

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN



"SO THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD."

A SELF-STUDY GUIDE

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INTRODUCTION: When beginning a study of a book of the Bible, it is always very important to get an overview of what the book is about. This is especially true with the book of John. The arguments and illustrations used in this book are very elaborate and can be difficult. Having a proper overview of the book can help us understand these arguments and illustrations more clearly. As you study the text of John, please keep in mind the purpose of the book. It becomes very easy in this book to examine the arguments so closely that we forget what the purpose of the argument and book is. You may have recently studied one of the other gospels. Do not think that this study will just be a repetition of a study done in Matthew, Mark, or Luke. The Gospel of John has a very different style, purpose, and theme than the synoptic gospels (the books Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called the synoptic gospels because of the similarities between these three books). The synoptic gospels record the historical facts of Jesus' earthly life. John, however, brings out the power, glory, and deity of Christ. As Plummer wrote, the book of John "is saturated with the thoughts, imagery, and language of the Old Testament." It is because of this that John's gospel is different from and more difficult than the other gospels.

READY TO START:

To answer the following questions, you will need to use a Bible dictionary (look up the word "John, the gospel of") or a commentary as a reference.

1. **RESEARCH:** We know of three "John's" in the New Testament: John the Baptist, John the apostle, who is the brother of James, and John Mark. Which one wrote the book?
2. **RESEARCH:** When was the book written? How many years later is this from the synoptic gospels?
3. Based on question two and your reference source, what group of people is the book written to?
4. Read John 20:30-31. What does John say is the purpose of the book?

We noted in the introduction that there are many differences between the synoptic gospels and the gospel of John. Let's look at the following chart and see some of these differences more closely.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SYNOPTIC GOSPELS AND JOHN:

THE SYNOPTICS	JOHN
chiefly concerned with Jesus' ministry in the north, around Galilee	gives more coverage to Jesus' ministry in the south, around Judea
much emphasis on "kingdom" inheritance	more emphasis on the person of Jesus ("I AM's") and eternal life inheritance
Jesus as Son of David, Son of Man	Jesus especially as Son of God
the gospel of the infant church	the gospel of the maturing church
the earthly story	the heavenly meaning
Jesus' sayings generally short (e.g., parables)	more of the long discourses of Jesus
comparatively little commentary by the gospel writer	much commentary by John
only one mention of a Passover	three, possibly four Passovers cited (on the basis it is concluded that Jesus' public ministry lasted three and a half years)

--chart by Irving L. Jensen

SURVEYING THE BOOK:

Now it is time to do a survey of the book. Take your Bible and skim through the book of John, looking at the subheadings of each paragraph in each chapter. Then answer the following questions:

5. The main division in the book is in what chapter?
6. Generally speaking, to whom is Jesus ministering in the first 12 chapters? Who is Jesus especially ministering to in 12:36 -- 17:26?
7. How many years do the first 12 chapters cover? How long do the last 9 chapters cover?

SPECIAL NOTE:

**As you study this book remember what the purpose of the book is and do not get too bogged down in the arguments of John. This book is written as if it were a court case. The book is John's defense of Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God. John will use the testimony of witnesses to prove his case. As John proves his case, you will see that at the end of the book, it is really not Jesus who is on trial, but it is YOU who is on trial. Keep this in mind as we notice the various witnesses and arguments made that Jesus is the Son of God.

**Inserted in this booklet is the Holman Christian Standard Bible text for each section covered. Please get a couple different colored pencils and highlight the things you find interesting or different while you read. Also note anything you find important in the text. Then be ready to share with the class all the interesting and important points you found while studying. Highlighting while you read the text will help bring this book alive and you will see things in the text that you never have seen before.

John 1

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He was with God in the beginning.

3 All things were created through Him, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created.

4 Life was in Him, and that life was the light of men.

5 That light shines in the darkness, yet the darkness did not overcome it.

6 There was a man named John who was sent from God.

7 He came as a witness to testify about the light, so that all might believe through him.

8 He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light.

9 The true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world was created through Him, yet the world did not recognize Him.

11 He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.

12 But to all who did receive Him, He gave them the right to be children of God, to those who believe in His name,

13 who were born, not of blood, or of the will of the flesh, or of the will of man, but of God.

14 The Word became flesh and took up residence among us. We observed His glory, the glory as the One and Only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

15 (John testified concerning Him and exclaimed, "This was the One of whom I said, 'The One coming after me has surpassed me, because He existed before me.'")

16 Indeed, we have all received grace after grace from His fullness, 17 for although the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

18 No one has ever seen God. The One and Only Son—the One who is at the Father's side—He has revealed Him.

1:1-18 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Who is the Word? How do you know this?
2. Why do you think this person is called the Word?
3. Was the Word created? Why or why not?
4. According to this text, what did the Word do and what is the importance of what the Word did?
5. Why is the Word referred to as "the Light?" What is the Old Testament significance of this passage?
6. According to the text, what was John's purpose? (Also see vs. 15)
7. Who did the Light come to and why?
8. Who are the ones referred to by the word "we" in the following phrase: "We have seen his glory" (vs. 14)?
9. Why is this testimony (referred to in question 8) important?
10. Verse 18 says, "No one has ever seen God." Since no one has seen God, what does this verse say that God's only Son did? Why is this important?

19 This is John's testimony when the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him, "Who are you?"

20 He did not refuse to answer, but he declared: "I am not the Messiah."

21 "What then?" they asked him. "Are you Elijah?" "I am not," he said. "Are you the Prophet?" "No," he answered.

22 "Who are you, then?" they asked. "We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What can you tell us about yourself?"

23 He said, "I am a voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord—just as Isaiah the prophet said."

24 Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.

25 So they asked him, "Why then do you baptize if you aren't the Messiah, or Elijah, or the Prophet?"

26 "I baptize with water," John answered them. "Someone stands among you, but you don't know Him.

27 He is the One coming after me, whose sandal strap I'm not worthy to untie."

28 All this happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Here is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

30 This is the One I told you about: 'After me comes a man who has surpassed me, because He existed before me.'

31 I didn't know Him, but I came baptizing with water so He might be revealed to Israel."

32 And John testified, "I watched the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He rested on Him.

33 I didn't know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The One you see the Spirit descending and resting on—He is the One who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

34 I have seen and testified that He is the Son of God!"

1:19-28 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Notice verse 21. John says he is not Elijah, but Jesus said that John was Elijah in Matthew 11:11-14. Explain why John says he is not Elijah, but Jesus says John is Elijah.
2. Why does John quote Isaiah 40:3 to prove who he is? What is the context of Isaiah's prophecy?
3. When asked by the priests and Levites, who did John the Baptist say he was? What does this mean?
4. Looking at verse 25, what were the implications of John baptizing?
5. When the priests and Levites asked John why he was baptizing, what was John's answer?

1:29-34 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

6. Notice verse 29. What is Jesus called? Who is Jesus of? What is Jesus' purpose?
7. In the Old Testament the priests would offer a lamb as a sacrifice to God to have their sins forgiven for one year. Knowing this, why is Jesus referred to as the Lamb? (See Hebrews 10:1-4). How would Jesus be a different lamb than the lambs sacrificed in the Old Testament?
8. In verse 31, John the Baptist says that he did not know Jesus. But God gave John a sign to identify Jesus. What was the sign? Why did this sign prove Jesus to be the Messiah?

35 Again the next day, John was standing with two of his disciples.

36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look! The Lamb of God!"

37 The two disciples heard him say this and followed Jesus.

38 When Jesus turned and noticed them following Him, He asked them, "What are you looking for?" They said to Him, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are You staying?"

39 "Come and you'll see," He replied. So they went and saw where He was staying, and they stayed with Him that day. It was about 10 in the morning.

40 Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard John and followed Him.

41 He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah!" (which means "Anointed One"),

42 and he brought Simon to Jesus. When Jesus saw him, He said, "You are Simon, son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which means "Rock").

43 The next day He decided to leave for Galilee. Jesus found Philip and told him, "Follow Me!"

44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter.

45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the One Moses wrote about in the law (and so did the prophets): Jesus the son of Joseph, from Nazareth!"

46 "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Nathanael asked him. "Come and see," Philip answered.

47 Then Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him and said about him, "Here is a true Israelite; no deceit is in him."

48 "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you," Jesus answered.

49 "Rabbi," Nathanael replied, "You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

50 Jesus responded to him, "Do you believe only because I told you I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than this."

51 Then He said, "I assure you: You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

1:35-51 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Isaiah and other prophets had been foretelling of the Messiah that would come for hundreds of years. Imagine that you are Simon and your brother Andrew tells you "We have found the Messiah." (vs. 41) What would be your reaction?
2. The name "Peter" means "rock." Why did Jesus change Simon's name to Peter? See also Matthew 16:15-19.

RESEARCH:

3. Get a Bible dictionary or Bible encyclopedia and look up "Nazareth." Then explain Nathanael's response in verse 46 based upon what you learned.
4. Jesus knows Nathanael before He meets him in verses 47 and 48. This amazes Nathanael. Explain Jesus' response to Nathanael's amazement in verses 50 and 51?
5. Explain the Old Testament symbolism in verse 51.

John 2

1 On the third day a wedding took place in Cana of Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and

2 Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding as well.

3 When the wine ran out, Jesus' mother told Him, "They don't have any wine."

4 "What has this concern of yours to do with Me, woman?" Jesus asked. "My hour has not yet come."

5 "Do whatever He tells you," His mother told the servants.

6 Now six stone water jars had been set there for Jewish purification. Each contained 20 or 30 gallons.

7 "Fill the jars with water," Jesus told them. So they filled them to the brim.

8 Then He said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the chief servant." And they did.

9 When the chief servant tasted the water (after it had become wine), he did not know where it came from—though the servants who had drawn the water knew. He called the groom

10 and told him, "Everybody sets out the fine wine first, then, after people have drunk freely, the inferior. But you have kept the fine wine until now."

11 Jesus performed this first sign in Cana of Galilee. He displayed His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.

12 After this, He went down to Capernaum, together with His mother, His brothers, and His disciples, and they stayed there only a few days.

2:1-12 Write down any questions or interesting points you have to the left.

1. What is the symbolism of this miracle?
2. Jesus and his disciples are at the wedding. Mary says to Jesus, "They have no wine." What is Jesus' response in verse 4? What did Jesus mean?

REVEALING FACTS:

Wine can be simply unfermented grape juice. Further, the wines of Palestine were of a very light alcoholic content and were usually mixed three parts water to one part wine so that there could be very little chance of getting drunk. Also, unfermented wine (grape juice) was considered to be the best wine (or good wine). The role of the governor (chief steward) at the wedding was to make sure the wine was diluted enough so that no one would get drunk.

3. Notice the words "sign", "displayed", and "believed" in verse 11. What do you see as important or interesting in verse 11?
4. How does this miracle prove Jesus to be the Son of God? (Hint: it is more than just the ability to change matter from one substance to another)

13 The Jewish Passover was near, so Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

14 In the temple complex He found people selling oxen, sheep, and doves, and He also found the money changers sitting there.

15 After making a whip out of cords, He drove everyone out of the temple complex with their sheep and oxen. He also poured out the money changers' coins and overturned the tables.

16 He told those who were selling doves, "Get these things out of here! Stop turning My Father's house into a marketplace!"

17 And His disciples remembered that it is written: Zeal for Your house will consume Me.

18 So the Jews replied to Him, "What sign of authority will You show us for doing these things?"

19 Jesus answered, "Destroy this sanctuary, and I will raise it up in three days."

20 Therefore the Jews said, "This sanctuary took 46 years to build, and will You raise it up in three days?"

21 But He was speaking about the sanctuary of His body.

22 So when He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this. And they believed the Scripture and the statement Jesus had made.

23 While He was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many trusted in His name when they saw the signs He was doing.

24 Jesus, however, would not entrust Himself to them, since He knew them all

25 and because He did not need anyone to testify about man; for He Himself knew what was in man.

2:13-25 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

5. What did Jesus find people doing in the temple? What was wrong with this?

6. What was Jesus' reaction and response to what the people were doing in the temple?

7. What do the disciples remember when they see Jesus perform this act? Explain why this is what they remember.

8. In verse 18, the Jews ask for a sign from Jesus to show that He had the authority to drive out the merchants from the temple. What sign would Jesus show them? What is the symbolism of this sign?

9. In verse 23, many believed because of the signs they saw Jesus performing. But Jesus "would not entrust himself to them." Why?

John 3

1 There was a man from the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

2 This man came to Him at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher, for no one could perform these signs You do unless God were with him."

3 Jesus replied, "I assure you: Unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

4 "But how can anyone be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked Him. "Can he enter his mother's womb a second time and be born?"

5 Jesus answered, "I assure you: Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

6 Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit.

