probably helped them sort out what their future reactions to persecution should be.

2. (:4-8) What does Jesus mention in verse 8 as one of the jobs of the Holy Spirit?

He said the Holy Spirit would convict the world, in other words, cause their consciences to hurt and feel guilt. What did Jesus mean when He said the Holy Spirit would cause the world to feel guilt about sin, righteousness and judgment?

Sin: He would help them feel guilty about their sin of not believing in Him.

Righteousness: He would help them feel guilty about what righteousness really is – which can only be truly understood as it is viewed in comparison to the life of Jesus.

Judgment: He would help them feel guilty about the judgment that each person deserves because of their sin and un-righteousness.

3. (:9-12) Did Jesus have more things He wanted to tell the disciples that He had not told them yet?

Yes, He did. But they simply couldn't bear more. They couldn't absorb more.

4. (:13-15) In verse 13 Jesus mentions another job of the Holy Spirit. What is it?

To lead believers into all truth. To show what is yet to come. To remind people of all that Jesus had said and help them understand and remember.

5. (:16-24) What did Jesus mean by "a little while"?

They just couldn't imagine it, but in just a matter of hours He would be dead. And then just a couple of days after that He would be alive again.

6. (:25-30) In verse 29 Jesus' disciples said "now you are speaking clearly". What had Jesus said which all of a sudden seemed so clear to them?

Why did they suddenly "see"? I think it's because He wasn't telling a parable here, or evading entrapment questions from the Pharisees. He was plainly saying: "I am God the Son, and I came from God the Father."

Maybe your Bible Study group can come up with more reasons why things seemed so clear to the disciples at this point.

7. (:31,32) They said they finally believed in Him. They said they finally understood exactly Who He was. Why, then, was there soon going to be a time when they would desert Him?

Head knowledge still needed to be translated to feet knowledge. What they "knew" wasn't going to affect their actions until they learned of their own weaknesses, and knew that even being courageous for Him was going to take the Holy Spirit's power. They would soon learn that on their own they would never get the job done.

8. (:33) In Jesus we will have peace.
In the world we will have trouble.
But don't worry! Jesus has overcome the world.

9. Does that mean Jesus will keep bad things from happening to me? If it doesn't mean that, then how can I keep from worrying?

We don't have the guarantee that Jesus will keep bad things from happening to us. On the contrary, look at *Philippians 1:29*. "*For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake.*"

So, knowing that, how can I keep from worrying?

Because Jesus has overcome the evil in the world, you can actually change the things that matter most to you. Instead of being wholly concerned with your own safety and comfort, Jesus can give you a love for what He is doing in people's lives, and a huge desire to spread the truth about Him, even in the face of persecution.

When that change happens inside of you, you walk bravely into the face of suffering, even if you are worried or afraid. The thing you are focused on – people learning about Jesus – is suddenly more important than yourself.

Lesson 6
Questions for You to Answer
John 17 “The Lord’s Prayer”

1. (:1-5) What does Jesus pray for Himself?

2. (:5) What did Jesus give up when He became a man?

Hebrews 2:9

Philippians 2:6,7

How do we know He got those things back again?

Acts 7:56

Philippians 2:9-11

3. (:6) Who gave the disciples to Jesus? When did He give them to Jesus? (*Ephesians 1:4*)

4. (:6) Did those disciples have to do anything, after they were “given” to Jesus, in order to be His?

5. (:6-19) Who is Jesus praying for in these verses?

6. (:6-10) How does He describe them?

7. (:11) Why is He praying for them?

8. (:11-19) What are some things Jesus prays for them?
 - :11
 - :11
 - :13
 - :15 (not)
 - :15
 - :17

9. (:9) Why isn't Jesus praying for the whole world in this prayer?

10. (:10) What did He mean when He said "*glory has come to me through them*"?

11. (:15) Why doesn't Jesus just pray that His disciples would be taken out of the world, as He was going to be?

12. (:20) Who else is Jesus praying for here, besides the original disciples?

13. (:20-26) What are some things Jesus prays for us?

14. (:24) Even though Jesus is leaving them in the world, what does He really want to happen? When will that happen?

15. (:23) Why does Jesus want us all to be “one”?

16. The things Jesus prayed for.... are they happening?

Lesson 6

“The Lord’s Prayer”

John 17

Thursday night of Passover week: After giving His disciples his parting thoughts, Jesus prayed. He prayed for Himself, prayed for His disciples, and then prayed for you and me! They were in a battlefield then, and so are we now.

The weapons we use on this battlefield are not the same weapons the world uses. (*2nd Corinthians 10:3,4*) This is a spiritual battle and our weapons are spiritual weapons. Prayer is one of them.

1. (:1-5) What does Jesus pray for Himself?

That He would be glorified. Isn't this a strange request from the most humble man who ever walked the earth?

He asked this so that He could use His position of glory and authority not to get...but to give (:2) - to give eternal life. He had finished the works which the Father had given Him to do. Now it was time for the Father to do His work – glorify the Son.

How was this prayer going to be answered? Death, then resurrection and return to heaven. Failure, and then a success the world had never seen.

2. (:5) What did Jesus give up when He became a man?

Hebrews 2:9 His position – He was higher than everything, but came down to be lower than even the angels

Philippians 2:6,7 His equality. He was equal with God, the ruler of all, but came down to be a man...even lower...a servant of man

How do we know He got those things back again?

Acts 7:56 Stephen saw it.

Philippians 2:9-11 Paul recorded it.

3. (:6) Who gave the disciples to Jesus? When did He give them to Jesus?
(*Ephesians 1:4*)

God the Father gave the disciples (and all believers) to Jesus. When? Before the world was ever created! (*Ephesians 1:4*)

4. (:6) Did those disciples have to do anything, after they were “given” to Jesus, in order to be His?

They had to respond to the truth they learned about Jesus – to “obey” by believing in Jesus.

5. (:6-19) Who is Jesus praying for in these verses?

The disciples and all other future followers.

6. (:6-10) How does He describe them?

They were given to Him of God the Father. They were in the world. They have been obedient. They realize who Jesus is. They have accepted the words of Jesus as true. They belong to God the Father. They have brought glory to Jesus.

