

"that
you
might
believe"

Notes on the Gospel of John

By George Little

Introduction

I first taught this study at the Glendale Church of Christ in 2009 to a wonderful group of adults who truly thirsted after God's, even though many of them had studied His word for decades.

The gospel of John is a special account of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It does not include all of what Jesus did. It does not include all of what other writers included. This gospel was written with the unbeliever in mind.

John dedicates it to those unbelievers when he says,

*“Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written **that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**”*
John 20:30, 31, NIV.

That is why this study has the title it does. John was just writing history. He was writing a testimony of what he had witnessed and what had caused him to believe in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God.

We can learn so much from this gospel, but one of the things I want to emphasize here is that John based faith in Christ emphatically on the miracles of Jesus. He doesn't downplay them. In fact, he does the exact opposite. He puts them out there in stark details for all to see. He does this because these actions of Jesus are the basis for believing that he is more than a prophet or teacher. He is the Son of God and you would expect the Son of God to be able to perform miracles.

Nicodemus puts it this way when he speaks to Jesus.

“He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no-one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.”” *John 3:2, NIV.*

These notes are intended to help you get at the message in the book. It is the message in the text that is the most important thing. God has a message for you and me and it has been waiting there for 2,000 years for you and I to discover.

God bless you as you thirst after God's word.

George Little – December, 2009

that you might believe (1)

A Practical Study of the Gospel of John

Text: John 1:1-18

"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 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. 6 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognise him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God-- 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, 'This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'" 16 From the fulness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No-one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known."
John 1:1-18

In the beginning

Of what? – of everything in this world at the creation of all things.

Jesus was there and He was active.

*"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 For **by him** all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and **for him**. 17 He is **before** all things, and in him all things **hold together**." Colossians 1:15-17.*

*"Then God said, "Let **us** make man in our image, in **our** likeness..." Genesis 1:26a*

John just states the truth about Jesus. He will let the life and actions of Jesus prove that what he says about Jesus is true. See John 20:30-31

The Word

Logos = Word - a means of communication

Word = Jesus –

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

He not only brings the message (the word), He is the message.

“ Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6

Jesus and God

He was with God - amazing but understandable.

He was God – amazing and incomprehensible. How can you be with someone and be someone at the same time. In a Newtonian world, it is impossible but in God’s world all things are possible.

He created it all – I can figure out there is God but I couldn’t have come up with this. God reveals this truth to us. There is no evidence, except the testimony of God, that proves the creative power of Jesus.

*“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider **equality with God** something to be grasped, 7 but **made himself nothing**, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became **obedient to death--even death on a cross!**” Philippians 2:5-8*

The Beginning of Jesus on Earth

“4 In him was life, and that life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.”

Jesus is the source of Life. Remember John 14:6. The giving of this life was at the core of his purpose on earth. *“... I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” John 10:10*

The light rejected. This is the common theme of the life of Jesus. The rejection of Jesus is one of the biggest paradoxes of all time but be understood because darkness doesn’t understand light. See :9 & :10

*“10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. 11 He is “the stone you builders **rejected**, which has become the capstone.’ 12 Salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”” Acts 4:10-12*

*“4 As you come to him, the living Stone--**rejected by men** but chosen by God and precious to him--” 1 Peter 2:4*

The common theme of the followers of Jesus

“All men will hate you because of me.” Luke 21:17

How do you feel about that? _____

John the Baptist

“6 There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.”

John had one task – Bear witness to Jesus, the Light.

The Hebrews, Jesus’ people, do not receive Jesus

“11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God-- 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.”

This is one of the greatest ironies of God’s dealing with humans. The very people through whom He would enter into this world in physical form, do not receive Him. Reminds me of *Romans 10:19-21* “Again I ask: Did Israel not understand? First, Moses says, “I will make you envious by those who are not a nation; I will make you angry by a nation that has no understanding.” 20 And Isaiah boldly says, “I was found by those who did not seek me; I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me.” 21 But concerning Israel he says, “All day long I have held out my hands to a disobedient and obstinate people.””

There is a lesson here. Our relationship with God is often **not** helped by a spiritual environment.

Some Jews did receive Jesus and subsequently became children of God, but the percentage was so small that it was described as a remnant. See *Romans 9:27, 11:5*

Being a child of God is not a matter of natural human heritage :13. it was a matter of a supernatural God heritage.

God Became Like Us and Made His Home with Us.

“14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

Flesh – In the time of the early church there was an idea that Jesus couldn’t be flesh because flesh is evil. So, they reasoned, that He only looked like flesh. He was an apparition, a 3d hologram. This belief became a key belief of the Gnostics in the second century. This Jesus is flesh and bone.

Dwelling – to make a home. Jesus didn’t just come to visit us. He came to live with us. This is the same word used for “tabernacle” in the OT, which represented God’s dwelling with His people.