7 Do not be amazed that I told you that you must be born again.

8 The wind blows where it pleases, and you hear its sound, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

9 "How can these things be?" asked Nicodemus.

10 "Are you a teacher of Israel and don't know these things?" Jesus replied.

11 "I assure you: We speak what We know and We testify to what We have seen, but you do not accept Our testimony.

12 If I have told you about things that happen on earth and you don't believe, how will you believe if I tell you about things of heaven?

13 No one has ascended into heaven except the One who descended from heaven—the Son of Man.

14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 so that everyone who believes in Him will have eternal life.

16 "For God loved the world in this way: He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.

17 For God did not send His Son into the world that He might judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

18 Anyone who believes in Him is not judged, but anyone who does not believe is already judged, because he has not believed in the name of the One and Only Son of God.

19 "This, then, is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil.

20 For everyone who practices wicked things hates the light and avoids it, so that his deeds may not be exposed.

21 But anyone who lives by the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be shown to be accomplished by God."

3:1-10 In the space below, write down things any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Who was Nicodemus?

2. What is the main point Jesus is trying to teach Nicodemus?

3. In verse 5, what does it mean to be born of water and born of Spirit? Some teach that being born of the water is the actual physical birth process of being born and being born of the Spirit is being baptized by the Holy Spirit. Is this true or false? Why or why not? (For help see Titus 3:5, 1 Corinthians 12:13, and Ephesians 5:26)

3:11-21 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

4. What is the Old Testament symbolism in this passage? What similarities did Jesus make between what happened in the Old Testament and what one must do now?

5. What did God send Jesus to do in verses 17 and 18? What does this mean?

6. In verses 19-21, what name is Jesus given again? Where did we see this before? What is the symbolism?

22 After this, Jesus and His disciples went to the Judean countryside, where He spent time with them and baptized.

23 John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water there. People were coming and being baptized,

24 since John had not yet been thrown into prison.

25 Then a dispute arose between John's disciples and a Jew about purification.

26 So they came to John and told him, "Rabbi, the One you testified about, and who was with you across the Jordan, is baptizing—and everyone is flocking to Him."

27 John responded, "No one can receive a single thing unless it's given to him from heaven.

28 You yourselves can testify that I said, 'I am not the Messiah, but I've been sent ahead of Him.'

29 He who has the bride is the groom. But the groom's friend, who stands by and listens for him, rejoices greatly at the groom's voice. So this joy of mine is complete.

30 He must increase, but I must decrease."

31 The One who comes from above is above all. The one who is from the earth is earthly and speaks in earthly terms. The One who comes from heaven is above all.

32 He testifies to what He has seen and heard, yet no one accepts His testimony.

33 The one who has accepted His testimony has affirmed that God is true.

34 For God sent Him, and He speaks God's words, since He gives the Spirit without measure.

35 The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His hands.

36 The one who believes in the Son has eternal life, but the one who refuses to believe in the Son will not see life; instead, the wrath of God remains on him.

3:22-36 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

7. Write down a couple subtle, yet important details from verses 22-23.

8. What was the dispute about exactly? What is John's response in the following four verses?

SUMMARY OF THE TESTIMONY:

Skim this chapter and notice the testimony of the various witnesses. Find any passages in this text that prove to you that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God and write them down below. Be prepared to share these in class. Then answer the following questions:

1. What testimony does Nicodemus give that Jesus is the Son of God in verse 2?

2. What testimony does John give that Jesus is the Son of God in verses 28-29?

3. What testimony does John give that Jesus is the Son of God in verses 32-35?

John 4

1 When Jesus knew that the Pharisees heard He was making and baptizing more disciples than John

2 (though Jesus Himself was not baptizing, but His disciples were),

3 He left Judea and went again to Galilee.

4 He had to travel through Samaria,

5 so He came to a town of Samaria called Sychar near the property that Jacob had given his son Joseph.

6 Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, worn out from His journey, sat down at the well. It was about six in the evening.

7 A woman of Samaria came to draw water. "Give Me a drink," Jesus said to her,

8 for His disciples had gone into town to buy food.

9 "How is it that You, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" she asked Him. For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.

10 Jesus answered, "If you knew the gift of God, and who is saying to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would ask Him, and He would give you living water."

11 "Sir," said the woman, "You don't even have a bucket, and the well is deep. So where do you get this 'living water'?"

12 You aren't greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and livestock."

13 Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks from this water will get thirsty again.

14 But whoever drinks from the water that I will give him will never get thirsty again—ever! In fact, the water I will give him will become a well of water springing up within him for eternal life."

15 "Sir," the woman said to Him, "give me this water so I won't get thirsty and come here to draw water."

16 "Go call your husband," He told her, "and come back here."

17 "I don't have a husband," she answered. "You have correctly said, 'I don't have a husband,'" Jesus said.

18 "For you've had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true."

19 "Sir," the woman replied, "I see that You are a prophet.

20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, yet you Jews say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem."

21 Jesus told her, "Believe Me, woman, an hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know. We worship what we do know,

4:1-15 In the space left, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. How is the humanity of Christ seen in verses 6-8?
2. In verse 11, Jesus offers the woman "living water." What does Jesus mean by the phrase "living water" and does the woman understand what Jesus means?
3. In verses 13 and 14, again Jesus offers water that those "who drink of it will never be thirsty." Does the woman understand what Jesus means this time?
4. What is the Old Testament symbolism in this passage? Contrast what Jesus is offering to what was offered in the Old Testament.

4:16-26 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

5. Look at verses 17-18. What does Jesus mean when He says to the woman, "you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband?" Explain.

because salvation is from the Jews.
 23 But an hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. Yes, the Father wants such people to worship Him.
 24 God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."
 25 The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will explain everything to us."
 26 "I am He," Jesus told her, "the One speaking to you."
 27 Just then His disciples arrived, and they were amazed that He was talking with a woman. Yet no one said, "What do You want?" or "Why are You talking with her?"
 28 Then the woman left her water jar, went into town, and told the men,
 29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could this be the Messiah?"
 30 They left the town and made their way to Him.
 31 In the meantime the disciples kept urging Him, "Rabbi, eat something."
 32 But He said, "I have food to eat that you don't know about."
 33 The disciples said to one another, "Could someone have brought Him something to eat?"
 34 "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work," Jesus told them.
 35 "Don't you say, 'There are still four more months, then comes the harvest'? Listen to what I'm telling you: Open your eyes and look at the fields, for they are ready for harvest.
 36 The reaper is already receiving pay and gathering fruit for eternal life, so the sower and reaper can rejoice together.
 37 For in this case the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.'
 38 I sent you to reap what you didn't labor for; others have labored, and you have benefited from their labor."
 39 Now many Samaritans from that town believed in Him because of what the woman said when she testified, "He told me everything I ever did."
 40 Therefore, when the Samaritans came to Him, they asked Him to stay with them, and He stayed there two days.
 41 Many more believed because of what He said.
 42 And they told the woman, "We no longer believe because of what you said, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this really is the Savior of the world."

6. Jesus knows things about this woman's life though He had not met this woman before (vs. 17-18). In verse 19, what is the Samaritan woman's response to Jesus' knowledge of her life? Is she beginning to figure out who He is?
7. In verse 20 the woman says that their ancestors "worshiped on this mountain." Who is she referring to and what mountain is she talking about?
8. What does Jesus mean in verses 21-22?
9. Jesus begins teaching the woman about true worship. Explain what Jesus is teaching her, specifically in verses 23-24.

4:27-42 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

10. What food is Jesus talking about in this text? Why don't the disciples understand this?
11. What point is Jesus making in verses 35-38?
12. What is the response of the Samaritans from the woman's testimony in verses 39-42?

43 After two days He left there for Galilee.

44 Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country.

45 When they entered Galilee, the Galileans welcomed Him because they had seen everything He did in Jerusalem during the festival. For they also had gone to the festival.

46 Then He went again to Cana of Galilee, where He had turned the water into wine. There was a certain royal official whose son was ill at Capernaum.

47 When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and pleaded with Him to come down and heal his son, for he was about to die.

48 Jesus told him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe."

49 "Sir," the official said to Him, "come down before my boy dies!"

50 "Go," Jesus told him, "your son will live." The man believed what Jesus said to him and departed.

51 While he was still going down, his slaves met him saying that his boy was alive.

52 He asked them at what time he got better. "Yesterday at seven in the morning the fever left him," they answered.

53 The father realized this was the very hour at which Jesus had told him, "Your son will live." Then he himself believed, along with his whole household.

54 This therefore was the second sign Jesus performed after He came from Judea to Galilee.

John 5

1 After this, a Jewish festival took place, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

2 By the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem there is a pool, called Bethesda in Hebrew, which has five colonnades.

3 Within these lay a multitude of the sick—blind, lame, and paralyzed [—waiting for the moving of the water,

4 because an angel would go down into the pool from time to time and stir up the water. Then the first one who got in after the water was stirred up recovered from whatever ailment he had].

5 One man was there who had been sick for 38 years.

6 When Jesus saw him lying there and knew he had already been there a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to get well?"

7 "Sir," the sick man answered, "I don't have a man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, but while I'm coming, someone goes down ahead of me."

8 "Get up," Jesus told him, "pick up your bedroll and walk!"

9 Instantly the man got well, picked up his bedroll, and started to walk. Now that day was the Sabbath,

10 so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "This is the Sabbath! It's illegal for you to pick up your bedroll."

4:43-54 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. What had Jesus previously done in Cana?
2. A royal official (nobleman) sees Jesus and begs Jesus to heal his son. What response does Jesus give and why does He say it?
3. Did the royal official have faith that Jesus could heal his son where they were or did the royal official believe that Jesus had to be at his house to heal his son? Explain your answer.
4. What is the symbolism in this second sign of Jesus recorded by John?

5:1-15 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Why do the Jews have a problem with Jesus telling this man "to take up his bed and walk?" Explain.
2. What is the symbolism in this third sign of Jesus recorded by John?

11 He replied, "The man who made me well told me, 'Pick up your bedroll and walk.'"

12 "Who is this man who told you, 'Pick up your bedroll and walk?'" they asked.

13 But the man who was cured did not know who it was, because Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there.

14 After this, Jesus found him in the temple complex and said to him, "See, you are well. Do not sin any more, so that something worse doesn't happen to you."

15 The man went and reported to the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

16 Therefore, the Jews began persecuting Jesus because He was doing these things on the Sabbath.

17 But Jesus responded to them, "My Father is still working, and I am working also."

18 This is why the Jews began trying all the more to kill Him: not only was He breaking the Sabbath, but He was even calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God.

19 Then Jesus replied, "I assure you: The Son is not able to do anything on His own, but only what He sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, the Son also does these things in the same way.

20 For the Father loves the Son and shows Him everything He is doing, and He will show Him greater works than these so that you will be amazed.

21 And just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so the Son also gives life to anyone He wants to.

22 The Father, in fact, judges no one but has given all judgment to the Son,

23 so that all people will honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

24 "I assure you: Anyone who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not come under judgment but has passed from death to life.

25 "I assure you: An hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

26 For just as the Father has life in Himself, so also He has granted to the Son to have life in Himself.

27 And He has granted Him the right to pass judgment, because He is the Son of Man.

28 Do not be amazed at this, because a time is coming when all who are in the graves will hear His voice

29 and come out—those who have done good things, to the resurrection of life, but those who have done wicked things, to the resurrection of judgment.

3. How does this miracle show Jesus is the Son of God?

5:16-29 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

4. What authority does Jesus claim allows Him to perform miracles? List the verses in this text that prove your answer.

5. From verses 19-24, list the various phrases that show there is a close relationship between God the Father and God the Son.

6. Notice verses 25 and 28. Verse 25 is speaking of an event whose "hour is coming, and is now here." Verse 28 speaks of an event whose "hour is coming" but does not say is now here.

a. What event is Jesus speaking of in verse 25? (Compare to Daniel 12:1-3)

b. What event is Jesus speaking of in verses 28-29?

30 "I can do nothing on My own. I judge only as I hear, and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

31 "If I testify about Myself, My testimony is not valid.

32 There is Another who testifies about Me, and I know that the testimony He gives about Me is valid.

33 You have sent messengers to John, and he has testified to the truth.

34 I don't receive man's testimony, but I say these things so that you may be saved.

35 John was a burning and shining lamp, and for a time you were willing to enjoy his light.

36 "But I have a greater testimony than John's because of the works that the Father has given Me to accomplish. These very works I am doing testify about Me that the Father has sent Me.

37 The Father who sent Me has Himself testified about Me. You have not heard His voice at any time, and you haven't seen His form.