7. (:11) Why is He praying for them?

Because they are going to be left on earth when He went back to heaven to the Father.

8. (:11-19) What are some things Jesus prays for them?

- :11 Protect them by the power of the Father’s name.
- :11 That they may be one.
- :13 That Jesus’ joy would be within them.
- :15 (not) Not take them out of the world.
- :15 But protect them in it.
- :17 Sanctify them – set them apart – by the Word.

9. (:9) Why isn't Jesus praying for the whole world in this prayer?

This is a specific prayer only for those who would be believers in Jesus and would be spreading the truth after Jesus left. Not everyone in the world would believe in Jesus.

10. (:10) What did He mean when He said "*glory has come to me through them*"?

He was saying that because of their belief in Him, He is accorded the glory He rightly deserves.

11. (:15) Why doesn't Jesus just pray that His disciples would be taken out of the world, as He was going to be?

They had a job to do...and they had to be in the world for a little while to accomplish it.

12. (:20) Who else is Jesus praying for here, besides the original disciples?

You, me, and every believer since the resurrection.

13. (:20-26) What are some things Jesus prays for us?

- That we may be one with each other, and one in God. Complete unity in Jesus. When we are loving each other in unity somehow that lets the world know the message of Jesus is true.
- That we may realize the glory living within us.
- That someday we may see the true glory of Jesus once we are all together with Him in heaven.
- That His own love may be in us and go out from us.

14. (:24) Even though Jesus was leaving them (and us) in the world, what did He really want to happen? When will that happen?

He wants us home in heaven with Him. This little bit of time we have to spend on earth is hard on Him, too. Believe it or not, the "joy that was set before Him" (*Hebrews 12:2*) on the cross was the future He knew was coming, in heaven with

us!!! He wants to live with us, and for us to see Him as He really is.

15. (:23) Why does Jesus want us all to be “one”?

To let the world know the love of Jesus.

16. The things Jesus prayed for.... are they happening?

Lesson 7

Questions for You to Answer

John 18 “Keep Your Eyes on the Goal”

From the upper room, after the Passover dinner, Jesus and His disciples walked out of Jerusalem across the Kidron Valley to an olive grove (which we now call the Garden of Gethsemane). There Jesus was arrested and brought back into Jerusalem, to the house of Annas. From there He was taken to the house of Caiaphas. Then from the house of Caiaphas to Pilate’s palace – all of this taking place in Jerusalem.

1. (:1-3) How did Judas know where to find Jesus? He had left the Passover dinner long before Jesus and His disciples walked to the olive garden.

2. (:3) A “detachment” of soldiers would have been a group of 300 – 600 soldiers. Wow! Why so many?

3. (:4) *John 6:64* and *John 13:1* say this same thing. Jesus knew what was about to happen. Why did He go through with it? What kept Him going? *Hebrews 12:2*.

4. (:4-9) Jesus was _____ His disciples.

5. (:10-11) Peter was trying to do things in his own _____. Why didn’t they arrest Peter?

6. (:12-24) First they take Jesus to Annas. What does Jesus' attitude seem to be towards him? What two disciples are still with Jesus?

7. (:24-28) Then they take Him to Caiaphas. Why don't we have an account of what happened to Jesus there? What happened to Peter there?

8. If we don't have enough strength in ourselves to be what God wants us to be, how will we ever be what God wants us to be?

9. (:28-29) Why didn't the Jewish leaders go into Pilate's palace?

10. (:28-38) Then they take Him to Pilate. What did Jesus' attitude seem to be towards Pilate?

11. (:38) "What is truth?" Is truth what the majority of the people want it to be...or is truth always the same no matter who agrees?

12. (:38-39) Pilate didn't believe Jesus was guilty of anything, but he didn't have the courage to release Him. Under the circumstances releasing Barabbas seemed the only thing to do to protect himself. Was what Pilate did any different than what Peter had done?

13. What goal can I focus on in trying times? *Hebrews 12:1,2*

14. How can I rest more on God's strength and less on mine?
Isaiah 40:30,31

Lesson 7

“Keep Your Eyes on the Goal”

John 18

Background: Six days earlier Jesus had arrived in Jerusalem for what would turn out to be His last visit. He entered the city on the back of a donkey, surrounded by wildly cheering crowds of people - people who were throwing palm branches and their own coats and jackets before His path to symbolically smooth the way for His entrance.

They were heralding Him as the “King of Israel”. He had just raised Lazarus from the dead a few days earlier and the whole city knew about it. They were ready to rally around a leader who could free them from Roman domination, and surely this Jesus of Nazareth was the Promised One!

Now they would be released from someone else’s domination to become a Jewish independent nation once again! A world power with no one to fear! Just as the LORD had promised would someday happen! So they called Him “King”.

For six days He taught in the temple, but made no move to exert the authority the people were sure He had. They must have been growing impatient and beginning to wonder if He really was the One they thought He was, or if He was just another disappointing self-proclaimed “Messiah”. Even His disciples, who by now understood that He truly was God, the prophesied Messiah, must have wondered when He would make His move. Scripture, after all, had predicted it: *“Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, O Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king is coming to you. He is just and having salvation, lowly, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the horse from Jerusalem; the battle bow will be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.”* (Zechariah 9:9-10)

The Jewish authorities were watching Him closely, becoming more and more afraid that He would begin to challenge their right to be the ones in charge of Judaism, more and more afraid that if Jesus challenged the Roman rule the whole nation of Israel would suffer as the Romans came down hard on all of them. They didn’t like Jesus, certainly didn’t trust Jesus, and now they were sure

that He was going to do something stupid which would cost them their hard-earned positions of importance and rule.

So they had only one choice...kill him.

Their problem was that they had no authority to kill anyone. The Romans allowed the Jews to rule themselves to a point, sort of in the spirit of a "small claims court." But they would not allow them to decide to put someone to death. Severe crimes requiring the death sentence had to be brought before the Roman rulers.

The Jewish authorities had to figure out a way to convince the Roman rulers that Jesus had done something worthy of death. And they had to talk the Roman rulers into sending their soldiers to arrest Him, since a bunch of Jewish Rabbis hauling a Jewish troublemaker before a Roman ruler would most certainly not warrant a hearing for a death sentence.