His glory – Whatever “glory” is, they had seen it. They were eyewitnesses. See I John 1:1-4. What had they seen? The cross and the resurrection. God’s glory now was not an ark nor a cloud that glowed, it was a person, Jesus.

One and Only – Unique. God came to dwell among us in one person alone. He is unique. Not just one of a long list. Same phrase is used of God in :18

From the Father – The family relationship refers to its intensity not heritage or generation.

Full of grace and truth – Grace is not just a doctrine. Jesus was full of it and it was a heart full of mercy. Jesus is the embodiment of grace. His life and actions shout grace.

Truth – used 25 times in this gospel. Jesus is filled up with truth. His life and actions will revealed that which is real and dependable

Source of Grace and Truth

- **Not John the Baptist** – He points to Jesus

“15 John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’” 16 From the fulness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. ”

- **Not the Law of Moses** – It pointed to Jesus

“17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. “

See Galatians 3;24-25

- **Jesus** – He makes God known to us. He reveals the invisible in a visible form and this visible form is full of grace and truth.

“18 No-one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known.” John 1:18

Homework: Keep reading John chapters one and two. Send me your questions via email or phone during the week.

that you might believe (2)

The Gathering of the Apostles

John 1:37-51 “37 When the **two disciples** heard him say this, they followed Jesus. 38 Turning round, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?” They said, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” 39 “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and spent that day with him. It was about the tenth hour. 40 **Andrew, Simon Peter’s** brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You will be called **Cephas**” (which, when translated, is Peter). 43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding **Philip**, he said to him, “Follow me.” 44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 45 Philip found **Nathanael** and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote--Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 “Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked. “Come and see,” said Philip. 47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is nothing false.” 48 “How do you know me?” Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig-tree before Philip called you.” 49 Then Nathanael declared, “**Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.**” 50 Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig-tree. You shall see greater things than that.” 51 He then added, “I tell you the truth, you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.””

Paths of people -

Jesus ----- Andrew ----- Simon Peter (Cephas)

----- Philip ----- Nathanael

See notes of the viral spread of the gospel.

Nazareth – Can anything good come from there? Not highly thought of by Nathanael for some reason. People often associate a place’s reputation with what God can do with the people from there. God always surprises us.

Come and see – This is Philip’s response. We need to invite people to come and see Jesus. He is so influential and persuasive that once people start to listen to Him, faith begins.

Who is Jesus? – for Nathanael he was a teacher (rabbi) who was also God’s son (therefore divine) and the King of Israel (therefore the fulfillment of prophecies concerning a coming king).

The Wedding Feast At Cana

John 2:1-11 “1 On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus’ mother was there, 2 and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine was gone, Jesus’ mother said to him, “They have no more wine.” 4 “Dear woman, why do you involve me?” Jesus replied. “My time has not yet come.” 5 His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” 6 Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water”; so they filled them to the brim. 8 Then he told them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet.” They did so, 9 and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realise where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside 10 and said, “Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but

you have saved the best till now.” 11 This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed at Cana in Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.”

Jesus, His mother, and His disciples are invited and go to the wedding.

What does this tell you about Jesus? _____

Wine – It was naturally fermented wine and had alcohol content. Otherwise :10 makes little sense.

Often this story is used to make a point about drinking alcohol or Jesus acceptance of marriage but that is not the point of the story.

Mary – Why does she confront Jesus with the wine problem? :3 _____

In the English it sounds like Jesus is being disrespectful to Mary but this language is common in His time and does not indicate disrespect. See John 19:26, 20:13,15, Matthew 15:28

Jesus response indicates that He thinks that the timing is wrong. Timing for what?

See John 7:3-8,8:20, 12:23

Turning water into wine –

6 water jars –

- foot washing water?
- 20 gallons each usually.

Filled them to the top. No room for additives

Good wine - The master of the banquets judges that this is the best wine. Not just water that tastes like wine.

More of a private miracle for the disciples (:11)

He revealed His glory to the disciples is this display of supernatural power :11. Remember John 1:14 and 1 John 1:1-4. It had the desired effect. They “put their faith in him”. In John 1 they are **followers** and in John 2 they become confirmed **believers**.

This word here for miracle *semeion* means a sign. There is another one, *dunamis*, that is sometimes used that refers to an act of power. John commonly calls these miracles signs because he is trying to show what they say about Jesus ie. what they signify about Him. See :23

When Peter first preached Jesus he put it this way. Acts 2:22 “Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by **miracles** [*dunamis*], **wonders** [*teras*] and **signs** [*semeion*], which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know.”