38 You don't have His word living in you, because you don't believe the One He sent.

39 You pore over the Scriptures because you think you have eternal life in them, yet they testify about Me.

40 And you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

41 "I do not accept glory from men, 42 but I know you—that you have no love for God within you.

43 I have come in My Father's name, yet you don't accept Me. If someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him.

44 How can you believe? While accepting glory from one another, you don't seek the glory that comes from the only God.

45 Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope.

46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, because he wrote about Me.

47 But if you don't believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"

5:30-47 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Whose will is Jesus following? Explain why Jesus makes this point at this time.

2. Who is Jesus referring to in verse 32, who testified on Jesus' behalf?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

3. In verse 39, Jesus says that the Jews searched the scriptures but did not see that the scriptures were speaking of Jesus. Can you make any application to your own personal Bible study from this statement?

4. What does Jesus mean in verses 45-47? How is Moses their accuser?

John 6

1 After this, Jesus crossed the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias).

2 And a huge crowd was following Him because they saw the signs that He was performing on the sick.

3 So Jesus went up a mountain and sat down there with His disciples.

4 Now the Passover, a Jewish festival, was near.

5 Therefore, when Jesus looked up and noticed a huge crowd coming toward Him, He asked Philip, "Where will we buy bread so these people can eat?"

6 He asked this to test him, for He Himself knew what He was going to do.

7 Philip answered, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread wouldn't be enough for each of them to have a little."

8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him,

9 "There's a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish—but what are they for so many?"

10 Then Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, so they sat down. The men numbered about 5,000.

11 Then Jesus took the loaves, and after giving thanks He distributed them to those who were seated—so also with the fish, as much as they wanted.

12 When they were full, He told His disciples, "Collect the leftovers so that nothing is wasted."

13 So they collected them and filled 12 baskets with the pieces from the five barley loaves that were left over by those who had eaten.

14 When the people saw the sign He had done, they said, "This really is the Prophet who was to come into the world!"

15 Therefore, when Jesus knew that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He withdrew again to the mountain by Himself.

16 When evening came, His disciples went down to the sea,

17 got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. Darkness had already set in, but Jesus had not yet come to them.

18 Then a high wind arose, and the sea began to churn.

19 After they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea. He was coming near the boat, and they were afraid.

20 But He said to them, "It is I. Don't be afraid!"

21 Then they were willing to take Him on board, and at once the boat was at the shore where they were heading.

6:1-21 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Why are large crowds following Jesus? What are these people interested in seeing?
2. John has repeatedly mentioned the timing of the Passover festivals in this gospel (2:13, 23; 5:1; 6:4) John will continue to make mention of it. What is the symbolism or significance to why John continues to point out the Passover?
3. How much did the people eat in verse 11? Does this prove that Jesus performed a miracle?
4. What things about this miracle did you find amazing or interesting?
5. What kind of king did the people want to make Jesus? Why do you think they wanted to make Him king? Since Jesus came to be king, why did He refuse?
6. What is the Old Testament symbolism behind Jesus' miracle of walking on the water? What is Jesus trying to prove?

41 Therefore the Jews started complaining about Him, because He said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven."

42 They were saying, "Isn't this Jesus the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can He now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'"

43 Jesus answered them, "Stop complaining among yourselves.

44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him, and I will raise him up on the last day.

45 It is written in the Prophets: And they will all be taught by God. Everyone who has listened to and learned from the Father comes to Me—

46 not that anyone has seen the Father except the One who is from God. He has seen the Father.

47 "I assure you: Anyone who believes has eternal life.

48 I am the bread of life.

49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven so that anyone may eat of it and not die.

51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread he will live forever. The bread that I will give for the life of the world is My flesh."

52 At that, the Jews argued among themselves, "How can this man give us His flesh to eat?"

53 So Jesus said to them, "I assure you: Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you do not have life in yourselves.

54 Anyone who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day,

55 because My flesh is real food and My blood is real drink.

56 The one who eats My flesh and drinks My blood lives in Me, and I in him.

57 Just as the living Father sent Me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on Me will live because of Me.

58 This is the bread that came down from heaven; it is not like the manna your fathers ate—and they died. The one who eats this bread will live forever."

59 He said these things while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

60 Therefore, when many of His disciples heard this, they said, "This teaching is hard! Who can accept it?"

61 Jesus, knowing in Himself that His disciples were complaining about this, asked them, "Does this offend you?"

62 Then what if you were to observe the Son of Man ascending to where He was before?

63 The Spirit is the One who gives life. The flesh doesn't help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

6:41-70 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. The Jews begin disputing Jesus in this passage. What claim of Jesus did the Jews dispute in verses 41-42? Why did they dispute Jesus' claim?

DEBATE QUESTION:

2. Notice verse 44. The passage clearly says "no one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me." Is this passage teaching that God chooses who will be saved and who will be lost? Why or why not?

3. Jesus has been referred to as the Word, the Light, and the Lamb. What does Jesus call Himself in this passage? Why?

4. What bread did Moses offer the Israelites? How is this different from the bread Jesus is offering? (Notice especially verses 49-51)

5. What claim of Jesus do the Jews dispute in verse 52? Why?

64 But there are some among you who don't believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning those who would not believe and the one who would betray Him.)

65 He said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to Me unless it is granted to him by the Father."

66 From that moment many of His disciples turned back and no longer accompanied Him.

67 Therefore Jesus said to the Twelve, "You don't want to go away too, do you?"

68 Simon Peter answered, "Lord, who will we go to? You have the words of eternal life.

69 We have come to believe and know that You are the Holy One of God!"

70 Jesus replied to them, "Didn't I choose you, the Twelve? Yet one of you is the Devil!"

71 He was referring to Judas, Simon Iscariot's son, one of the Twelve, because he was going to betray Him.

John 7

1 After this, Jesus traveled in Galilee, since He did not want to travel in Judea because the Jews were trying to kill Him.

2 The Jewish Festival of Tabernacles was near,

3 so His brothers said to Him, "Leave here and go to Judea so Your disciples can see Your works that You are doing.

4 For no one does anything in secret while he's seeking public recognition. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world."

5 (For not even His brothers believed in Him.)

6 Jesus told them, "My time has not yet arrived, but your time is always at hand.

7 The world cannot hate you, but it does hate Me because I testify about it—that its deeds are evil.

8 Go up to the festival yourselves. I'm not going up to the festival yet, because My time has not yet fully come."

9 After He had said these things, He stayed in Galilee.

DEBATE QUESTION:

6. Read verses 52-59 carefully. What is Jesus referring to when He says that one must eat His flesh and drink His blood? Read verse 51 and 58 again. Are you sure?

7. Why were the disciples having a hard time accepting Jesus' words?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

8. Some teachings in the Bible are easy for some to follow and harder for others. In verses 68-69, what is Peter's response to this hard saying of Jesus? Is this your response to Bible commands that are hard for you to follow?

7:1-9 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Why could Jesus not go back to Judea? Why did the Jews want to do this?

2. What did Jesus' brothers want Jesus to do in verses 3-4?

3. Do you think that Jesus' brothers wanted Jesus to go to Judea to prove Himself, or do you think they wanted Jesus to go so that He would be killed? Why?

10 After His brothers had gone up to the festival, then He also went up, not openly but secretly.

11 The Jews were looking for Him at the festival and saying, "Where is He?"

12 And there was a lot of discussion about Him among the crowds. Some were saying, "He's a good man." Others were saying, "No, on the contrary, He's deceiving the people."

13 Still, nobody was talking publicly about Him because they feared the Jews.

14 When the festival was already half over, Jesus went up into the temple complex and began to teach.

15 Then the Jews were amazed and said, "How does He know the Scriptures, since He hasn't been trained?"

16 Jesus answered them, "My teaching isn't Mine but is from the One who sent Me.

17 If anyone wants to do His will, he will understand whether the teaching is from God or if I am speaking on My own.

18 The one who speaks for himself seeks his own glory. But He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

19 Didn't Moses give you the law? Yet none of you keeps the law! Why do you want to kill Me?"

20 "You have a demon!" the crowd responded. "Who wants to kill You?"

21 "I did one work, and you are all amazed," Jesus answered.

22 "Consider this: Moses has given you circumcision—not that it comes from Moses but from the fathers—and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath.

23 If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath so that the law of Moses won't be broken, are you angry at Me because I made a man entirely well on the Sabbath?

24 Stop judging according to outward appearances; rather judge according to righteous judgment."

4. Use a commentary or Bible dictionary to answer the following question: What is the festival of Tabernacles (or also called Feast of Booths)? Why does John make mention of this Jewish festival?

5. Why did Jesus not go to the Festival of Tabernacles?

7:10-24 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

6. Why do you think that Jesus said He would not go to the festival yet, but decided to go later?

7. Notice Jesus' statement in verse 18. Who did Jesus come to glorify?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

8. Still looking at verse 18, what does this verse say about how we should act in our lives?

9. What is Jesus' justification in verses 19-24 for His healing on the sabbath?

25 Some of the people of Jerusalem were saying, "Isn't this the man they want to kill?"

26 Yet, look! He's speaking publicly and they're saying nothing to Him. Can it be true that the authorities know He is the Messiah?

27 But we know where this man is from. When the Messiah comes, nobody will know where He is from."

28 As He was teaching in the temple complex, Jesus cried out, "You know Me and you know where I am from. Yet I have not come on My own, but the One who sent Me is true. You don't know Him;

29 I know Him because I am from Him, and He sent Me."

30 Then they tried to seize Him. Yet no one laid a hand on Him because His hour had not yet come.

31 However, many from the crowd believed in Him and said, "When the Messiah comes, He won't perform more signs than this man has done, will He?"

32 The Pharisees heard the crowd muttering these things about Him, so the chief priests and the Pharisees sent temple police to arrest Him.

33 Then Jesus said, "I am only with you for a short time. Then I'm going to the One who sent Me.

34 You will look for Me, but you will not find Me; and where I am, you cannot come."

35 Then the Jews said to one another, "Where does He intend to go so we won't find Him? He doesn't intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks, does He?"

36 What is this remark He made: 'You will look for Me, and you will not find Me; and where I am, you cannot come?'"

37 On the last and most important day of the festival, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone is thirsty, he should come to Me and drink!

38 The one who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, will have streams of living water flow from deep within him."

39 He said this about the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were going to receive, for the Spirit had not yet been received, because Jesus had not yet been glorified.

40 When some from the crowd heard these words, they said, "This really is the Prophet!"

41 Others said, "This is the Messiah!" But some said, "Surely the Messiah doesn't come from Galilee, does He?"

42 Doesn't the Scripture say that the Messiah comes from David's offspring and from the town of Bethlehem, where David once lived?"

7:25-36 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Verse 30 says that Jesus was not arrested because "His hour had not yet come." What does this mean? Do you think that there was divine intervention to keep Jesus from being arrested? Explain.
2. In verse 31, why did the crowd not believe that Jesus was the Messiah? Had Jesus not performed many miracles so far?
3. What did Jesus mean in verse 34 when He says, "You will search for Me, but you will not find me?" What did the Jews think Jesus meant?

7:37-53 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

4. What does it mean in verse 38, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water?"

43 So a division occurred among the crowd because of Him.
 44 Some of them wanted to seize Him, but no one laid hands on Him.
 45 Then the temple police came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why haven't you brought Him?"
 46 The police answered, "No man ever spoke like this!"
 47 Then the Pharisees responded to them: "Are you fooled too?"
 48 Have any of the rulers believed in Him? Or any of the Pharisees?
 49 But this crowd, which doesn't know the law, is accursed!"
 50 Nicodemus—the one who came to Him previously, being one of them—said to them,
 51 "Our law doesn't judge a man before it hears from him and knows what he's doing, does it?"
 52 "You aren't from Galilee too, are you?" they replied. "Investigate and you will see that no prophet arises from Galilee."
 53 So each one went to his house.

John 8

1 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.
 2 At dawn He went to the temple complex again, and all the people were coming to Him. He sat down and began to teach them.
 3 Then the scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman caught in adultery, making her stand in the center.
 4 "Teacher," they said to Him, "this woman was caught in the act of committing adultery.
 5 In the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do You say?"
 6 They asked this to trap Him, in order that they might have evidence to accuse Him. Jesus stooped down and started writing on the ground with His finger.
 7 When they persisted in questioning Him, He stood up and said to them, "The one without sin among you should be the first to throw a stone at her."
 8 Then He stooped down again and continued writing on the ground.
 9 When they heard this, they left one by one, starting with the older men. Only He was left, with the woman in the center.
 10 When Jesus stood up, He said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"
 11 "No one, Lord," she answered. "Neither do I condemn you," said Jesus. "Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

5. What is the reaction of the people to Jesus' statement in verse 38?

6. When would the Spirit be given? What does this mean?

7. Do the people in authority believe in Jesus? Why or why not?

8. Looking at verses 47, 49, and 52, what attitude do you think the authorities are showing?

8:1-11 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Why do the scribes and Pharisees bring this woman to Jesus?