As the Holiday of Passover began in Jerusalem, on Thursday at sundown, Jesus met with His disciples in a room somewhere in the city of Jerusalem to eat the Passover dinner together. When dinner was finished, and Jesus has spoken His last words to His disciples, Chapter 18 begins.

From the upper room, after the Passover dinner, Jesus and His disciples walked out of Jerusalem across the Kidron Valley to an olive grove (which we now call the Garden of Gethsemane). There Jesus was arrested and brought back into Jerusalem, to the house of Annas. From there He was taken to the house of Caiaphas. Then from the house of Caiaphas to Pilate's palace, all of this taking place in Jerusalem.

1. (:1-3) How did Judas know where to find Jesus? He had left the Passover dinner long before Jesus and His disciples walked to the olive garden.

Other Gospels tell us about the prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, but John doesn't. Isn't it interesting to note the things John doesn't cover in his gospel account? Perhaps some things simply stood out in his memory better than others...and of course, his focus of proving the deity of Christ would have helped him make decisions about what to include.

Judas would have been pretty sure Jesus and His disciples were there in the olive grove because that is where they had often gone when they were in Jerusalem during the last three years.

Apparently the Jewish authorities had found their “stooge”, their witness against Jesus. They had figured out a legal reason to have the Romans arrest Jesus.

2. (:3) A “detachment” of soldiers would have been a group of 300 – 600 soldiers. Wow! Why so many?

They really thought they might have trouble. The Jewish rulers, perhaps, had done a very thorough job of convincing the Romans that this was a potential uprising - that’s how they got their “detachment” of soldiers.

3. (:4) John 6:64 and John 13:1 say this same thing. Jesus knew what was about to happen. Why did He go through with it? What kept Him going? Hebrews 12:2.

His eyes were on the goal - the joy that was set before Him. The joy of His total obedience to the Father. The joy of salvation finally being a completed gift to be offered to His beloved creation. The joy of eternity with those He had chosen long before the world ever came into being.

4. (:4-9) Jesus was protecting His disciples.

He stepped out in front and protected them, even though He knew they would just run away. He was protecting them for the future - for what they could accomplish someday - because He loved them, not because they were perfect. Whatever God has for any of our lives, if we will put ourselves in His hands, we will do what He has planned for us to do - nothing can stop it from happening - even our own inability and failures.

5. (:10-11) Peter was trying to do things in his own strength. Why didn’t they arrest Peter?

Peter, full of fire. Full of self-confidence. Full of great desire to do something for God. But not tuned in to what Jesus wanted to be accomplished. He had to learn how little he could do in his own strength.

Why didn’t they arrest Peter? Other accounts tell us that Jesus healed the ear that had been cut off. Jesus fixes what Peter goofed up. Jesus, even while being taken prisoner, was in charge.

6. (:12-24) First they took Jesus to Annas (:12&13). Then they took him to Caiaphas (:14-27). What did Jesus' attitude seem to be towards Caiaphas? What two disciples were still with Jesus?

Who was Annas? He was the past High Priest of Israel, and the rule was: once a High Priest, always a High Priest. His post had been taken away from him by the Romans, who then had appointed his son-in-law, Caiaphas, to be the High Priest. The Jews, however, still looked first to Annas for leadership.

Peter was one of the disciples still with Him. John was the other. He probably had access to this first hearing in front of Caiaphas, because of his family connections. John's father, Zebedee, was a Pharisee.

7. (:24-28) What happened to Peter there?

It's cold. John was able to slip inside the house to hear what was happening, but Peter, afraid and probably angry, was left outside, not even in the courtyard. Then John remembered him, went back to bring him into the courtyard and left him outside by the fire. I'm sure he was still afraid, knowing only that he would somehow get along by using his wits, the way he always had. He didn't know yet to trust Jesus to work things out, to just keep going and trust. He figured he had to trust himself, after all, Jesus wasn't exactly in a position to help now, was he?

Peter's experiences during this night would change his life. Peter didn't fully realize then that Jesus was going to die, and then rise from the dead...proving that there was no power anywhere stronger than Him. From then on Peter would know that he didn't have to depend on himself - he could depend on Jesus in any situation - even those which were impossible.

8. If we don't have enough strength in ourselves to be what God wants us to be, then how will we ever be what God wants us to be?

Can you think of a time when you have trusted yourself...maybe even sinned because it seemed like the only logical thing to do? It seemed like there was no other way? There is another way. Refuse to do the wrong thing...and trust.

9. (:28-29) Why didn't the Jewish leaders go into Pilate's palace?

It's now Friday. Passover had begun the night before and would last until sundown on Friday. They had "cleansed" themselves the day before, and didn't want to defile themselves in the middle of Passover by entering the home of a

non-Jew. Their tradition told them they must be “pure” in order to come into the presence of God as they celebrated Passover. Wow. How ironic. They were certainly defiling themselves as they dishonored God Himself, standing right in front of them.

10. (:28-38) What did Jesus’ attitude seem to be towards Pilate?

Jesus’ kingdom was not built on the power of politics. He was not elected, or granted authority by a group of sovereign nations. His kingdom exists because He wants it to. He is completely in charge. He seemed to want to reach out to this weak, politically strangled man called Pilate – perhaps to offer him the peace He was offering to all.

11. (:38) “What is truth?” Is truth what the majority of the people want it to be...or is truth always the same no matter who agrees?

Obvious answer, right? People have always struggled with this, and we certainly do struggle with this in our culture today. Truth is absolute. It’s always the same. It never changes. God Himself is the truth we compare everything else to.

12. (:38-39) Pilate didn’t believe Jesus was guilty of anything. But he didn’t have the courage to release Him. Under the circumstances, releasing Barabbas seemed the only thing to do to protect himself. Were Pilate’s actions any different than Peter’s? If Peter got a second chance, could Pilate have gotten one, too?

Their actions were the same. Both based on self-preservation. But Peter repented. Did Pilate?