Jesus Clears the Temple Courts

John 2:12-25 “12 After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and brothers and his disciples. There they stayed for a few days. 13 When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. 15 So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. 16 To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father’s house into a market!” 17 His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.” 18 Then the Jews demanded of him, “What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?” 19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” 20 The Jews replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. 22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken. 23 Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many people saw the miraculous signs he was doing and believed in his name. 24 But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all men. 25 He did not need man’s testimony about man, for he knew what was in a man.”

Mother, brothers and disciples – Jesus did have brothers. Mary’s “immaculateness” has been greatly exaggerated.

Jewish Passover – Special holy day (usually March or April on our calendar) that celebrates God’s deliverance of the Jewish nation by God from Egyptian bondage (see Exodus 12). Celebrates the exodus from Egypt to the promised land.

John mentions 3 Passovers – 2:13, 6:4, 11:55

Merchants in the temple courts - :14. Selling of animals to be used as sacrifice. Saved having to bring them with you. The money changers assisted people who were also paying their half-shekel temple tax. It had to be paid with a special coin that didn’t have pagan images (as the Roman coins had).

Jesus overturns the tables.

Jesus’ objection is not to the commerce.

It is that it is being done in a holy place. :16

When Jesus authority is questioned He answers cryptically with a reference to His resurrection :18-22

NOTE: Jesus does a similar temple cleansing towards the end of His ministry. See Matthew 21:12-13, Mark 11:15-17, Luke 19:45-46

HOMEWORK: Read John 3 each day.

that you might believe (3)

Entering the Kingdom

John 3:1-8 "1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. 2 He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no-one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him." 3 In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no-one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." 4 "How can a man be born when he is old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb to be born!" 5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no-one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.'"

Nicodemus –

A Pharisee – Jewish sect with a strong emphasis on legalism. He is a part of the ruling elite. He is "Israel's teacher" :10

A member of Sanhedrin, the Jewish ruling council. They were very antagonistic towards Jesus but not so with Nicodemus.

Mentioned twice more by John in John 7:50; 19:39 where he is referred to as sympathetic to Jesus.

Came by night – Maybe a fearful believer in Jesus like Joseph of Arimathea - John 19:38-39

Faith based on the signs :2 – Continuing the theme of John. "We know", says Nicodemus.

Jesus raises the subject of the Kingdom of God in response to Nicodemus inquiries

The kingdom of God, or of heaven is mentioned 99 times different times in the records of His teachings.

It does not refer to an earthly kingdom but to a spiritual rule of God. The Hebrews had a clear expectation (based somewhat on prophecies) of a future kingdom on earth that would be limited to faithful Jews and ruled by King David.

Jesus is going to correct their flawed view. The kingdom is not an institution. Jesus is not interested in building another one of those.

Seeing the kingdom - Can't even see it with being "born again" or "born from above"

Nicodemus' reaction shows he can't even understand how to get into the Kingdom of God let alone see it.

To him the words of Jesus speak of a physical rebirth :4. That's impossible is his conclusion

Jesus further explains the kingdom.

Entrance into God's kingdom is for those who have been born of water and the Spirit

Birth has two necessary parts as does spiritual rebirth. A conception and a birth event.

- Holy Spirit – 1 Peter 1:23.
- Baptism – Acts 2:38. Physical birth was the way you entered the kingdom of Israel but to enter the Kingdom of God you go through a spiritual birth symbolized in baptism.

It has to be this way for the Kingdom of God to be a spiritual kingdom :6-:8

Jesus further explains the Kingdom of God

John 3:9-21 “9 “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. 10 “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? 11 I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. 12 I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? 13 No-one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven--the Son of Man.

14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. 16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God.””

Jesus challenges Nicodemus (and us) :9-13

Jesus rebukes him about his lack of understanding of something pretty basic.

Jesus challenges him to believe the testimony of Jesus and His disciples :11

You haven’t even believed the things I have spoken to you are earthly matters. Your problem is not knowledge or intelligence. Your problem is faith. :12

You want to go to heaven. You need to believe in one who has been there :13

John explains

In the original language of the NT, Koine Greek, there are is no punctuation, just all capitals and no spaces. So even though the keeps the quotation marks going past :13, it is evident that :14 is the beginning of an explanation by John of the way Jesus effects the world.

Son of man lifted up :14-:15

Like the snake lifted up by Moses. Numbers 21:7-9. Become the symbol of the medical doctor profession.

Result: Healing, ie. eternal life.

Son of God given :16

Past tense (*he gave*) indicates this is written from a perspective after the cross.

Result: Negative: No perishing. Positive: eternal life.

Jesus wasn’t sent to condemn the world :17-:21

Jesus was sent to save. His message is a positive.