2. How could the scribes and Pharisees have caught this woman in the act of adultery?

3. Why do you think the scribes and Pharisees did not bring the man who was committing adultery also?

4. Why does not Jesus condemn this woman for her sin, which was punishable by death?

12 Then Jesus spoke to them again: "I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows Me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life."

13 So the Pharisees said to Him, "You are testifying about Yourself. Your testimony is not valid."

14 "Even if I testify about Myself," Jesus replied, "My testimony is valid, because I know where I came from and where I'm going. But you don't know where I come from or where I'm going."

15 You judge by human standards. I judge no one.

16 And if I do judge, My judgment is true, because I am not alone, but I and the Father who sent Me judge together.

17 Even in your law it is written that the witness of two men is valid.

18 I am the One who testifies about Myself, and the Father who sent Me testifies about Me."

19 Then they asked Him, "Where is Your Father?" "You know neither Me nor My Father," Jesus answered. "If you knew Me, you would also know My Father."

20 He spoke these words by the treasury, while teaching in the temple complex. But no one seized Him, because His hour had not come.

21 Then He said to them again, "I'm going away; you will look for Me, and you will die in your sin. Where I'm going, you cannot come."

22 So the Jews said again, "He won't kill Himself, will He, since He says, 'Where I'm going, you cannot come'?"

23 "You are from below," He told them, "I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world."

24 Therefore I told you that you will die in your sins. For if you do not believe that I am [He], you will die in your sins."

25 "Who are You?" they questioned. "Precisely what I've been telling you from the very beginning," Jesus told them.

26 "I have many things to say and to judge about you, but the One who sent Me is true, and what I have heard from Him—these things I tell the world."

27 They did not know He was speaking to them about the Father.

28 So Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am [He], and that I do nothing on My own. But just as the Father taught Me, I say these things."

29 The One who sent Me is with Me. He has not left Me alone, because I always do what pleases Him."

30 As He was saying these things, many believed in Him.

8:12-30 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

5. What does Jesus call Himself in this passage? Why?

6. The Law required that one did not accept the testimony of someone without having two or three witnesses. The Jews use this law to trap Jesus. Who does Jesus say are His two witnesses?

DEBATE QUESTION:

7. Read verse 21. Jesus says that they will search for Him, but will die in their sins. If they were looking for the Messiah, then why would they die in their sins?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

8. Just because these people would seek the Messiah did not mean they would be saved. Jesus said that they would die in their sins. Apply this concept to yourself and others who are seeking after Jesus. What does it mean to you? Is there something more than seeking?

9. What is Jesus predicting in this passage (8:21-30)?

10. Looking at verse 25, why do the people keep asking Jesus who He is? Has Jesus been unclear in revealing who He is?

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, "If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples.
 32 You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."
 33 "We are descendants of Abraham," they answered Him, "and we have never been enslaved to anyone. How can You say, 'You will become free?'"
 34 Jesus responded, "I assure you: Everyone who commits sin is a slave of sin.
 35 A slave does not remain in the household forever, but a son does remain forever.
 36 Therefore if the Son sets you free, you really will be free.
 37 I know you are descendants of Abraham, but you are trying to kill Me because My word is not welcome among you.
 38 I speak what I have seen in the presence of the Father, and therefore you do what you have heard from your father."
 39 "Our father is Abraham!" they replied. "If you were Abraham's children," Jesus told them, "you would do what Abraham did.
 40 But now you are trying to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do this!
 41 You're doing what your father does." "We weren't born of sexual immorality," they said. "We have one Father—God."
 42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, because I came from God and I am here. For I didn't come on My own, but He sent Me.
 43 Why don't you understand what I say? Because you cannot listen to My word.
 44 You are of your father the Devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and has not stood in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he tells a lie, he speaks from his own nature, because he is a liar and the father of liars.
 45 Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me.
 46 Who among you can convict Me of sin? If I tell the truth, why don't you believe Me?
 47 The one who is from God listens to God's words. This is why you don't listen, because you are not from God."
 48 The Jews responded to Him, "Aren't we right in saying that You're a Samaritan and have a demon?"
 49 "I do not have a demon," Jesus answered. "On the contrary, I honor My Father and you dishonor Me.
 50 I do not seek My glory; the One who seeks it also judges.
 51 I assure you: If anyone keeps My word, he will never see death—ever!"
 52 Then the Jews said, "Now we know You have a

11. According to verses 28-29, when would many of the people believe that Jesus was from God? What would happen that would make them realize that Jesus was from God?

8:31-59 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

1. Noticing verses 31-32, how can we truly be a disciple of Jesus? Explain your answer.

2. The Jews say in verse 33 that they have never been slaves to anyone. Is this a true statement?

3. What does Jesus tell the people they are slaves to?

4. What does Jesus say He will do about their slavery?

5. What is the implication of Jesus' words in verses 38 and 40? What is Jesus telling the Jewish leaders?

6. Notice verse 19 and verse 41. What might the Jews be suggesting about Jesus from these statements?

demon. Abraham died and so did the prophets. You say, 'If anyone keeps My word, he will never taste death—ever!'

53 Are You greater than our father Abraham who died? Even the prophets died. Who do You pretend to be?"

54 "If I glorify Myself," Jesus answered, "My glory is nothing. My Father—you say about Him, 'He is our God.'—He is the One who glorifies Me.

55 You've never known Him, but I know Him. If I were to say I don't know Him, I would be a liar like you. But I do know Him, and I keep His word.

56 Your father Abraham was overjoyed that he would see My day; he saw it and rejoiced."

57 The Jews replied, "You aren't 50 years old yet, and You've seen Abraham?"

58 Jesus said to them, "I assure you: Before Abraham was, I am."

59 At that, they picked up stones to throw at Him. But Jesus was hidden and went out of the temple complex.

John 9

1 As He was passing by, He saw a man blind from birth.

2 His disciples questioned Him: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

3 "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," Jesus answered. "This came about so that God's works might be displayed in him.

4 We must do the works of Him who sent Me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work.

5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

6 After He said these things He spit on the ground, made some mud from the saliva, and spread the mud on his eyes.

7 "Go," He told him, "wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). So he left, washed, and came back seeing.

8 His neighbors and those who formerly had seen him as a beggar said, "Isn't this the man who sat begging?"

9 Some said, "He's the one." "No," others were saying, "but he looks like him." He kept saying, "I'm the one!"

10 Therefore they asked him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"

11 He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So when I went and washed I received my sight."

12 "Where is He?" they asked. "I don't know," he said.

7. Jesus calls these Jews "illegitimate children," meaning not Abraham's children. Why would this upset these Jews so much?

8. After calling these Jews "illegitimate children" Jesus now calls them children of the devil (vs. 44). Noticing the context, why does He call them children of the devil?

9. In verses 48-59, the Jews begin saying that Jesus had a demon. What two things did Jesus say that made the Jews think Jesus had a demon? What did the Jews not understand?

10. Jesus calls the scribes and Pharisees liars in verse 55. Why?

11. Read Exodus 3:13-15. Now what is Jesus saying in verse 58?

9:1-12 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Look at verse 2. Why do the disciples ask this question?

2. How does Jesus answer the disciples' question?

3. How does this miracle prove that Jesus is the Son of God?

13 They brought the man who used to be blind to the Pharisees.

14 The day that Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes was a Sabbath.

15 So again the Pharisees asked him how he received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," he told them. "I washed and I can see."

16 Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for He doesn't keep the Sabbath!" But others were saying, "How can a sinful man perform such signs?" And there was a division among them.

17 Again they asked the blind man, "What do you say about Him, since He opened your eyes?" "He's a prophet," he said.

18 The Jews did not believe this about him—that he was blind and received sight—until they summoned the parents of the one who had received his sight.

19 They asked them, "Is this your son, [the one] you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

20 "We know this is our son and that he was born blind," his parents answered.

21 "But we don't know how he now sees, and we don't know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he's of age. He will speak for himself."

22 His parents said these things because they were afraid of the Jews, since the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed Him as Messiah, he would be banned from the synagogue.

23 This is why his parents said, "He's of age; ask him."

24 So a second time they summoned the man who had been blind and told him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner!"

25 He answered, "Whether or not He's a sinner, I don't know. One thing I do know: I was blind, and now I can see!"

26 Then they asked him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?"

27 "I already told you," he said, "and you didn't listen. Why do you want to hear it again? You don't want to become His disciples too, do you?"

28 They ridiculed him: "You're that man's disciple, but we're Moses' disciples."

29 We know that God has spoken to Moses. But this man—we don't know where He's from!"

30 "This is an amazing thing," the man told them. "You don't know where He is from, yet He opened my eyes!"

31 We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He listens to him.

32 Throughout history no one has ever heard of someone opening the eyes of a person born blind.

9:13-23 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Was Jesus breaking the sabbath like the Pharisees claim in verse 16?
2. Why are the Jews trying to discount the blind man's testimony? In other words, why do the Jews not believe that this man was actually blind?
3. What did the Jews threaten to do to people who confessed Jesus? Why is this punishment a big deal?

9:24-41 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Why do you think the Pharisees ask the blind man how he can see, when they just asked this same question in verse 15?
2. What point is the blind man trying to get across to the Jews in verses 30-34?

33 If this man were not from God, He wouldn't be able to do anything."

34 "You were born entirely in sin," they replied, "and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out.

35 When Jesus heard that they had thrown the man out, He found him and asked, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

36 "Who is He, Sir, that I may believe in Him?" he asked.

37 Jesus answered, "You have seen Him; in fact, He is the One speaking with you."

38 "I believe, Lord!" he said, and he worshiped Him.

39 Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, in order that those who do not see will see and those who do see will become blind."

40 Some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and asked Him, "We aren't blind too, are we?"

41 "If you were blind," Jesus told them, "you wouldn't have sin. But now that you say, 'We see'—your sin remains.

John 10

1 "I assure you: Anyone who doesn't enter the sheep pen by the door but climbs in some other way, is a thief and a robber.

2 The one who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

3 The doorkeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

4 When he has brought all his own outside, he goes ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they recognize his voice.

5 They will never follow a stranger; instead they will run away from him, because they don't recognize the voice of strangers."

6 Jesus gave them this illustration, but they did not understand what He was telling them.

7 So Jesus said again, "I assure you: I am the door of the sheep.

8 All who came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep didn't listen to them.

9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture.

10 A thief comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance.

3. Explain what Jesus is saying in verses 39-41.

4. Did the Jews admit that a miracle had been performed? Did they admit that Jesus performed it?

10:1-10 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. What point is Jesus trying to get across in this story of the shepherd?

2. What two things does Jesus call Himself in this text? Why does He call Himself these things?

3. Who are the sheep?

4. Who are the thieves and bandits? Compare to Ezekiel 34.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

5. Jesus says that the sheep hears His voice and the sheep do not know the voice of strangers. If we are the sheep, then what do we have to do to hear the shepherd's voice and not follow the voice of strangers?

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

12 The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and doesn't own the sheep, leaves them and runs away when he sees a wolf coming. The wolf then snatches and scatters them.

13 [This happens] because he is a hired man and doesn't care about the sheep.

14 "I am the good shepherd. I know My own sheep, and they know Me,

15 as the Father knows Me, and I know the Father. I lay down My life for the sheep.

16 But I have other sheep that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice. Then there will be one flock, one shepherd.

17 This is why the Father loves Me, because I am laying down My life so I may take it up again.

18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down on My own. I have the right to lay it down, and I have the right to take it up again. I have received this command from My Father."

19 Again a division took place among the Jews because of these words.

20 Many of them were saying, "He has a demon and He's crazy! Why do you listen to Him?"

21 Others were saying, "These aren't the words of someone demon-possessed. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

22 Then the Festival of Dedication took place in Jerusalem, and it was winter.

23 Jesus was walking in the temple complex in Solomon's Colonnade.

24 Then the Jews surrounded Him and asked, "How long are You going to keep us in suspense? If You are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

25 "I did tell you and you don't believe," Jesus answered them. "The works that I do in My Father's name testify about Me.

26 But you don't believe because you are not My sheep.

27 My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me.

28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish—ever! No one will snatch them out of My hand.

29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

30 The Father and I are one."

10:11-30 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. What does Jesus call Himself in this passage? Why does He call Himself this and what is the Old Testament symbolism?
2. Compare and contrast the hired hand and the good shepherd.
3. What event does Jesus predict in this story? Why does he predict it now?
4. Notice verse 24. The Jews ask Jesus to tell them plainly if He is the Messiah. Look back at this chapter and the summaries of the testimonies in the previous chapters. Has Jesus told the Jews plainly that He is the Messiah? Why do the Jews continue to ask this?
5. Why didn't Jesus simply say, "I am the Messiah?"