13. What goal can I focus on in trying times? *Hebrews 12:1,2*

14. How can I rest more on God’s strength...and less on mine? *Isaiah 40:30,31*

Lesson 8

Questions for You to Answer

John 19 “Who Is in Charge?”

1. (:1-3) Jesus of Nazareth fulfilled over three hundred Old Testament prophecies which all proved Him to be the Messiah of Israel. A few of those are listed below. How many of prophecies did He fulfill in just these three verses?

Prophecy	Jewish Scripture	New Testament Scripture
He would be a man	<i>Genesis 3:15</i>	<i>Galatians 4:4</i>
He would be a Jew	<i>Genesis 12:3</i> <i>Genesis 18:18</i>	<i>Luke 3:34</i> <i>Matt. 1:2</i> <i>Acts 3:25</i> <i>Galatians 3:16</i>
He would be of the tribe of Judah	<i>Genesis 49:10</i>	<i>Luke 3:33</i> <i>Matthew 1:2</i>
He would be a King (of the seed of David)	<i>Psalms 132:11,12</i> <i>Jeremiah 23:5,6</i> <i>Psalms 2:6-9</i>	<i>Matthew 1:6</i> <i>Romans 1:3</i> <i>Acts 2:30</i> <i>John 18:37</i> <i>John 19:3</i>
He would be a prophet like Moses	<i>Deuteronomy 18:15, 19</i>	<i>Matt. 21:11</i> <i>John 1:45</i> <i>John 6:14</i> <i>Acts 3:22-23</i>
He would be the Son of God	<i>Psalms 2:7</i> <i>Proverbs 30:4</i>	<i>Luke 1:32</i> <i>Matthew 3:17</i>
Homage would be given Him by great Kings	<i>Psalms 72:10,11</i>	<i>Matt. 2:1-11</i>
He would be born of a virgin	<i>Isaiah 7:14</i>	<i>Matthew 1:18-25</i> <i>Luke 1:26-35</i>
He would perform miracles	<i>Isaiah 35:5,6</i>	<i>John 11:47</i> <i>Matthew 11:3-6</i>
He would come before the 2 nd temple in Jerusalem was destroyed (70 A.D.)	<i>Daniel 9:24-26</i>	<i>Historical fact</i>
He would be betrayed by a friend	<i>Psalms 41:9</i>	<i>John 13:18,21</i>

Prophecy	Jewish Scripture	New Testament Scripture
He would be rejected	<i>Psalms 118:22,23</i> <i>Isaiah 8:14, 15</i> <i>Isaiah 28:16</i>	<i>Matt 21:42,43</i> <i>Acts 4:11</i> <i>Romans 9:32,33</i> <i>Ephesians 2:20</i> <i>I Peter 2:6-8</i> <i>John 19:7</i>
He would be meek & mild	<i>Isaiah 42:2,3</i> <i>Isaiah 53:7</i>	<i>Matt. 12:18-20</i> <i>Matt 26:62,63</i>
He would minister to Gentiles	<i>Isaiah 42:1</i> <i>Isaiah 49:1,8</i>	<i>Matt. 12:21</i>
He would be smitten, flogged	<i>Isaiah 50:6</i>	<i>Matt. 26:67</i> <i>Matt 27:26,30</i> <i>John 19:3</i> <i>John 19:1</i>
He would suffer & bring salvation	<i>Isaiah 53</i>	<i>The 4 Gospels</i>
He would be pierced	<i>Zechariah 12:10</i> <i>Psalms 22:16</i>	<i>John 19:34,37</i>
He would be forsaken by His disciples	<i>Zechariah 13:7</i>	<i>Matthew 26:31,56</i> <i>John 19:25-27</i>
He would be crucified	<i>Psalms 22</i> <i>Psalms 69:21</i>	<i>Matthew 27:34-50</i> <i>John 19:28-30</i>
He would have his garments parted & cast lots for	<i>Psalms 22:18&19</i>	<i>Luke 23:34</i> <i>John 19:23-24</i>
He would ascend to heaven	<i>Psalms 68:18</i>	<i>Luke 24:51</i> <i>Acts 1:9</i>
He would have victory over death	<i>Isaiah 25:8</i>	<i>John 20:1-10, 19-25</i>
Gentiles shall seek the Messiah of Israel	<i>Isaiah 11:10</i>	<i>Romans 11:25</i>
Died for the sins of the Jewish people and the whole world	<i>Isaiah 53:8</i>	<i>John 3:16</i> <i>John 19:28-30</i>
He would be punished/ wounds	<i>Isaiah 53:7</i>	<i>John 19:2</i>
He would be God	<i>Jeremiah 23:5,6</i>	<i>John 10:30</i> <i>John 8:58</i>
Not one of His bones would be broken	<i>Exodus 12:46</i> <i>Numbers 9:12</i> <i>Psalms 34:20</i>	<i>John 19:33-36</i>

2. (:4-8) In *John 18:37* Jesus admitted that He was, indeed, a King with a Kingdom...why did Pilate not seem to be afraid of that?

3. (:7) Did the Jews really have such a law? (*Leviticus 24:15,16*)
4. (:8-11) What kind of power did Pilate have? (*Romans 13:1*)
5. (:9) Why didn't He answer Pilate?
6. (:11) Who was Jesus referring to who was "guilty of a greater sin"?
 - The Jews?
 - Judas?
 - The High Priest?
 - God?
7. (:12-22) How do you think Pilate felt about Jesus? Do you see any evidence of faith in Pilate?
8. (:22-24) Why is it significant that people who couldn't possibly have known the Old Testament prophecies were the ones fulfilling them?
9. (:25-27) Why was this necessary? Didn't Jesus have brothers and sisters to whom this responsibility would fall?
10. (:28-33) Was Jesus killed...or did He give His life?
11. (:34 & 35) Why is this so important?
12. (:38-42) What does this tell us about Nicodemus?
13. Who was in charge all along? What impact does that have on my life?

Lesson 8

“Who Is in Charge?”

John 19

Previous to Chapter 19, Jesus had been brought before Annas and Caiaphas, and now he appears before Pilate. He has admitted that He is a King with a kingdom, but Pilate seems to sense that this is not a king or kingdom which is threatening to hurt the Roman rule. (Pilate doesn't know that someday that king and his kingdom would indeed threaten Roman rule...but that is for another day...)