Condemnation comes from a person’s personal decision to not believe in Jesus :18

Just because light disperses darkness doesn’t mean that light is the problem :19-21

The Question of the Position of John the Baptist

John 3:22-36 "22 After this, Jesus and his disciples went out into the Judean countryside, where he spent some time with them, and baptised. 23 Now John also was baptising at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were constantly coming to be baptised. 24 (This was before John was put in prison.) 25 An argument developed between some of John's disciples and a certain Jew over the matter of ceremonial washing. 26 They came to John and said to him, "Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan--the one you testified about--well, he is baptising, and everyone is going to him." 27 To this John replied, "A man can receive only what is given him from heaven. 28 You yourselves can testify that I said, 'I am not the Christ but am sent ahead of him.' 29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. 30 He must become greater; I must become less. 31 "The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all. 32 He testifies to what he has seen and heard, but no-one accepts his testimony. 33 The man who has accepted it has certified that God is truthful. 34 For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit. 35 The Father loves the Son and has placed everything in his hands. 36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him.""

Many Rejected Jesus (or Hadn't Heard of Him) and Followed John

Acts 19:1-6 – Ephesus. See also Acts 18:24-28

Several communities continued well into the 4th century that rejected Jesus and followed only John the Baptist.

John the Baptist's own testimony settles this question :27-:36

Homework: Read John 4 each day.

that you might believe (4)

Worship Wars

*“4 Now he had to go through Samaria. 5 So he came to a **town in Samaria** called **Sychar**, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 **Jacob’s well** was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. 7 When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Will you give me a drink?” 8 (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, “You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?” (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” 11 “Sir,” the woman said, “you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?” 13 Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” 15 The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water so that I won’t get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water.” 16 He told her, “Go, call your husband and come back.” 17 “I have no husband,” she replied. Jesus said to her, “You are right when you say you have no husband. 18 The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true.” 19 “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.” 21 Jesus declared, “Believe me, woman, a time 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, for salvation is from the Jews. 23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will **worship the Father in spirit and truth**, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshippers **must worship in spirit and in truth**.” 25 The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.” 26 Then Jesus declared, “I who speak to you am he.”” John 4:4-26*

Geographical details :5-6– just another example of how the Bible is not a fairy tale set in a vague far away land of make believe. Every details is an opportunity for it to be discredited yet it survives. Sychar is Shechem which has which has a notable well nearby that is visited by many pilgrims today.

Who are the Samaritans? They remnants of the northern kingdom of Israel mixed with Persians and other conquered peoples of Assyrians. They continued in monotheism but rejected the writings of the Prophets in the OT (including the history books of 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings and 1 & 2 Chronicles) as well as Psalms, Proverbs etc. So their scriptures were limited to the Pentateuch (Genesis – Deuteronomy). Their worship focused on a temple on Mount Gerizim which Judea destroyed in 128 BC. By Jesus’ day there was massive tension between the people of Judea and Samaria.

Jesus engages the Samaritan woman in conversation.

- He asks her for a drink :8
- She responds by questioning why Jesus would associate with her :9
- Jesus offers her a drink of living water :10
- She questions his ability to do this by comparing him with Jacob :11-12
- Jesus offers her water that is eternal life :13-14

- She doesn't understand the spiritual gift Jesus offers but she is certainly interested in eternal water :15
- Jesus changes the subject and calls for her husband :16 and she says she has no husband
- Jesus reveals that he knows the intimate details of her life. 5 husbands and she is not married to the man she lives with now :17-18
- She begins to see that Jesus must be from God but raises the old "place of worship" chestnut, one of the key religious difference between the Jews and Samaritans :19-20

Jesus does respond to the worship question in two ways

1. He says it is irrelevant because a time is coming when the presence of a physical temple or sacred mountain will not be needed. :21 He is foreshadowing the New Testament time when the people of God will become the temple. The salvation he speaks of here is the salvation offered by the coming messiah which is prophetically linked to Judea.
2. Challenges the Samaritan's understanding of God's will :22. He says that they really don't know what they are doing when it comes to God.

True worshippers – a lot has been said about :23-24 when it comes to discussions about worship. The question we need to ask is, "What did Jesus mean by worship in spirit and truth?". Here are some thoughts.

1. Jesus indicates that this "worship in spirit and truth" has not yet come. :23. This does not mean the worship in the Old Testament wasn't valid or godly. It was a result of the revealed will of God. Yet somehow the worship God will ask for in the New Testament time will be different because it will be "in spirit and truth".
2. This rules out the interpretation that a lot of people put on the "in truth" part ie. according to truth. The Jews were worshiping according to the truth.
3. Jesus links "worship in spirit and truth" with God's nature of spirit. He is saying that because God is spirit we "must" worship Him in "spirit and truth". The spirit is then God's Spirit.
4. God's Spirit is called the "Spirit of truth" in John 14:17, 15:26. The Holy Spirit reveals God's truth to us as well as provides the fellowship with God by which we can worship Him ie. His presence in our very bodies which become the temple of God. See 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19-20,
5. Consider "*17 He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have **access to the Father by one Spirit.** 19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow-citizens with God's people and members of God's household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In him the whole building is joined together and rises to **become a holy temple in the Lord.** 22 And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*" Ephesians 2:17-22

The Messiah has come :25-26

She tries to deflect his explanation by saying that the messiah is coming and he will explain everything.