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

6. Looking at verses 26-29, what security do we have in being Jesus' sheep?

DEBATE QUESTION:

7. Does verses 28-29 teach that one cannot be lost (once saved, always saved)? Explain.

31 Again the Jews picked up rocks to stone Him.
 32 Jesus replied, "I have shown you many good works from the Father. Which of these works are you stoning Me for?"
 33 "We aren't stoning You for a good work," the Jews answered, "but for blasphemy, because You—being a man—make Yourself God."
 34 Jesus answered them, "Isn't it written in your law, I said, you are gods?"
 35 If He called those whom the word of God came to 'gods'—and the Scripture cannot be broken—
 36 do you say, 'You are blaspheming' to the One the Father set apart and sent into the world, because I said: I am the Son of God?
 37 If I am not doing My Father's works, don't believe Me.
 38 But if I am doing them and you don't believe Me, believe the works. This way you will know and understand that the Father is in Me and I in the Father."
 39 Then they were trying again to seize Him, yet He eluded their grasp.
 40 So He departed again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing earlier, and He remained there.
 41 Many came to Him and said, "John never did a sign, but everything John said about this man was true."
 42 And many believed in Him there.

John 11

1 Now a man was sick, Lazarus, from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha.
 2 Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, and it was her brother Lazarus who was sick.
 3 So the sisters sent a message to Him: "Lord, the one You love is sick."
 4 When Jesus heard it, He said, "This sickness will not end in death but is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."
 5 (Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus.)
 6 So when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was.
 7 Then after that, He said to the disciples, "Let's go to Judea again."
 8 "Rabbi," the disciples told Him, "just now the Jews tried to stone You, and You're going there again?"
 9 "Aren't there 12 hours in a day?" Jesus answered. "If anyone walks during the day, he doesn't stumble, because he sees the light of this world.
 10 If anyone walks during the night, he does stumble, because the light is not in him."
 11 He said this, and then He told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I'm on My way to wake him up."
 12 Then the disciples said to Him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will get well."
 13 Jesus, however, was speaking about his death, but they thought He was speaking about natural sleep.
 14 So Jesus then told them plainly, "Lazarus has died.
 15 I'm glad for you that I wasn't there so that you may believe. But let's go to him."
 16 Then Thomas (called "Twin") said to his fellow disciples, "Let's go so that we may die with Him."

10:31-42 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. What does Jesus mean in verse 35, "And the scripture cannot be broken?"
2. Explain Jesus' argument and response to the charge of blasphemy (verses 34-36).

11:1-16 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Looking at verse 6, why didn't Jesus go to Lazarus right away and heal him of his illness?
2. After Jesus says, "Let us go to Judea again," the disciples remind Him that the Jews will stone Him if He goes there. Jesus answers His disciples in verses 9-11. Explain what Jesus is saying here.
3. Looking at verse 15, why is Jesus glad that He was not in Bethany when Lazarus died? Explain your answer.
4. Why does Thomas say, "Let us also go, that we may die with him?"

17 When Jesus arrived, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

18 Bethany was near Jerusalem (about two miles away).

19 Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother.

20 As soon as Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet Him. But Mary remained seated in the house.

21 Then Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother wouldn't have died.

22 Yet even now I know that whatever You ask from God, God will give You."

23 "Your brother will rise again," Jesus told her.

24 Martha said, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me, even if he dies, will live.

26 Everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die—ever. Do you believe this?"

27 "Yes, Lord," she told Him, "I believe You are the Messiah, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."

28 Having said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you."

29 As soon as she heard this, she got up quickly and went to Him.

30 Jesus had not yet come into the village but was still in the place where Martha had met Him.

31 The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw that Mary got up quickly and went out. So they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to cry there.

32 When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet and told Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died!"

33 When Jesus saw her crying, and the Jews who had come with her crying, He was angry in His spirit and deeply moved.

34 "Where have you put him?" He asked. "Lord," they told Him, "come and see."

35 Jesus wept.

36 So the Jews said, "See how He loved him!"

37 But some of them said, "Couldn't He who opened the blind man's eyes also have kept this man from dying?"

38 Then Jesus, angry in Himself again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.

39 "Remove the stone," Jesus said. Martha, the dead man's sister, told Him, "Lord, he already stinks. It's been four days."

40 Jesus said to her, "Didn't I tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"

41 So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You heard Me.

42 I know that You always hear Me, but because of the crowd standing here I said this, so they may believe You sent Me."

43 After He said this, He shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

44 The dead man came out bound hand and foot with linen strips and with his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him and let him go."

11:17-27 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. How long had Lazarus been dead? Why is the number of days important?
2. What does Jesus call Himself in this passage? Why does He call Himself this?

DEBATE QUESTION:

3. In verses 21-27, does Martha show great faith in Jesus, or a lack of understanding of the power of Jesus? What do you think and why?
4. Did Martha believe she would see her brother again? Why or why not?

11:28-44 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

5. Why did Jesus weep in verse 35?
6. Jesus says to roll the stone away in verse 39. What is the response of Martha? Does this response change your answer to question 3 in the 11:17-27 section?
7. Why did Jesus perform this miracle? What is the Old Testament symbolism?

45 Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary and saw 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 convened the Sanhedrin and said, "What are we going to do since this man does many signs?"

48 If we let Him continue in this way, everybody will believe in Him! Then the Romans will come and remove both our place and our nation."

49 One of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all!

50 You're not considering that it is to your advantage that one man should die for the people rather than the whole nation perish."

51 He did not say this on his own, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus was going to die for the nation,

52 and not for the nation only, but also to unite the scattered children of God.

53 So from that day on they plotted to kill Him.

54 Therefore Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews but departed from there to the countryside near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim. And He stayed there with the disciples.

55 The Jewish Passover was near, and many went up to Jerusalem from the country to purify themselves before the Passover.

56 They were looking for Jesus and asking one another as they stood in the temple complex: "What do you think? He won't come to the festival, will He?"

57 The chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where He was, he should report it so they could arrest Him.

John 12

1 Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany where Lazarus was, the one Jesus had raised from the dead.

2 So they gave a dinner for Him there; Martha was serving them, and Lazarus was one of those reclining at the table with Him.

3 Then Mary took a pound of fragrant oil—pure and expensive nard—anoined Jesus' feet, and wiped His feet with her hair. So the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

4 Then one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot (who was about to betray Him), said,

5 "Why wasn't this fragrant oil sold for 300 denarii and given to the poor?"

6 He didn't say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief. He was in charge of the money-bag and would steal part of what was put in it.

7 Jesus answered, "Leave her alone; she has kept it for the day of My burial.

8 For you always have the poor with you, but you do not always have Me."

9 Then a large crowd of the Jews learned He was there. They came not only because of Jesus, but also to see Lazarus the one He had raised from the dead.

11:45-57 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Why are the chief priests and Pharisees concerned about Jesus performing many signs?
2. Look at Caiaphas' answer in verses 49-53. What is he saying? Does he understand the mission and purpose of Jesus or not? Explain.
3. Notice verses 51-52. How would the prophecy be fulfilled that the dispersed children of God would gather into one?
4. Why couldn't Jesus walk about openly anymore?

12:1-11 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Why does Mary anoint Jesus' feet? Has Mary understood something that the rest of the disciples have missed?
2. Why does Judas say in verse 5 that the fragrant oil should have been sold and the money given to the poor?

10 Therefore the chief priests decided to also kill Lazarus,
 11 because he was the reason many of the Jews were deserting them and believing in Jesus.
 12 The next day, when the large crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,
 13 they took palm branches and went out to meet Him. They kept shouting: "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!"
 14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written:
 15 Fear no more, Daughter Zion; look! your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt.
 16 His disciples did not understand these things at first. However, when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.
 17 Meanwhile the crowd, which had been with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify.
 18 This is also why the crowd met Him, because they heard He had done this sign.
 19 Then the Pharisees said to one another, "You see? You've accomplished nothing. Look—the world has gone after Him!"
 20 Now some Greeks were among those who went up to worship at the festival.
 21 So they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and requested of him, "Sir, we want to see Jesus."
 22 Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.
 23 Jesus replied to them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.
 24 "I assure you: Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains by itself. But if it dies, it produces a large crop.
 25 The one who loves his life will lose it, and the one who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
 26 If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me. Where I am, there My servant also will be. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

DEBATE QUESTION:

3. Notice verse 6. The text says that Judas was a thief. How could a thief be one of the apostles?

4. Why did the Jews plot to kill Lazarus along with Jesus?

12:12-26 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

5. How does Jesus come into Jerusalem? What is Jesus riding on? How is this different from the way an earthly king would usually ride into a city?

6. What is the Old Testament symbolism in verses 13-15?

7. Looking at verse 23, Jesus says that "the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." Is Jesus speaking of His triumphal entry that just occurred or something that would happen in the future? Explain your answer.

8. Looking at verses 23-26, explain what points Jesus is trying to get across?

27 "Now My soul is troubled. What should I say— Father, save Me from this hour? But that is why I came to this hour.

28 Father, glorify Your name!" Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again!"

29 The crowd standing there heard it and said it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to Him!"

30 Jesus responded, "This voice came, not for Me, but for you.

31 Now is the judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be cast out.

32 As for Me, if I am lifted up from the earth I will draw all |people| to Myself."

33 He said this to signify what kind of death He was about to die.

34 Then the crowd replied to Him, "We have heard from the law that the Messiah will remain forever. So how can You say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this Son of Man?"

35 Jesus answered, "The light will be with you only a little longer. Walk while you have the light so that darkness doesn't overtake you. The one who walks in darkness doesn't know where he's going.

36 While you have the light, believe in the light so that you may become sons of light." Jesus said this, then went away and hid from them.

37 Even though He had performed so many signs in their presence, they did not believe in Him.

38 But this was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet, who said: Lord, who has believed our message? And who has the arm of the Lord been revealed to?

39 This is why they were unable to believe, because Isaiah also said:

40 He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, so that they would not see with their eyes or understand with their hearts, and be converted, and I would heal them.

41 Isaiah said these things because he saw His glory and spoke about Him.

42 Nevertheless, many did believe in Him even among the rulers, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, so they would not be banned from the synagogue.

43 For they loved praise from men more than praise from God.

44 Then Jesus cried out, "The one who believes in Me believes not in Me, but in Him who sent Me.

45 And the one who sees Me sees Him who sent Me.

46 I have come as a light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me would not remain in darkness.

47 If anyone hears My words and doesn't keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.

48 The one who rejects Me and doesn't accept My sayings has this as his judge: the word I have

12:27-36 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Notice that God speaks from heaven in verse 28. What is the reaction of the people? Would that have been your reaction?
2. Explain verse 31. What does Jesus mean?
3. Look at verse 32. How would Jesus draw all people to Him by being crucified?
4. What does Jesus call Himself in this passage?

12:37-50 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Verse 37 says that Jesus performed many signs in their presence. Why do you think the people would not believe in Him?

DEBATE QUESTION:

2. Notice verses 39-40. The text says that they could not believe because the Lord blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts. Does this mean that God kept these people from believing? Why or why not?
3. What reasons are given why the people would not confess Jesus in verses 42-43?

spoken will judge him on the last day.

John 12:49 For I have not spoken on My own, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me a command as to what I should say and what I should speak.

John 12:50 I know that His command is eternal life. So the things that I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

John 13

1 Before the Passover Festival, Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart from this world to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

2 Now by the time of supper, the Devil had already put it into the heart of Judas, Simon Iscariot’s son, to betray Him.

3 Jesus knew that the Father had given everything into His hands, that He had come from God, and that He was going back to God.

4 So He got up from supper, laid aside His robe, took a towel, and tied it around Himself.

5 Next, He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples’ feet and to dry them with the towel tied around Him.

6 He came to Simon Peter, who asked Him, “Lord, are You going to wash my feet?”

7 Jesus answered him, “What I’m doing you don’t understand now, but afterwards you will know.”

8 “You will never wash my feet—ever!” Peter said. Jesus replied, “If I don’t wash you, you have no part with Me.”

9 Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, not only my feet, but also my hands and my head.”

10 “One who has bathed,” Jesus told him, “doesn’t need to wash anything except his feet, but he is completely clean. You are clean, but not all of you.”

11 For He knew who would betray Him. This is why He said, “You are not all clean.”

12 When Jesus had washed their feet and put on His robe, He reclined again and said to them, “Do you know what I have done for you?”

13 You call Me Teacher and Lord. This is well said, for I am.

14 So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.

15 For I have given you an example that you also should do just as I have done for you.

16 “I assure you: A slave is not greater than his master, and a messenger is not greater than the one who sent him.