It's interesting that Pilate sensed the truth as Jesus spoke it, but did not respond in faith. Simply hearing and believing the truth is not the same as responding in faith to the truth. How many times have any of us witnessed to someone about faith in Jesus, and just simply gotten nowhere? It has happened over and over again. I always tell myself in those situations that I never know what the LORD will do with His truth once it settles in the mind and heart of a person. It may be months or years before it begins to grow and bear fruit. Perhaps Pilate, later, came to a place of genuine faith in Jesus Christ? That's on my list of “Questions to Ask When I Get to Heaven”.

Everything in this chapter took place in Jerusalem or just outside of it - first at Pilate's palace, then outside the city as Jesus carried his cross to Golgotha, and then in the garden at the tomb.

As we begin, it is amazing to note that Jesus of Nazareth fulfilled over three hundred Old Testament prophecies which all proved He was the Messiah of Israel. This chapter would probably win the prize for “chapter of the Bible where we see the most prophecies about Christ fulfilled.” It is chock-full!

Check out the following selected prophecies, their Old Testament locations, and their New Testament fulfillments...you will find John 19 in several places:

Prophecy	Jewish Scripture	New Testament Scripture
He would be a man	<i>Genesis 3:15</i>	<i>Galatians 4:4</i>
He would be a Jew	<i>Genesis 12:3</i> <i>Genesis 18:18</i>	<i>Luke 3:34</i> <i>Matt. 1:2</i> <i>Acts 3:25</i> <i>Galatians 3:16</i>
He would be of the tribe of Judah	<i>Genesis 49:10</i>	<i>Luke 3:33</i> <i>Matthew 1:2</i>
He would be a King (of the seed of David)	<i>Psalms 132:11,12</i> <i>Jeremiah 23:5,6</i> <i>Psalms 2:6-9</i>	<i>Matthew 1:6</i> <i>Romans 1:3</i> <i>Acts 2:30</i> <i>John 18:37</i> <i>John 19:3</i>
He would be a prophet like Moses	<i>Deuteronomy 18:15, 19</i>	<i>Matt. 21:11</i> <i>John 1:45</i> <i>John 6:14</i> <i>Acts 3:22-23</i>
He would be the Son of God	<i>Psalms 2:7</i> <i>Proverbs 30:4</i>	<i>Luke 1:32</i> <i>Matthew 3:17</i>
Homage would be given Him by great Kings	<i>Psalms 72:10,11</i>	<i>Matt. 2:1-11</i>
He would be born of a virgin	<i>Isaiah 7:14</i>	<i>Matthew 1:18-25</i> <i>Luke 1:26-35</i>
He would perform miracles	<i>Isaiah 35:5,6</i>	<i>John 11:47</i> <i>Matthew 11:3-6</i>
He would come before the 2 nd temple in Jerusalem was destroyed (70 A.D.)	<i>Daniel 9:24-26</i>	<i>Historical fact</i>
He would be betrayed by a friend	<i>Psalms 41:9</i>	<i>John 13:18,21</i>
He would be rejected	<i>Psalms 118:22,23</i> <i>Isaiah 8:14, 15</i> <i>Isaiah 28:16</i>	<i>Matt 21:42,43</i> <i>Acts 4:11</i> <i>Romans 9:32,33</i> <i>Ephesians 2:20</i> <i>I Peter 2:6-8</i> <i>John 19:1-3, 7</i>
He would be meek & mild	<i>Isaiah 42:2,3</i> <i>Isaiah 53:7</i>	<i>Matt. 12:18-20</i> <i>Matt 26:62,63</i>
He would minister to Gentiles	<i>Isaiah 42:1</i> <i>Isaiah 49:1,8</i>	<i>Matt. 12:21</i>
He would be smitten, flogged	<i>Isaiah 50:6</i>	<i>Matt. 26:67</i> <i>Matt 27:26,30</i> <i>John 19:3</i> <i>John 19:1</i>

Prophecy	Jewish Scripture	New Testament Scripture
He would suffer & bring salvation	<i>Isaiah 53</i>	<i>The 4 Gospels</i>
He would be pierced	<i>Zechariah 12:10</i> <i>Psalms 22:16</i>	<i>John 19:34,37</i>
He would be forsaken by His disciples	<i>Zechariah 13:7</i>	<i>Matthew 26:31,56</i> <i>John 19:25-27</i>
He would be crucified	<i>Psalms 22</i> <i>Psalms 69:21</i>	<i>Matthew 27:34-50</i> <i>John 19:28-30</i>
He would have his garments parted & cast lots for	<i>Psalms 22:18&19</i>	<i>Luke 23:34</i> <i>John 19:23-24</i>
He would ascend to heaven	<i>Psalms 68:18</i>	<i>Luke 24:51</i> <i>Acts 1:9</i>
He would have victory over death	<i>Isaiah 25:8</i>	<i>John 20:1-10, 19-25</i>
Gentiles shall seek the Messiah of Israel	<i>Isaiah 11:10</i>	<i>Romans 11:25</i>
Died for the sins of the Jewish people and the whole world	<i>Isaiah 53:8</i>	<i>John 3:16</i> <i>John 19:28-30</i>
He would be punished/ wounds	<i>Isaiah 53:7</i>	<i>John 19:2</i>
He would be God	<i>Jeremiah 23:5,6</i>	<i>John 10:30</i> <i>John 8:58</i>
Not one of His bones would be broken	<i>Exodus 12:46</i> <i>Numbers 9:12</i> <i>Psalms 34:20</i>	<i>John 19:33-36</i>

1. How many of these prophecies did He fulfill in just the first three verses of chapter 19?

I found at least 7. He would be a king. He would be rejected. He would be meek & mild. He would be flogged. He would suffer. He would be punished. He would have wounds.

2. (:4-8) In *John 18:37* Jesus admitted that He was, indeed, a King with a Kingdom...why did Pilate not seem afraid of that?