Jesus says that he is already here.

Many Believe

"27 Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no-one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" 28 Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, 29 "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Christ?" 30 They came out of the town and made their way towards him. 31 Meanwhile his disciples urged him, "Rabbi, eat something." 32 But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about." 33 Then his disciples said to each other, "Could someone have brought him food?" 34 "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. 35 Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. 36 Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. 37 Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. 38 I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor." 39 Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did." 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. 41 And because of his words many more became believers. 42 They said to the woman, "We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world." John 4:27-42

The Disciples Aren't Getting It.

Surprised Jesus is speaking to a woman – It's a cultural thing but haven't they got the idea that Jesus is her for everyone? Well, no!

They don't speak to Him about it. Why not?

They seem more interested in Jesus eating than anything else :31

Jesus teaches them what the real food is :32-38

The Samaritan Woman is Pointing People to Jesus

All she asks for people to do is to COME AND SEE :29 – She doesn't know the message of Jesus and hasn't fully concluded who He is but she has met Jesus and she thinks others should also. Most Christians today should see in her behavior a pattern to follow.

Many Samaritans believe based on her testimony :39

These same Samaritans get to know Jesus more and their faith grows based on Jesus' testimony :42

This is what John is Trying to Share with Us. How do people come to faith in Christ?

Points we learn from this story to answer this question.

1. It can start with an apparently irrelevant conversation – Seriously, this whole event began with a discussion about a drink of water.
2. Often the journey of a person becoming a disciple of Jesus begins in a totally different context and through the work of others. Here there were seeds laid by Moses through the Samaritans respect for his writings. Seeds were sowed by the Samaritan woman.
3. Often unbelievers or very weak believers can play significant role. Remember Andrew who brought Peter to Jesus.
4. Potential Christians come from all sorts of backgrounds. Often the strongest opponents become the most faithful disciples. Remember Paul.

that you might believe (5)

Extraordinary Healing

"1 Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for a feast of the Jews. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. 3 Here a great number of disabled people used to lie--the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. 4 5 One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?" 7 "Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no-one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me." 8 Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." 9 At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath, 10 and so the Jews said to the man who had been healed, "It is the Sabbath; the law forbids you to carry your mat." 11 But he replied, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'" 12 So they asked him, "Who is this fellow who told you to pick it up and walk?" 13 The man who was healed had no idea who it was, for Jesus had slipped away into the crowd that was there. 14 Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, "See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you." 15 The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. 16 So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jews persecuted him." John 5:1-16

- Invalided for 38 years :5 – unable to walk :8-9
- This pool was thought to have healing qualities but you had to get to the waters while they were stirring before you could be healed.
- Question by Jesus: Do you want to get well? :6
- Healing was instantaneous :9 – "Pick up your mat and walk"
- What problem do you think the religious people had with this? :10 _____

*"14 Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue ruler said to the people, **"There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath."** 15 The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? 16 Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?" 17 When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing." Luke 13:14-17*

Note: God's word on the Sabbath did not forbid carrying a mat.

- They discuss it with the healed man :11-12 _____
He had not recognized Jesus. :13
- In their religious zeal what are they ignoring? _____
- How can we do that today? _____

End result :16 – Jesus is persecuted because he heals people on the Sabbath.

Note: Jesus tells the man to “*Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.*” In this case Jesus links his physical ailment with his sin. This does mean that ailments are always the result of sin. See Luke 13:1-5, John 9:3

The Beginning of the End

“16 So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jews persecuted him. 17 Jesus said to them, “My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I, too, am working.” 18 For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.” John 5:16-18

The decision to kill Jesus is based on 2 things

1. He broke the Sabbath by healing on that day
2. He was making Himself equal with God by calling God, Father

The answer of Jesus is to further emphasize his relationship with God as His son 5:19-23

Life and Death

“24 “I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. 25 I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. 27 And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. 28 “Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice 29 and come out--those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. 30 By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.” John 5:24-30

Jesus says that belief (and therefore obedience) to His word leads to eternal life and an escape from condemnation.

Death → Life, that He says is a spiritual experience (:25-27) but He goes further to say that it will be a physical experience one day (:28-29)

As a man alone Jesus cannot do anything :30. We have to pay attention to Him because He can only do these things and know these things because God is at work in Him.