17 If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

18 I’m not speaking about all of you; I know those I have chosen. But the Scripture must be fulfilled: The one who eats My bread has raised his heel against Me.

19 “I am telling you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe that I am [He].

20 I assure you: The one who receives whomever I send receives Me, and the one who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.”

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

4. Notice verse 43. Whose glory were the people more interested in receiving? How can you apply this to your life?

5. Notice verses 44-50. What are the consequences of not believing in Jesus and rejecting Him?

6. Notice verses 44-50. Write down all the ways Jesus claims to be the Son of God.

13:1-20 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Notice verse 1, “Having loved his own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.” What does this mean? What is your reaction to this verse?

REVEALING FACT:

It was a custom of that time that the slaves would wash the feet of the guests before a meal.

2. What was Jesus teaching by washing the disciples’ feet?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

3. Based on your answer of question 2, how do you apply what Jesus is teaching to your life?

21 When Jesus had said this, He was troubled in His spirit and testified, "I assure you: One of you will betray Me!"

22 The disciples started looking at one another—uncertain which one He was speaking about.

23 One of His disciples, the one Jesus loved, was reclining close beside Jesus.

24 Simon Peter motioned to him to find out who it was He was talking about.

25 So he leaned back against Jesus and asked Him, "Lord, who is it?"

26 Jesus replied, "He's the one I give the piece of bread to after I have dipped it." When He had dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas, Simon Iscariot's son.

27 After Judas ate the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Therefore Jesus told him, "What you're doing, do quickly."

28 None of those reclining at the table knew why He told him this.

29 Since Judas kept the money-bag, some thought that Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the festival," or that he should give something to the poor.

30 After receiving the piece of bread, he went out immediately. And it was night.

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man is glorified, and God is glorified in Him.

32 If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself and will glorify Him at once.

33 "Children, I am with you a little while longer. You will look for Me, and just as I told the Jews, 'Where I am going you cannot come,' so now I tell you.

34 "I give you a new commandment: love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must also love one another.

35 By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

36 "Lord," Simon Peter said to Him, "where are You going?" Jesus answered, "Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you will follow later."

37 "Lord," Peter asked, "why can't I follow You now? I will lay down my life for You!"

38 Jesus replied, "Will you lay down your life for Me? I assure you: A rooster will not crow until you have denied Me three times.

13:21-30 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Which disciple is the "one whom Jesus loved?"

REVEALING FACT:

The act of giving dipped bread was a custom of the East. Performing this act was a sign of friendship.

2. Notice verses 26-27. Explain why you think Jesus dipped bread and gave it to Judas. Why is this important?
3. Notice verse 27. What do you think is meant by the phrase, "Satan entered into him?"

13:31-38 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

4. In verse 31 Jesus calls Himself the Son of Man. What is Jesus saying about Himself by calling Himself the Son of Man and not the Son of God? Why?
5. Explain what Jesus is saying in verses 31 and 32.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

6. Notice verse 34. Jesus gives a commandment to his disciples that just as He loved us, we are to love each other. How much love did Jesus show for us? Then how are you to love and treat others?

John 14

1 "Your heart must not be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in Me.

2 In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if not, I would have told you. I am going away to prepare a place for you.

3 If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come back and receive you to Myself, so that where I am you may be also.

4 You know the way where I am going."

5 "Lord," Thomas said, "we don't know where You're going. How can we know the way?"

6 Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

7 "If you know Me, you will also know My Father. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him."

8 "Lord," said Philip, "show us the Father, and that's enough for us."

9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been among you all this time without your knowing Me, Philip? The one who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

10 Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words I speak to you I do not speak on My own. The Father who lives in Me does His works.

11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me. Otherwise, believe because of the works themselves.

12 "I assure you: The one who believes in Me will also do the works that I do. And he will do even greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.

13 Whatever you ask in My name, I will do it so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

DEBATE QUESTIONS:

4. Jesus says that He gives a new commandment to love others just as He loved us. The Old Testament law required you to love your neighbor as yourself.

a. Are these two commandments different or not? Explain your answer.

b. Is Jesus giving a "new" commandment, the same commandment, or an extension of the old commandment? Explain your answer.

5. How will people know if you are a disciple of Jesus?

6. Jesus says to Peter, "Where I am going, you cannot follow me now; but you will follow afterward." Notice Peter's response in verse 37. Do you think Peter understands that Jesus is speaking about death? Why or why not?

14:1-14 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. What is Jesus' response in verse 6? Why does Jesus call Himself these things?

2. Notice verse 8. What is Philip asking of Jesus? What answer does Jesus give to Philip's question?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

3. Notice verses 13 and 14. What do these verses mean to you? Does it give you confidence in prayer? Do these verses give you incentive to pray more?

15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.
 16 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever.
 17 He is the Spirit of truth. The world is unable to receive Him because it doesn't see Him or know Him. But you do know Him, because He remains with you and will be in you.
 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you.
 19 "In a little while the world will see Me no longer, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live too.
 20 In that day you will know that I am in My Father, you are in Me, and I am in you.
 21 The one who has My commands and keeps them is the one who loves Me. And the one who loves Me will be loved by My Father. I also will love him and will reveal Myself to him."
 22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, how is it You're going to reveal Yourself to us and not to the world?"
 23 Jesus answered, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.
 24 The one who doesn't love Me will not keep My words. The word that you hear is not Mine but is from the Father who sent Me.
 25 "I have spoken these things to you while I remain with you.
 26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit—the Father will send Him in My name—will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you.
 27 "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Your heart must not be troubled or fearful.
 28 You have heard Me tell you, 'I am going away and I am coming to you.' If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I.
 29 I have told you now before it happens so that when it does happen you may believe.
 30 I will not talk with you much longer, because the ruler of the world is coming. He has no power over Me.
 31 On the contrary, [I am going away] so that the world may know that I love the Father. Just as the Father commanded Me, so I do. "Get up; let's leave this place.

14:15-31 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

1. Notice verses 15 and 24. If we love Jesus, what will we do? Can I say I believe in God and love Jesus, but be disobedient?
2. Who will the Father give to the disciples in verse 16? Who is this?
3. Notice in verses 19-20 Jesus says, "In that day." What day is He speaking of? How do you know?
4. Judas asks in verse 22 how Jesus would reveal Himself to them but not to the world. What is Jesus' answer? Explain what His answer means?
5. What was the purpose of the Counselor for the apostles?
6. Who is "the ruler of this world" that Jesus is referring to in verse 30?

John 15

1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vineyard keeper.

2 Every branch in Me that does not produce fruit He removes, and He prunes every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit.

3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.

4 Remain in Me, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in Me.

5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without Me.

6 If anyone does not remain in Me, he is thrown aside like a branch and he withers. They gather them, throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

7 If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you.

8 My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be My disciples.

9 "As the Father has loved me, I have also loved you. Remain in My love.

10 If you keep My commands you will remain in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commands and remain in His love.

11 "I have spoken these things to you so that My joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

12 This is My command: love one another as I have loved you.

13 No one has greater love than this, that someone would lay down his life for his friends.

14 You are My friends if you do what I command you.

15 I do not call you slaves anymore, because a slave doesn't know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have heard from My Father.

16 You did not choose Me, but I chose you. I appointed you that you should go out and produce fruit and that your fruit should remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He will give you.

17 This is what I command you: love one another.

15:1-11 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. What does Jesus call Himself in this passage? Why? What is the Old Testament symbolism?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

2. How do we bear fruit? What happens if we do not bear fruit?

3. Noticing verse 8, how is the Father glorified? What does this mean?

15:12-17 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

4. What does Jesus say is the greatest love you can show to someone?

5. Why does Jesus call His disciples friends and not servants? Are not the disciples His servants?

18 "If the world hates you, understand that it hated Me before it hated you.

19 If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own. However, because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of it, the world hates you.

20 Remember the word I spoke to you: 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will also keep yours.

21 But they will do all these things to you on account of My name, because they don't know the One who sent Me.

22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin. Now they have no excuse for their sin.

23 The one who hates Me also hates My Father.

24 If I had not done the works among them that no one else has done, they would not have sin. Now they have seen and hated both Me and My Father.

25 But [this happened] so that the statement written in their law might be fulfilled: They hated Me for no reason.

26 "When the Counselor comes, the One I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father—He will testify about Me.

27 You also will testify, because you have been with Me from the beginning.

John 16

1 "I have told you these things to keep you from stumbling.

2 They will ban you from the synagogues. In fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering service to God.

3 They will do these things because they haven't known the Father or Me.

4 But I have told you these things so that when their time comes you may remember I told them to you. I didn't tell you these things from the beginning, because I was with you.

5 "But now I am going away to Him who sent Me, and not one of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?'

6 Yet, because I have spoken these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.

7 Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth. It is for your benefit that I go away, because if I don't go away the Counselor will not come to you. If I go, I will send Him to you.

8 When He comes, He will convict the world about sin, righteousness, and judgment:

9 about sin, because they do not believe in Me;

10 about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will no longer see Me;

11 and about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

12 "I still have many things to tell you, but you can't bear them now.

13 When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth. For He will not speak on His own, but He will speak whatever He hears. He will also declare to you what is to come.

15:18-27 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. If we belong to the world, what will the world do?
2. Did the world love or hate Jesus? How can we then expect the world to treat us if we are living like Jesus?
3. Explain verses 22-24. What does Jesus mean?
4. Who is the Counselor? What will the Counselor do?

16:1-33 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

5. What is Jesus warning His disciples about and why? (vs. 1-4)
6. Verse 2 says that those who kill the disciples think that they are worshiping God by doing so. Does this show that just because we think we are worshiping God that we really may not be? Explain.

14 He will glorify Me, because He will take from what is Mine and declare it to you.

15 Everything the Father has is Mine. This is why I told you that He takes from what is Mine and will declare it to you.

16 "A little while and you will no longer see Me; again a little while and you will see Me."

17 Therefore some of His disciples said to one another, "What is this He tells us: 'A little while and you will not see Me; again a little while and you will see Me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?"

18 They said, "What is this He is saying, 'A little while'? We don't know what He's talking about!"

19 Jesus knew they wanted to question Him, so He said to them, "Are you asking one another about what I said, 'A little while and you will not see Me; again a little while and you will see Me'?"

20 "I assure you: You will weep and wail, but the world will rejoice. You will become sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn to joy.

21 When a woman is in labor she has pain because her time has come. But when she has given birth to a child, she no longer remembers the suffering because of the joy that a person has been born into the world.

22 So you also have sorrow now. But I will see you again. Your hearts will rejoice, and no one will rob you of your joy.

23 In that day you will not ask Me anything. "I assure you: Anything you ask the Father in My name, He will give you.

24 Until now you have asked for nothing in My name. Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be complete.

25 "I have spoken these things to you in figures of speech. A time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but I will tell you plainly about the Father.

26 In that day you will ask in My name. I am not telling you that I will make requests to the Father on your behalf.

27 For the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came from God.

28 I came from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I am leaving the world and going to the Father."

29 "Ah!" His disciples said. "Now You're speaking plainly and not using any figurative language.

30 Now we know that You know everything and don't need anyone to question You. By this we believe that You came from God."

31 Jesus responded to them, "Do you now believe?"

32 Look: An hour is coming, and has come, when each of you will be scattered to his own home, and you will leave Me alone. Yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.

33 I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. You will have suffering in this world. Be courageous! I have conquered the world."

POINT OF INTEREST:

Notice verse 2 again. Jesus says, "In fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you...." Jesus does not say, "when those that try to kill you." Jesus is telling His disciples up front that they will die for being believers and teachers of Him. Yet we know these men continued to teach Jesus (which is seen in the book of Acts of the Apostles).

GUT CHECK:

7. Can we honestly say that we would stand up and preach Jesus even if it meant we would certainly die?
8. Notice verse 8. Explain how the Counselor would convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. What does this mean?
9. Looking at verse 12, why couldn't the disciples bear the many things that Jesus still had to say?
10. Notice verse 16, and verses 20-22. What events is Jesus referring to?
11. Looking at verses 29-31, we see the disciples saying that they now believe. But they had already confessed to believing in Jesus earlier in this book. Also, if the disciples had not believed, they would not be still following Jesus. Obviously the disciples believed in Jesus before now. What Jesus and the disciples are speaking of is the strength of their belief. Notice verse 32. How strong were the disciples belief in Jesus?

John 17

1 Jesus spoke these things, looked up to heaven, and said: Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son so that the Son may glorify You,

2 for You gave Him authority over all flesh; so He may give eternal life to all You have given Him.