He seemed to realize Jesus was no threat to him personally, and that, probably, was the main thing on Pilate's mind. He may have been seeking here to appease the Jews by punishing Jesus by flogging...hoping that His suffering would satisfy their hunger to hurt Him, as if he was saying: "Here, how much like

a “king” does he look now? Are you still threatened by this bleeding, weak man.?” I think Pilate didn’t want to condemn Him to death.

3. (:7) Did the Jews really have such a law? (*Leviticus 24:15,16*)

“Say to the Israelites: ‘If anyone curses his God, he will be held responsible; anyone who blasphemes the name of the LORD must be put to death. The entire assembly must stone him. Whether an alien or native born, when he blasphemes the Name, he must be put to death.’” Leviticus 24:15,16

Next they told Pilate something they had been holding back. It wasn’t really that they thought He was a threat to Rome. He was a threat to them. And they had a law which guaranteed they could get rid of Him. He had to die by Jewish standards whether or not He was a threat to Rome, and Pilate was the man who had the power to make it happen.

If He was claiming to be God, but was not God, then He deserved to die according to Jewish law.

If He claimed to be God, and was God, then He deserved their falling on their knees before Him, overcome with their own sin, and believing all He said. They certainly weren’t going to do that...so He must not be God...He must die. (There will come a day, spoken of by the prophet Zechariah in chapters 12 and 13 of his book, when the Jewish nation will come to that point of repentance...but it wasn’t now.)

4. (:8-11) What kind of power did Pilate have?

“Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.” Romans 13:1

Pilate did have the governmental authority to send Jesus to His death. But that authority was given to him of God. Jesus was God. Pilate had the power to send Jesus to His death because Jesus had given it to him.

5. (:9) Why didn't He answer Pilate?

Lots of times no answer is the answer. No answer forces you to wait and think. It forces you to push for a solution. Jesus wasn’t trying to save Himself. It looks like He was trying to help Pilate think this through...Pilate says: “don’t you realize

I have power either to free you or to crucify you?" And Jesus, with no answer, is saying: "Don't you realize that power isn't your own, but was given to you by Me?"

6. (:11) Who was Jesus referring to who was "guilty of a greater sin"?
The Jews? Judas? The High Priest? God?

Jesus was telling Pilate two things here: first, Pilate himself was not as guilty as the one who had handed Jesus over to Pilate, and second, don't fool yourself Pilate, it would definitely be a sin to kill Me. Again, I think Jesus is trying to help Pilate, even though condemning him. He is acting like He cares for him. He is acting like God. Guess who's in charge here?

I think the one Jesus is referring to in this statement: "guilty of a greater sin", is the High Priest, Caiaphas. The High Priest knew better. He knew the scriptures. Pilate did not.

7. (:12-22) How do you think Pilate felt about Jesus? Do you see any evidence of faith in Pilate?

Here are the five questions Pilate asked of Jesus in chapters 18 & 19:

- a. Are you the King of the Jews? 18:33
- b. What is it you have done? 18:35
- c. What is truth? 18:38
- d. Where do you come from? 19:9
- e. Don't you realize...? 19:10

And then he had a sign made to post on the cross, above Jesus' head: "JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS", and refuses to change that sign. "What I have written, I have written."

I see a man wondering, afraid, and angry at those forcing him to do something he did not want to do. But I don't see faith. The word "King" seems to have stuck in his mind.

8. (:22-24) Why is it significant that people who couldn't possibly have known the Old Testament prophecies were the ones fulfilling them?

It's obvious. Jesus wasn't a fake trying to prove He was the Messiah by getting his followers to make up stories. This wasn't a conspiracy. This was genuine, and could not be stopped. Even unbelieving Gentiles, ignorant of the Jewish scriptures and prophecies, were making this come true.

9. (:25-27) Why was this necessary? Didn't Jesus have brothers and sisters to whom this responsibility would fall?

Yes, He did. But they weren't there. They were probably not yet believers in Him. (see *John 7:5*). And Jesus may have been saying, "Her family is now the family of God." Widows, even His mother, were now the responsibility of the church family.

10. (:28-33) Was Jesus killed...or did He give His life?

He wasn't being brave. He was being Himself. He was being God. This was something to be joyous about! Look what He's doing! He has won! He gave His life.

11. (:34 & 35) Why is this so important?

Breaking the legs of a man dying by crucifixion hastened death. The dying person could not then push up on his legs to struggle for breath. Suffocation ensued quickly. The fact that Jesus was already dead showed that He had, indeed, given His life. And the spear in the side, with blood and water flowing out, was again proof of his death. This was no hoax. He was dead. If He was going to be alive again in three days it was going to be a resurrection, not a magic act.

12. (:38-42) What does this tell us about Nicodemus?

Like Paul Harvey's "The rest of the story", now we know what must have been happening in Nicodemus's heart in the years since he spoke with Jesus at night (in *John 3*).

This had to be done by a person with money and access to power. None of the disciples could have done it. Even if they had wanted to. The body was

wrapped in linen, soaked in a spice-paste, which would harden and form a “cocoon” about the body. When John first stepped into the tomb after Jesus had risen, He probably saw the hardened cocoon still lying there and didn’t realize Jesus was gone! It was only because a thoughtful angel had moved the head cloth away from the body that Peter finally realized something was out of place. (*John 20:3-8*)

13. Who was in charge all along? What impact does that have on my life?

Jesus was in charge all along.... even in His weakness. There should never be a time in my life when I fear that He is not in charge.

Lesson 9

Questions for You to Answer

John 20 “What Difference Would It Have Made?”

Here are the four Gospel accounts of Jesus' resurrection:

- Matthew 28:1-20
- Mark 16:1-20
- Luke 24: 1-53
- John 20:1-31

Do this on your own, or, if you are a part of a group, split up into four groups and each read a separate Resurrection account. Then come back together and answer the following questions from the scripture you read:

1. What day of the week was Jesus resurrected?

2. Who was the first to come to the empty tomb on that day?

3. What time of day did they come?

4. What did they see when they approached the tomb?

5. How had the stone been moved?

6. What else happened at the tomb at that time?

7. What did the women do after they heard from the angel what had happened?
8. What happened to the women on the way to tell others?
9. Which disciples responded by running to the tomb?
10. What did those disciples see on arriving at the tomb?
11. Which disciple believed right away?
12. Who stayed at the tomb, crying, after Peter and John went away?
13. Who did Jesus appear to after His resurrection?