Witnesses of Jesus Being God’s Son

John Testifies of Me

John 5:31-35

My Works Testify of Me

John 5:36-37

God Testifies of Me in Scripture

John 5:38-40 He is referring to prophecies about Jesus

“39 You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me,” John 5:39

Note: Intense study of scripture does not lead automatically to an understanding of the truth. They had a fundamental flaw in their approach to scripture. They also missed the main message of scripture and got caught up in the details that they imposed on the message. The Sabbath is a good example of this.

Jesus Accuses the Religious of Fundamental Problems in Their Lives

*"I do not accept praise from men, 42 but I know you. I know that you **do not have the love of God in your hearts.**" John 5:41, 42*

They are not motivated by love for God. The love of what motivated them?

"I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; but if someone else comes in his own name, you will accept him." John 5:43

They accept others who do not even claim the name of God and will not accept Jesus

"How can you believe if you accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain the praise that comes from the only God?" John 5:44

They sought approval from the peers more than they sought God's approval

"45 "But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set. 46 If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. 47 But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?" John 5:45-47

They will not even believe Moses. He spoke of Jesus (Deuteronomy 18:15, See also John 1:45, Acts 3:22-23) and they will not believe him. He, therefore, accuses them, not Jesus.

Homework: Read John 6 each day. Write down questions and observations

that you might believe (6)

A BIG Miracle

*"1 Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (**that is**, the Sea of Tiberias), 2 and a great crowd of people followed him **because they saw the miraculous signs** he had performed on the sick. 3 Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. 4 The Jewish Passover Feast was near. 5 When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming towards him, **he said to Philip**, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" 6 He **asked this only to test him**, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. 7 Philip answered him, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" 8 Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, 9 "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" 10 Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about five thousand of them. 11 Jesus then took the loaves, **gave thanks**, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. 12 When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. **Let nothing be wasted.**" 13 So they gathered them and **filled twelve baskets** with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. 14 **After** the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the **Prophet** who is to come into the world."'" John 6:1-14*

Testing Phillip :5-7 – The test was for Phillip's benefit not Jesus'. Jesus knows the hearts of people. He wanted Phillip to grow in his faith. He failed.

On any scale this is a huge miracle – feeding 5,000 (:10) people with 5 loaves and 2 fishes.

No waste - :12

12 baskets of bread leftover

The Result: Many conclude Jesus is **The Prophet** :14

The one predicted by Moses in Deuteronomy 18:15.

See John 5:46

An EXTRAORDINARY Miracle

*"15 Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and **make him king by force**, withdrew again to a mountain by himself. 16 When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, 17 where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now it was dark, and Jesus had not yet joined them. 18 A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough. 19 When they had rowed three or three and a half miles, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were terrified. 20 But he said to them, "It is I; don't be afraid." 21 Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading. 22 The next day the crowd that had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone. 23 Then some boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. 24 Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus." John 6:15-24*

Jesus avoids the nationalistic aspirations of many Jews :15

Not all Jews sought to kill Jesus (5:16-18)

Jesus goes off on His own to a mountain :15 and the disciples head for Capernaum by boat :16-18

Jesus joins them on the lake – Walking on water :19

Jesus calms their terror - :20. This miracle is just for them.

The crowd keeps looking for Jesus :22-24

Jesus, The Bread of Life

The Meal Ticket

“22 The next day the crowd that had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone. 23 Then some boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. 24 Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus. 25 When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, ‘Rabbi, when did you get here?’ 26 Jesus answered, ‘I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. 27 Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.’” John 6:22-27

- Jesus accuses this group of seekers with NOT responding to the miracles. :26
- Jesus says that they were just looking for a free feed :26
- Food is a primary need of life but there is a great food than your next meal, spiritual food.

“For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Mt 6:32,33.

“Jesus answered, ‘It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” Mt 4:4.

- Jesus promises to give them such spiritual food.

God’s Approval

“Then they asked him, ‘What must we do to do the works God requires?’ Jesus answered, ‘The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.’ So they asked him, ‘What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?’ ‘Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” John 6:28-31.

- Jesus had just talked of God’s approval. They ask about what they need to do get God’s approval? And then have the audacity to talk about food again!
- Jesus answer is they believe in the one God has sent, Himself.
- It seems amazing that they next ask for a miraculous sign so they can believe in Him. Wasn’t the feeding of 5,000 people with a boy’s lunch a good enough one?

The Real Bread from God

“Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’ ‘Sir,’ they said, ‘from now on give us this bread.’ Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.’” John 6:32-35.

- Moses didn’t feed them. God did :32
- Real food is the one God sent, Me
- Jesus promises to fully satisfy all those who believe in Him

People Don't Believe

"36 But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. 38 For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. 39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. 40 For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day." 41 At this the Jews began to grumble about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." 42 They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?" 43 "Stop grumbling among yourselves," Jesus answered. 44 "No-one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. 45 It is written in the Prophets: 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me. 46 No-one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. 47 I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life." John 6:36-47.