3 This is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and the One You have sent—Jesus Christ.

4 I have glorified You on the earth by completing the work You gave Me to do.

5 Now, Father, glorify Me in Your presence with that glory I had with You before the world existed.

6 I have revealed Your name to the men You gave Me from the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word.

7 Now they know that all things You have given to Me are from You,

8 because the words that You gave Me, I have given them. They have received them and have known for certain that I came from You. They have believed that You sent Me.

9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world but for those You have given Me, because they are Yours.

10 All My things are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I have been glorified in them.

11 I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, protect them by Your name that You have given Me, so that they may be one as We are one.

12 While I was with them, I was protecting them by Your name that You have given Me. I guarded them and not one of them is lost, except the son of destruction, so that the Scripture may be fulfilled.

13 Now I am coming to You, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have My joy completed in them.

14 I have given them Your word. The world hated them because they are not of the world, as I am not of the world.

15 I am not praying that You take them out of the world but that You protect them from the evil one.

16 They are not of the world, as I am not of the world.

17 Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth.

18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

19 I sanctify Myself for them, so they also may be sanctified by the truth.

20 I pray not only for these, but also for those who believe in Me through their message.

21 May they all be one, as You, Father, are in Me and I am in You. May they also be one in Us, so the world may believe You sent Me.

22 I have given them the glory You have given Me. May they be one as We are one.

23 I am in them and You are in Me. May they be made completely one, so the world may know You have sent Me and have loved them as You have loved Me.

24 Father, I desire those You have given Me to be with Me where I am. Then they will see My glory, which You have given Me because You loved Me before the world's foundation.

25 Righteous Father! The world has not known You. However, I have known You, and these have known that You sent Me.

26 I made Your name known to them and will make it known, so the love You have loved Me with may be in them and I may be in them.

17:1-19 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Notice verse 1. How would the Father glorify the Son? How would the Son glorify the Father?
2. What is eternal life, according to these verses?
3. Explain the powerful statement made by Jesus in verses 4 and 5?
4. Who are the "those whom you gave me"?
5. On behalf of these people Jesus is praying for, what desires does Jesus express to the Father?

17:20-26 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

6. Who is Jesus speaking of in verse 20?
7. What two things to Jesus desire in this part of His prayer?
8. Looking at your answer in question two, why do you think Jesus prays for these things?

John 18

1 After Jesus had said these things, He went out with His disciples across the Kidron Valley, where there was a garden, and He and His disciples went into it.

2 Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with His disciples.

3 So Judas took a company of soldiers and some temple police from the chief priests and the Pharisees and came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.

4 Then Jesus, knowing everything that was about to happen to Him, went out and said to them, "Who is it you're looking for?"

5 "Jesus the Nazarene," they answered. "I am He," Jesus told them. Judas, who betrayed Him, was also standing with them.

6 When He told them, "I am He," they stepped back and fell to the ground.

7 Then He asked them again, "Who is it you're looking for?" "Jesus the Nazarene," they said.

8 "I told you I am [He]," Jesus replied. "So if you're looking for Me, let these men go."

9 This was to fulfill the words He had said: "I have not lost one of those You have given Me."

10 Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. (The slave's name was Malchus.)

11 At that, Jesus said to Peter, "Sheathe your sword! Am I not to drink the cup the Father has given Me?"

12 Then the company of soldiers, the commander, and the Jewish temple police arrested Jesus and tied Him up.

13 First they led Him to Annas, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year.

14 Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it was advantageous that one man should die for the people.

15 Meanwhile Simon Peter was following Jesus, as was another disciple. That disciple was an acquaintance of the high priest; so he went with Jesus into the high priest's courtyard.

16 But Peter remained standing outside by the door. So the other disciple, the one known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the girl who was the doorkeeper and brought Peter in.

17 Then the slave girl who was the doorkeeper said to Peter, "You aren't one of this man's disciples too, are you?" "I am not!" he said.

18 Now the slaves and the temple police had made a charcoal fire, because it was cold. They were standing there warming themselves, and Peter was standing with them, warming himself.

18:1-18 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Noticing the text, did Jesus and the disciples go to the garden to hide from Judas and the officials?
2. Notice in verse 6 the reaction of the authorities to Jesus' statement that He is Jesus of Nazareth. Why do you think the authorities suddenly stepped back and fell to the ground?
3. Why do you think Simon Peter draws his sword and strikes the slave's ear? Do you think Peter was aiming for the ear, or was he aiming for something else? Explain your answer.
4. Notice verse 11. Why is Jesus not going to fight against these authorities?
5. Notice how many people it took to arrest and bind Jesus. Did they need that many to arrest Jesus? Why or why not?
6. We are given unique information in verse 15. Do we know who this other disciple was who was following Jesus?

19 The high priest questioned Jesus about His disciples and about His teaching.

20 "I have spoken openly to the world," Jesus answered him. "I have always taught in the synagogue and in the temple complex, where all the Jews congregate, and I haven't spoken anything in secret.

21 Why do you question Me? Question those who heard what I told them. Look, they know what I said."

22 When He had said these things, one of the temple police standing by slapped Jesus, saying, "Is this the way you answer the high priest?"

23 "If I have spoken wrongly," Jesus answered him, "give evidence about the wrong; but if rightly, why do you hit Me?"

24 Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

25 Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. They said to him, "You aren't one of His disciples too, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not!"

26 One of the high priest's slaves, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, said, "Didn't I see you with Him in the garden?"

27 Peter then denied it again. Immediately a rooster crowed.

28 Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to the governor's headquarters. It was early morning. They did not enter the headquarters themselves; otherwise they would be defiled and unable to eat the Passover.

29 Then Pilate came out to them and said, "What charge do you bring against this man?"

30 They answered him, "If this man weren't a criminal, we wouldn't have handed Him over to you."

31 So Pilate told them, "Take Him yourselves and judge Him according to your law." "It's not legal for us to put anyone to death," the Jews declared.

32 They said this so that Jesus' words might be fulfilled signifying what sort of death He was going to die.

33 Then Pilate went back into the headquarters, summoned Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?"

34 Jesus answered, "Are you asking this on your own, or have others told you about Me?"

35 "I'm not a Jew, am I?" Pilate replied. "Your own nation and the chief priests handed You over to me. What have You done?"

36 "My kingdom is not of this world," said Jesus. "If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I wouldn't be handed over to the Jews. As it is, My kingdom does not have its origin here."

37 "You are a king then?" Pilate asked. "You say that I'm a king," Jesus replied. "I was born for this, and I have come into the world for this: to testify to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice."

38 "What is truth?" said Pilate. After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no grounds for charging Him.

39 You have a custom that I release one [prisoner] to you at the Passover. So, do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?"

18:19-40 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. The high priest questions Jesus in verse 19 about His teachings. Explain Jesus' response in verses 20-21.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

2. What important lessons do you learn from Peter's denials of Jesus?
3. Notice the time of day stated in verse 28. Taking this into account and Pilate's responses in verses 29 and 31, what mood do you think Pilate, a Roman governor, has as all these Jews come to him with Jesus? Why do you think what you think?
4. Why couldn't the Jews put Jesus to death?
5. Notice Jesus' answer to Pilate in verse 34. Explain Jesus' answer to Pilate's question.
6. Notice the exchange between Pilate and Jesus in verse 35-37. What is Pilate trying to determine? What is Jesus' responses? Explain what Jesus is saying to Pilate.

40 They shouted back, "Not this man, but Barabbas!"
Now Barabbas was a revolutionary.

John 19

1 Then Pilate took Jesus and had Him flogged.
2 The soldiers also twisted together a crown of thorns, put it on His head, and threw a purple robe around Him.
3 And they repeatedly came up to Him and said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and were slapping His face.
4 Pilate went outside again and said to them, "Look, I'm bringing Him outside to you to let you know I find no grounds for charging Him."
5 Then Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!"
6 When the chief priests and the temple police saw Him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!" Pilate responded, "Take Him and crucify Him yourselves, for I find no grounds for charging Him."
7 "We have a law," the Jews replied to him, "and according to that law He must die, because He made Himself the Son of God."
8 When Pilate heard this statement, he was more afraid than ever.
9 He went back into the headquarters and asked Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus did not give him an answer.
10 So Pilate said to Him, "You're not talking to me? Don't You know that I have the authority to release You and the authority to crucify You?"
11 "You would have no authority over Me at all," Jesus answered him, "if it hadn't been given you from above. This is why the one who handed Me over to you has the greater sin."
12 From that moment Pilate made every effort to release Him. But the Jews shouted, "If you release this man, you are not Caesar's friend. Anyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar!"
13 When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside. He sat down on the judge's bench in a place called the Stone Pavement (but in Hebrew Gabbatha).

7. Notice Pilate's question, "What is truth?" in verse 38. Jesus has told Pilate that His kingdom is of truth. Do you think that Pilate is simply mocking Jesus by asking this question, or do you think that Pilate legitimately wants to know what truth is, since Jesus' kingdom consists of truth? Explain your answer.
8. Does Pilate find Jesus guilty or innocent of the crimes the Jews had brought against Jesus?
9. Why do you think that the Jews would rather release a murderer and bandit than release Jesus?

PREPARATION FOR STUDY:

As you read this chapter, recognize the gravity of the situation and condition Jesus is in. There are only hours left in Jesus' life and Pilate will sentence Jesus to death, releasing Barabbas the murderer instead. The scene is set for Jesus, the Son of God to be glorified. Picture this scene, with all its emotion.

19:1-13 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

REVEALING FACT:

After the verdict of crucifixion had been pronounced by the court, it was customary to tie the accused to a post at the tribunal. The criminal was stripped of his clothes, then severely whipped by the scourgers. The whip, known as a flagrum, had a sturdy handle to which were attached long leather thongs of varying lengths. Sharp jagged pieces of bone and lead were woven into them. The Jews were limited by their law to 40 lashes. The Romans had no such limitations. Out of disgust or anger, the Romans could totally ignore the Jewish limitation, and probably did so in the case of Jesus. Dr. C. Truman Davis, a medical doctor who has meticulously studied crucifixion from a medical perspective, describes the effects of the Roman flagrum used in whipping: "The heavy whip is brought down with full force again and again across a person's shoulders, back and legs. At first the heavy thongs cut through the skin only. Then, as the blows continue, they cut deeper into the subcutaneous tissues, producing first an oozing of blood from the capillaries

and veins of the skin, and finally spurting arterial bleeding from vessels in the underlying muscles. The small balls of lead first produce large, deep bruises which are broken open by subsequent blows. Finally the skin of the back is hanging in long ribbons and the entire area is an unrecognizable mass of torn, bleeding tissue. When it is determined by the centurion in charge that the prisoner is near death, the beating is finally stopped."

--Josh McDowell, The Resurrection Factor

*Thus let us all take note that when chapter 19, verse 1 reads that Jesus was flogged, it was a very severe and traumatic occurrence that happened to the Son of God.

1. Notice verse 6. Why doesn't Pilate want to crucify Jesus?
2. Notice the testimony of the people in verse 7. What do they willingly admit that Jesus claimed to be?
3. The people in verse 7 say that Jesus violated law. What law were the people saying Jesus violated? Did Jesus violate this law or not? Why or why not? (Read Deuteronomy 17:12-18 as reference for this question.)
4. Pilate had the power to release or crucify Jesus, as he states in verse 10. What is Jesus' response to Pilate in verse 11? What does this mean?
5. Pilate continues to try to release Jesus in verse 12. What is the response of the people to Pilate trying to releasing Jesus? What is ironic about this response?

14 It was the preparation day for the Passover, and it was about six in the morning. Then he told the Jews, "Here is your king!"

15 But they shouted, "Take Him away! Take Him away! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Should I crucify your king?" "We have no king but Caesar!" the chief priests answered.

16 So then, because of them, he handed Him over to be crucified. Therefore they took Jesus away.

17 Carrying His own cross, He went out to what is called Skull Place, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha.

18 There they crucified Him and two others with Him, one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.

19 Pilate also had a sign lettered and put on the cross. The inscription was:

JESUS THE NAZARENE
THE KING OF THE JEWS

20 Many of the Jews read this sign, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek.

21 So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Don't write, 'The King of the Jews,' but that He said, 'I am the King of the Jews.'"

19:14-30 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

22 Pilate replied, "What I have written, I have written."

23 When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took His clothes and divided them into four parts, a part for each soldier. They also took the tunic, which was seamless, woven in one piece from the top.

24 So they said to one another, "Let's not tear it, but toss for it, to see who gets it." [They did this] to fulfill the Scripture that says: They divided My clothes among themselves, and they cast lots for My clothing. And this is what the soldiers did.

25 Standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

26 When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple He loved standing there, He said to His mother, "Woman, here is your son."

27 Then He said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

28 After this, when Jesus knew that everything was now accomplished that the Scripture might be fulfilled, He said, "I'm thirsty!"