Now, using what you have just read from all the resurrection accounts, answer the question: "What difference would it have made if Jesus had not risen from the dead?"

Lesson 9

“What Difference Would It Have Made?”

John 20

Note to leaders: You can use this lesson to teach a “Harmony of the Gospels”. You and your group will see, as you go through this exercise, how the four Gospel accounts are different, and yet harmonize. There are no inconsistencies, no contradictions, only gaps in some Gospel accounts which are filled in by the others.

A few years ago my husband, Ken, had a business acquaintance ask him: “What difference would it have made if Jesus had never risen from the dead?” Jack and Ken had worked together on many projects, and been friends over the years. When he asked Ken this question it was because he knew he didn’t know God at all, and was a little stumped about how to go about it.

Ken was only too glad to sit down with Jack that day, answer his question, and also tell him how to come to faith in Jesus. By the time Ken did his best to help Jack understand the truth about Jesus, Jack was ready to put his faith in Him for all eternity. Together they prayed as Jack talked for the first time to His Savior and Lord.

I’d like us to read the four Gospel accounts of the resurrection, answer the questions and discuss a little along the way, and then put our heads together at the end to answer Jack’s question “What difference would it have made if Jesus had never risen from the dead?”

1. What day of the week was Jesus resurrected?

Sunday (*Matthew. 28:1, Mark 16:1, Luke 24:1, John 20:1*)

2. Who was the first to come to the empty tomb on that day?

At least three women came: Mary Magdalene, Mary mother of James (the other Mary), and Salome. (*Matthew 28:1, Mark 16:1, Luke 24:1, John 20:1*)

3. What time of day did the women come?

Very early in the morning, at dawn. The sun had just risen and it was still dark. They were wondering who would roll away the stone for them so they could anoint the body. (*Matthew 28:1, Mark 16:2, Luke 24:1, John 20:1*)

4. What did they see when they approached the tomb?

That the stone had already been rolled away from the entrance to the tomb!
(*Mark 16:4, Luke 24:2, John 20:1*)

5. How had the stone been moved?

A violent earthquake had shaken the place, and an angel of the LORD rolled back the stone. The guards present at that time were so afraid they shook. The women came upon the scene after the guards had fled, but the angel was still there. (*Matthew 28:2-4*)

6. What else happened at the tomb at that time?

Mary Magdalene did not enter the tomb with the other women, but ran to tell the disciples that something had happened...she didn't yet know what. (*John 20:2*)

Once Mary Magdalene left the tomb area, the other women went in to the tomb and noticed the body of the Lord Jesus was missing. Then they saw the two angels, one of whom informed them that Jesus was raised from the dead. He told them to go and tell the disciples about this. (*Matthew 28:5-7, Mark 16:5-7, Luke 24:4-8*)

7. What did the women do after they heard from the angel what had happened?

They ran from the tomb to tell the disciples, afraid to speak to anyone else on the way. (*Matthew 28:8, Mark 16:8*)

While the women are running to tell the disciples, Peter and John are running to the tomb, along with Mary Magdalene. Mary hung back, outside the tomb, but when Peter and John got there they saw the tomb had no body in it. Peter and John left, and Mary, still crying, finally peeked into the tomb, then heard Jesus

behind her (at first she thought He was the gardener). Jesus told her He had risen from the dead, and to go tell the others. Mary now runs to find the others. (*Mark 16:9, John 20:10-17*)

8. What happened to the women on the way to tell others?

First, they were met by Jesus Himself (*Matthew. 28:9&10*), then they were joined by Mary Magdalene (who was on her way back from the tomb the 2nd time), and they all together alerted the rest of the disciples. (*Mark 16:10, Luke 24:9&10, John 20:18*)

9. When did Peter and John run to the tomb?

After the initial group of women left the tomb, on their way to tell the disciples, apparently Peter & John arrived, having been alerted by Mary Magdalene. Mary Magdalene followed them there, and stayed there after they left. (*John 20: 3&4*)

10. What did those disciples see on arriving at the tomb?

John reached the tomb first, didn't enter, but looked in. Peter entered the tomb first and saw the burial strips, but no body. John finally went in, too, and realized Jesus was actually gone. Remember, they had heard from Mary Magdalene that someone had stolen the body of Jesus – they had not yet fully registered the fact that He had raised from the dead. (*John 20: 3-8*)

11. Which disciple believed right away?

John did. He believed something had happened and the body of Jesus was gone. He did not yet totally understand He had been raised from the dead. (*John 20:8&9*)

12. Who stayed at the tomb, crying, after Peter and John went away?

Mary Magdalene. Remember, at this time she still did not know Jesus was raised from the dead. She had seen the rolled-away stone, and run to tell Peter & John that someone had stolen the body of Jesus. She had not been with the other women and heard the angel's explanation. She had not entered the tomb with Peter and John. Now, once Peter and John left, she entered the tomb on her own, saw the angels, and then, not recognizing Him at first, she talked with Jesus and found out He had risen from the dead. Then she joined the other

women on their way to tell the disciples. At that point all the women knew the whole story. None of the disciples did. (*John 20:10-18*)

13. Who did Jesus appear to after His resurrection?

- First, Mary Magdalene. (*Mark 16:9*)
- Then, the other women. (*Matthew 28:9&10*)
- Then, two on the road to Emmaus. (*Mark 16: 12&13, Luke 24:13-35*)
- Peter. (*Luke 24:34, 1st Corinthians 15:5*)
- The eleven disciples Sunday night at dinner. (*Luke 24: 36-49, John 20:19-23*)
- Thomas. (*John 20:24-29*)
- A group of 500. (*1st Corinthians 15:5-7*)
- James (*1st Corinthians 15:5-7*)
- All His followers (*1st Corinthians 15:5-7*)
- Paul (after Jesus had already gone back to heaven) (*Acts 9:1-5, 1st Corinthians 15:5-7*)

Now, using what you have just read from all the resurrection accounts, answer the question: "What difference would it have made if Jesus had not risen from the dead?"