- Even though God did everything to bring people to faith, many didn't believe :36

"37 Even after Jesus had done all these miraculous signs in their presence, they still would not believe in him." Joh 12:37.

"24 If I had not done among them what no-one else did, they would not be guilty of sin. But now they have seen these miracles, and yet they have hated both me and my Father." Joh 15:24.

They couldn't reconcile Jesus' humanity with His claims of divinity :42

- God draws people to Himself through Jesus, who He sent
- Jesus will raise up those who are God's in the last day :39, :40, :44

There is a direct connection between the faith in this life and our resurrection in the future.

Digesting Jesus

"48 I am the bread of life. 49 Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died. 50 But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die. 51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." 52 Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" 53 Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. 56 Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains 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. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live for ever." 59 He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum." John 6:48-59.

- Jesus returns to the message of Him being the bread of life :48-49
- Just like with bread, we must eat Jesus for Him to sustain us :51-52

Not the prettiest picture but Jesus is using extreme language to make a point

- The hearers are confused by this language :52
- Jesus repeats the same message of eating His flesh and drinking His blood :53-59

Even though He uses language that would come to be associated with the Lord's Supper, He is not making a point about the Lord's supper.

- Describe in your own words the type of relationship Jesus wants from believers.

Hey, This Is Hard!

*“60 On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a **hard teaching**. Who can accept it?” 61 Aware that his **disciples were grumbling** about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? 62 What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! 63 The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. 64 Yet there are **some of you who do not believe**.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. 65 He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no-one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him.” 66 From this time **many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him**. 67 “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve. 68 Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69 We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.” 70 Then Jesus replied, “Have I not chosen you, the Twelve? Yet one of you is a devil!” 71 (He meant Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, who, though one of the Twelve, was later to betray him.)”
John 6:60-71.*

- Many react negatively to the challenge put to them by Jesus. Why?

- The Twelve don't turn back. Why?

- One will turn back. Who? _____ Glendale

that you might believe (?)

*"1 After this, Jesus went around in Galilee, purposely staying away from Judea because the Jews there were waiting to take his life. 2 But when the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles was near, 3 **Jesus' brothers** said to him, "You ought to leave here and go to Judea, so that your disciples may see the miracles you do. 4 No-one who wants to become a public figure acts in secret. Since you are doing these things, show yourself to the world." 5 For even his own brothers did not believe in him. 6 Therefore Jesus told them, "The right time for me has not yet come; for you any time is right. 7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that what it does is evil. 8 You go to the Feast. I am not yet going up to this Feast, because for me the right time has not yet come." 9 Having said this, he stayed in Galilee. 10 However, after his brothers had left for the Feast, he went also, not publicly, but in secret. 11 Now at the Feast the Jews were watching for him and asking, "Where is that man?" 12 Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, "He is a good man." Others replied, "No, he deceives the people." 13 But no-one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the Jews. 14 Not until halfway through the Feast did Jesus go up to the temple courts and begin to teach. 15 The Jews were amazed and asked, "How did this man get such learning without having studied?" 16 Jesus answered, "My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me. 17 If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. 18 He who speaks on his own does so to gain honor for himself, but he who works for the honor of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him. 19 Has not Moses given you the law? Yet not one of you keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?" 20 "You are demon-possessed," the crowd answered. "Who is trying to kill you?" 21 Jesus said to them, "I did one miracle, and you are all astonished. 22 Yet, because Moses gave you circumcision (though actually it did not come from Moses, but from the patriarchs), you circumcise a child on the Sabbath. 23 Now if a child can be circumcised on the Sabbath so that the law of Moses may not be broken, why are you angry with me for healing the whole man on the Sabbath? 24 Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment.""* John 7:1-24.

The feast of tabernacles –

The third of the three pilgrimage festivals of Judaism after Passover and Pentecost

All Jewish men were required to go to the temple in Jerusalem for these festivals (Exodus 23:14-17, 34:23, Deuteronomy 16:16)

Celebrated the Autumn harvest of tree and vine. Farmers built temporary shelters (booths, tabernacles) in the fields so the crops could be protected.

The imagery of the wondering in the wilderness of Israel for 40 years, light, water

Jesus' brothers – John makes it plain that they did not believe in Jesus as the messiah. They urge Him to make His identity plain and go to Jerusalem

It's all in the timing – See :1 & :6.

People have differing opinions about Jesus - :12

1. He is a good man
2. He is a con artist
3. All kept silent for fear of the militant Jews :13

His teaching amazes people - :15

Jesus says it is amazing because it comes from God

Jesus challenges them with their sin in trying to kill Him :19

Notice the precision of Jesus' teaching concerning circumcision :22

Important principle – DON'T JUDGE BY APPEARANCES ONLY :24

"7 But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.'" 1 Samuel 16:7.