29 A jar full of sour wine was sitting there; so they fixed a sponge full of sour wine on hyssop and held it up to His mouth.

30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" Then bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

1. **RESEARCH:** What day was the day of Preparation? (vs. 14)

2. Pilate had a choice. He could have done what was right and just and released Jesus or he could listen to the people and crucify Jesus. Why did Pilate listen to the people instead of doing what is right?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

3. How does the choice Pilate had to make apply to the decisions you have to make? How? Which will you choose: what is right or what people want you to do?

REVEALING FACT in verse 17:

A man condemned to be crucified had to carry his own crossbar from prison to the place of his execution. Dr. Pierre Barbet's research shows that the crossbar was a piece of wood in the form of an inverted V on which the shaft of the two-wheeled carts was rested when they were in the stables. When a slave was to be punished, the crossbar was placed across the nape of the neck, his hands were bound to the crossbar, and he was marched through the neighborhood, while he was made to proclaim his offense.

Dr. Barbet points out that since a crossbar was not always obtainable, they began to use a long piece of wood, which was used for barring doors and was called the patibulum. This crossbar weighed approximately 110 pounds and was strapped to the victim's shoulders.

-- Josh McDowell, *The Resurrection Factor*

*Thus there is more involved in verse 17 which says that Jesus carried his cross.

4. Why did the people not want the inscription to read, "The King of the Jews?" Why do you think Pilate was not going to change what he had written?

5. Explain the statement in verse 30, "It is finished." What was finished? What does Jesus mean?

31 Since it was the preparation day, the Jews did not want the bodies to remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a special day). They requested that Pilate have the men's legs broken and that [their bodies] be taken away.

32 So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man and of the other one who had been crucified with Him.

33 When they came to Jesus, they did not break His legs since they saw that He was already dead.

34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.

35 He who saw this has testified so that you also may believe. His testimony is true, and he knows he is telling the truth.

36 For these things happened so that the Scripture would be fulfilled: Not one of His bones will be broken.

37 Also, another Scripture says: They will look at the One they pierced.

38 After this, Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus—but secretly because of his fear of the Jews—asked Pilate that he might remove Jesus' body. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and took His body away.

39 Nicodemus (who had previously come to Him at night) also came, bringing a mixture of about 75 pounds of myrrh and aloes.

40 Then they took Jesus' body and wrapped it in linen cloths with the aromatic spices, according to the burial custom of the Jews.

41 There was a garden in the place where He was crucified. A new tomb was in the garden; no one had yet been placed in it.

42 They place Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation and since the tomb was nearby.

19:31-42 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

REVEALING FACT in verse 31:

Why did the Jews not want the body left on the cross overnight? The Jews were very strict about not allowing the body to remain all night upon the cross. "If he is left hanging overnight, a negative command is thereby transgressed. For it is written, his body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt surely bury him the same day for he is hanged because of a curse against God -- as if to say why was he hanged? -- Because he cursed the name of God, and so the name of heaven is profaned."

-- from the Jewish laws

Josh McDowell, The Resurrection Factor

1. Why did the soldiers pierce the side of Jesus?
2. What came out of Jesus' body when His side was pierced?

REVEALING FACT in verse 34:

Explaining what it means for water and blood to come out of the body: Davis relates that there was an escape of watery fluid from the sac surrounding the heart. We, therefore, have rather conclusive post-mortem evidence that Christ died, not the usual crucifixion death by suffocation, but of heart failure due to shock and constriction of the heart by fluid in the pericardium.

3. Did the soldiers break Jesus' legs? Why or why not?
4. Did the soldiers break the legs of the others who were being crucified? Why or why not?
5. Why was Joseph of Arimathea a secret disciple?
6. Who is Nicodemus? Where do we remember him from?

7. Jesus was buried with how many pounds of spices?

REVEALING FACT in verse 39:

In speaking about the burial clothing: No individual could be buried in fewer than three separate garments. A separate piece was wrapped around the head. An estimate of the weight of the encasement is between 117 and 120 pounds. Plus, John Chrysostom, in the fourth century A.D., commented that the myrrh used was a drug which adheres so closely to the body that the graveclothes could not easily be removed.

8. Why is the weight of the spices and the burial clothing important?

9. Notice in verse 41 that John says that Jesus' tomb was a "new tomb." Why is this important?

THUS SCRIPTURE IS FULFILLED:

10. Go back through this chapter and write down below all the verses that say that an action was done in order to fulfill the scripture.

11. Why do you think John writes down the phrase "to fulfill the scripture" so many times in this chapter?

12. Who does John show Jesus to be by showing that Jesus was fulfilling scripture?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

13. What does Jesus death mean to you?

John 20

1 On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark. She saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.

2 So she ran to Simon Peter and to the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put Him!"

3 At that, Peter and the other disciple went out, heading for the tomb.

4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and got to the tomb first.

5 Stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying there, yet he did not go in.

6 Then, following him, Simon Peter came also. He entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there.

7 The wrapping that had been on His head was not lying with the linen cloths but was folded up in a separate place by itself.

8 The other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, then entered the tomb, saw, and believed.

9 For they still did not understand the Scripture that He must rise from the dead.

10 Then the disciples went home again.

11 But Mary stood outside facing the tomb, crying. As she was crying, she stooped to look into the tomb.

12 She saw two angels in white sitting there, one at the head and one at the feet, where Jesus' body had been lying.

13 They said to her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "Because they've taken away my Lord," she told them, "and I don't know where they've put Him."

14 Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, though she did not know it was Jesus.

15 "Woman," Jesus said to her, "why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?" Supposing He was the gardener, she replied, "Sir, if you've removed Him, tell me where you've put Him, and I will take Him away."

16 Jesus said, "Mary." Turning around, she said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!"—which means "Teacher."

17 "Don't cling to Me," Jesus told her, "for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to My brothers and tell them that I am ascending to My Father and your Father—to My God and your God."

18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them what He had said to her.

PREPARATION FOR STUDY:

Jesus had clearly instructed His disciples earlier about His forthcoming death and resurrection, but they did not understand the meaning then, and may not have remember those words now. Understanding would come of believing, and believing would come through signs. John 20 records for us some of the signs which restored the disciples of Jesus to a personal and new relationship to Him as the risen Lord.

20:1-18 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. What is Mary's reaction from the stone being removed from the tomb?
2. **WORD STUDY:** The word "removed" in verse 1 is the Greek word "airo" which literally means "to lift up; to raise from the ground." What did the angel really do when the stone was moved? Could men have done this?
3. What does Mary think happened to the body in verse 2? Why is this important?
4. Does the text say that the linen wrappings were unwound? Could Jesus have simply unwrapped himself from over 100 pounds of wrappings and spices if He really had not died?

POINT OF INTEREST:

The word "rolled up" in verse 7 does not mean that the wrapping was unwound. Instead, A.T. Robertson points out, this phrase means that the wrappings it were "arranged in an orderly fashion. There was no haste."

5. Notice in verse 8 the phrase, "he saw and believed." If the wrappings were all thrown about the tomb and unraveled, would Peter have believed that Jesus had risen, or would Peter have believed that someone stole the body?
6. Verse 17 is literally "stop clinging to me." Explain the scene. Why did Jesus want Mary to let go of Him?

19 In the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were [gathered together] with the doors locked because of their fear of the Jews. Then Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!"

20 Having said this, He showed them His hands and His side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

22 After saying this, He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain [the sins of] any, they are retained."

24 But one of the Twelve, Thomas (called "Twin"), was not with them when Jesus came.

25 So the other disciples kept telling him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "If I don't see the mark of the nails in His hands, put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will never believe!"

26 After eight days His disciples were indoors again, and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace to you!"

27 Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and observe My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Don't be an unbeliever, but a believer."

28 Thomas responded to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

29 Jesus said, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed. Those who believe without seeing are blessed."

30 Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of His disciples that are not written in this book.

31 But these are written so that you may believe Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and by believing you may have life in His name.

20:19-31 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Notice verse 19. Why were the disciples afraid of the Jews? Explain.

2. What is the reaction of the disciples to seeing Jesus?

DEBATE QUESTION:

3. Did Jesus' disciples receive the Holy Spirit in verses 22-23? If yes, then explain the occurrence in Acts 2:4. If not, then explain what Jesus means in verses 22-23. What exactly happened here to the disciples?

4. Consider what Thomas says in verse 25 along with what the disciples see in verse 20. In verse 20 the disciples see Jesus's pierced hands and side. Did Thomas doubt in the risen Jesus more than the disciples did, based on these verses? Based upon this answer, do you think Thomas really deserves the title "doubting Thomas?"

5. What is the purpose of this book?

John 21

1 After this, Jesus revealed Himself again to His disciples by the Sea of Tiberias. He revealed Himself in this way:

2 Simon Peter, Thomas (called "Twin"), Nathanael from Cana of Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two others of His disciples were together.

3 "I'm going fishing," Simon Peter said to them. "We're coming with you," they told him. They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

4 When daybreak came, Jesus stood on the shore. However, the disciples did not know it was Jesus.

5 "Men," Jesus called to them, "you don't have any fish, do you?" "No," they answered.

6 "Cast the net on the right side of the boat," He told them, "and you'll find some." So they did, and they were unable to haul it in because of the large number of fish.

7 Therefore the disciple, the one Jesus loved, said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he tied his outer garment around him (for he was stripped) and plunged into the sea.

8 But since they were not far from land (about 100 yards away), the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish.

9 When they got out on land, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish lying on it, and bread.

10 "Bring some of the fish you've just caught," Jesus told them.

11 So Simon Peter got up and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish—153 of them. Even though there were so many, the net was not torn.

12 "Come and have breakfast," Jesus told them. None of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?" because they knew it was the Lord.

13 Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them. He did the same with the fish.

14 This was now the third time Jesus appeared to the disciples after He was raised from the dead.

15 When they had eaten breakfast, Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said to Him, "You know that I love You." "Feed My lambs," He told him.

16 A second time He asked him, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" "Yes, Lord," he said to Him, "You know that I love You." "Shepherd My sheep," He told him.

17 He asked him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved that He asked him the third time, "Do you love Me?" He said, "Lord, You know everything! You know that I love You." "Feed My sheep," Jesus said.

18 "I assure you: When you were young, you would tie your belt and walk wherever you wanted. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will tie you and carry you where you don't want to go."

19 He said this to signify by what kind of death he would glorify God. After saying this, He told him, "Follow Me!"

21:7-14 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

POINT OF INTEREST in verse 7:

Notice here that Peter had taken off his outer garment (tunic) because he was working. It was quite common for men while doing heavy work to remove the tunic. Thus, the man doing heavy work had only a loincloth left on. The loincloth was a short skirt that would extend from the waist to the knee. This is apparently what Peter is wearing while he is working in this verse.

1. Why does John record this event? What is John trying to prove? (Hint: you need to be aware of the key teachings of Gnosticism)

21:15-19 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

THE DEFINITIONS:

Referring to verses 15-17, the words used for love are agape and phileo. Agape means a self-sacrificing love, while phileo means affectionate, kindly, heartfelt, befriending. In verses 15 and 16, Jesus asks if Peter "agape" Him. Peter answers that he "phileo" Jesus. But in verse 17, Jesus asks if Peter "phileo" Him. Peter answers that he "phileo" Jesus.

3. Why do you think that Peter answers that he "phileo" Jesus instead of "agape?"
4. Why do you think in verse 17 that Jesus switches from asking Peter if he "agape" Him to if Peter "phileo" Him?
5. What does Jesus mean, "Feed My sheep?"

20 So Peter turned around and saw the disciple Jesus loved following them. [That disciple] was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and asked, "Lord, who is the one that's going to betray You?"

21 When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord—what about him?"

22 "If I want him to remain until I come," Jesus answered, "what is that to you? As for you, follow Me."

23 So this report spread to the brothers that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not tell him that he would not die, but, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?"

24 This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true.

25 And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which, if they were written one by one, I suppose not even the world itself could contain the books that would be written.

21:20-25 In the space below, write down any questions or interesting points you have.

1. Explain Jesus' answer in verse 22.
2. What rumor was spread about Jesus' answer?
3. Did Jesus actually say that John would not die?

THE END OF THE TESTIMONY AND THE TRIAL:

1. Who, in verse 24, is "testifying to these things?"
2. Is the testimony truthful, or is the testimony something you cannot trust?

The trial is completed and all the testimony has been given. All the evidence has been brought out. The things recorded have been declared to be accurate and true. Jesus has been found to be the Son of God. Now you are on trial and must answer a couple questions:

3. Do you believe, from the evidence and testimonies given, that Jesus is the Son of God? Why or why not?
4. If you do believe, then you must do what Jesus has commanded. Will you answer His calling? Will you do what He says, no matter what?