Here what I think:

- Even His followers did not at first believe...their incredulity turned to belief after they actually saw Him. If He had not risen from the dead, the disciples themselves would never have believed that He was truly God. His resurrection was final proof that He was God.
- When He died and then rose from the dead He proved there was no power anywhere stronger than Him. From then on His disciples would know they didn't have to depend on themselves, but that they could depend on Jesus in any situation, even one which was totally impossible.
- If He was simply a great man He might have died to keep one other person, or even a few other people from dying. But only God could raise Himself again from the dead...to keep everyone from dying.
- The fact that Jesus rose from the dead and now has the power to stay alive for eternity, helps us realize He also has the power to keep us, who believe in Him, alive for eternity. We cannot lose our salvation - because Jesus is alive forever.
- The resurrection gives us hope that everything Jesus said was true. He said if we would believe in Him we would never die.

When Jack Brubaker realized all that Jesus had done for him, and that Jesus was without a doubt God Himself, and that He had raised Himself from the dead and was alive today, Jack believed. He gave his heart and life to Jesus Christ.

Two years later Jack died...but didn't. His body is in the grave, but Jack went to be with His Lord, and someday Jack's body will be resurrected, just like Jesus.

Lesson 10
Questions for You to Answer
John 21 “Not the End...the Beginning”

1. (:1) Where did this happen?

2. (:2) Why weren't all the disciples still together?

3. (:3) Why would they want to fish?

4. (:4) Why didn't they realize it was Jesus?

5. (:5) If they didn't realize it was Jesus, why did they do what He said?

6. (:6) Why did Jesus care whether or not they caught fish? Wasn't fishing what they were supposed to leave in order to serve Jesus?

7. (:7) Why did Peter have to hear John say it first?

8. (:8&9) Who had prepared the fire, the fish & the bread? What did this teach the disciples?

9. (:10&11) Why did John remember the number of fish after so many years?

10. (:12-14) How did they recognize Jesus?

11. (:15-17) Why did Jesus ask Peter this three times...why seemingly hurt Peter's feelings?

12. (:18-19) How hard is it going to be to follow Jesus?

13. (:20-23) Why did Peter ask about John's future?

14. (:24-25) If the whole world would not have room for the books which could be written about all the things Jesus did on earth, then how many books could be written about all the things His followers have done since then?

"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." (John 14:12)

Lesson 10

“Not the End...the Beginning”

John 21

1. (:1) Where did this happen?

In the Galilee area of Israel, near the Sea of Tiberias, also called the Sea of Galilee.

2. (:2) Why weren't all the disciples still together?

Initially, after His resurrection, they had stayed in Jerusalem (*Luke 24:50-53*), but then they had been told to go to Galilee to wait for Jesus there. (*Mark 16:7*)

3. (:3) Why would they want to fish?

They probably didn't know what else to do while they were waiting. They had been fishermen in the past. It was a way to eat, or to provide some income for the time being.

4. (:4) Why didn't they realize it was Jesus?

Maybe because He was so far away on the shore. Or, He could have had a slightly different physical appearance after He had gone to be with the Father. (*Luke 24:50-53*) (*John 20:17*)

5. (:5) If they didn't realize it was Jesus, why did they do what He said?

Perhaps they began to wonder? They may have remembered another time when this exact same thing happened (*Luke 5:4-7*)

Or they may have recognized not his appearance, but His voice, or His ways. Have you ever recognized someone simply by their walk?

6. (:6) Why did Jesus care whether or not they caught fish? Wasn't fishing what they were supposed to leave in order to serve Jesus?

Maybe their success at fishing was meant to prove to them Who He was...or that they could trust Him to provide the basics of life in the days and years to come.

7. (:7) Why did Peter have to hear John say it first?

We don't live in a bubble. We need other believers – for our own growth.

8. (:8&9) Who had prepared the fire, the fish & the bread? What did this teach the disciples?

Jesus had provided it. He anticipated their needs, their comfort needs. They could have prepared this themselves. It's not that they deserved it. He gave it.

9. (:10&11) Why did John remember the number of fish after so many years?

This story was told again and again through the years, I'm sure. John's is the only Gospel account which goes into this detail – so I can only imagine that the number was burned into John's memory, just as every detail of his Gospel account must have been.

10. (:12-14) How did they recognize Jesus?

Not so much with their physical eyes. They had memories of His ways. His words. And they "knew" Him. He was no stranger to them. You recognize the people you know. That's one very great benefit of spending time with Jesus. You begin to recognize Him, to know His voice. To discern His bidding out of the midst of a whole world full of other confusing voices.

11. (:15-17) Why did Jesus ask Peter this three times...why seemingly hurt Peter's feelings?

Something needed to be learned. Pain sometimes accompanies learning. It wasn't so much that Jesus doubted Peter's love. It was that Jesus wanted Peter to see exactly what it was He was agreeing to....to count the cost.

12. (:18-19) How hard was it going to be to follow Jesus?

Impossible. *“Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.” (Job 13:15)*
Peter was beginning now to be a changed person. No more flying off the handle (and cutting off a soldier’s ear). And no more getting by with whatever lie you need to tell to survive (as in denying the LORD three times). Now it was time to lean on the power of God for everything.

It was going to be Impossible. “So Peter...knowing how hard this will be....do you still want to follow me?” “Lord...to whom can we go? Though hast the words of life. And we believe and know that you are the Christ, the son of the living God.” (*John 6:68-69*) Same answer. Different Peter.

13. (:20-23) Why did Peter ask about John’s future?

It could have been concern, or jealousy, or a desire to have company in his suffering. But no matter what his motivation for the question, the answer was the same....” Follow Me”. Everyone else has their own path to walk. You do your part. They will do theirs.

14. (:24-25) If the whole world would not have room for the books which could be written about all the things Jesus did on earth, then how many books could be written about all the things His followers have done since then?

Of course it’s a rhetorical question. But here’s the point: We have no idea the millions of miracles and acts of faith which have transpired since Jesus rose from the dead. The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ was not an end....it was a beginning. And it isn’t over yet.

“I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.” (John 14:12)

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