The people struggle with Who Jesus Really Is.

*"25 At that point some of the people of Jerusalem began to ask, 'Isn't this the man they are trying to kill? 26 Here he is, speaking publicly, and **they are not saying a word to him**. Have the authorities really concluded that he is the Christ? 27 But **we know where this man is from**; when the Christ comes, no-one will know where he is from.'" 28 Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, "Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, 29 but I know him because I am from him and he sent me." 30 At this they tried to seize him, but no-one laid a hand on him, because his time had not yet come. 31 Still, **many in the crowd put their faith in him**. They said, "When the Christ comes, will he do more miraculous signs than this man?" 32 The Pharisees heard the crowd whispering such things about him. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees sent temple guards to **arrest him**. 33 Jesus said, "I am with you for only a short time, and then I go 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 The Jews said to one another, "Where does this man intend to go that we cannot find him? Will he go where our people live scattered among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks? 36 What did he mean when he said, 'You will look for me, but you will not find me,' and 'Where I am, you cannot come'?" 37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "**If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink**. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified. 40 On hearing his words, some of the people said, "**Surely this man is the Prophet**." 41 Others said, "He is the Christ." Still others asked, "How can the Christ come from Galilee? 42 Does not the Scripture say that the Christ will come from David's family and from Bethlehem, the town where David lived?" 43 Thus the people were divided because of Jesus. 44 Some wanted to seize him, but no-one laid a hand on him. 45 Finally the temple guards went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why didn't you bring him in?" 46 "**No-one ever spoke the way this man does**," the guards declared. 47 "You mean he has deceived you also?" the Pharisees retorted. 48 "Has any of the rulers or of the Pharisees believed in him? 49 No! But this mob that knows nothing of the law--there is a curse on them." 50 **Nicodemus**, who had gone to Jesus earlier and who was one of their own number, asked, 51 "Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he is doing?" 52 They replied, "Are you from Galilee, too? Look into it, and you will find that a prophet does not come out of Galilee." 53 Then each went to his own home." John 7:25-53.*

- The people notice the lack of aggression towards Jesus by His opponents :25-26
- The people debate "The Christ's" origin :27 – 28
- Many put their faith in Jesus :31 – What else will God do to prove Himself?
- This is the last straw for the Pharisees and they seek His arrest :32
- Jesus offers them living water :37-39
 - This is the Holy Spirit
- His speech continues to move the people and even the temple guards :40-47
- The Pharisees are furious but one of them, Nicodemus, stands up for Jesus (in a way) :48-53

that you might believe (8)

*"1 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. 2 At dawn he appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered round him, and he sat down to teach them. 3 The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a **woman caught in adultery**. They made her stand before the group 4 and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. 5 In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" 6 They were **using this question as a trap**, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. 7 When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw a stone at her." 8 Again he stooped down and **wrote on the ground**. 9 At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. 10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no-one condemned you?" 11 "No-one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and **leave your life of sin.**" John 8:1-11.*

1. Teachers of the law = scribes. Some of the few literate people in this ancient society
2. Pharisees = those skilled in biblical law and who used scribes widely
3. **The law they are trying to enforce** is Deut 22:23-24 where a woman who is sexually unfaithful to her fiancé was to be stoned along with her lover. **Where is the lover?** Conveniently (for him) gone. Smells like a setup.
4. There is no need for the enforcement of the law to be so public. This indicates that they were using her situation as an opportunity to trap Jesus. See :6
5. **Jesus tries to ignore them.** It takes two to have a fight. Interesting tactic. Sometimes it is better to say nothing to an accuser.
6. **Jesus puts the ball back in their court :7.** If there is killing to be done let the sinless one perform it. This shames even the hardhearted.
7. **Interesting to note** that there was a sinless one there, Jesus. And He doesn't begin the execution. Exactly the opposite. He offers her forgiveness. See :10-11
8. This story reminds me so much of 1 John 2:1-2

"My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One." 1 John 2:1

Jesus and the Sons of Abraham

*“31 To the **Jews who had believed him**, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. 32 Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” 33 They answered him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have **never been slaves of anyone**. How can you say that we shall be set free?” 34 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. 35 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but **a son** belongs to it for ever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. 37 I know you are Abraham’s descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because you have no room for my word. 38 I am telling you what I have seen in the Father’s presence, and you do what you have heard from your father.” 39 “Abraham is our father,” they answered. “If you were Abraham’s children,” said Jesus, “then you would do the things Abraham did. 40 As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. 41 You are doing the things your own father does.” “We are not illegitimate children,” they protested. “The only Father we have is God himself.” 42 Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. 43 **Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say.** 44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! 46 Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don’t you believe me? 47 He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.”” John 8:31-47.*

1. Jesus addresses the **Jews who had believed Him**. Yet it appears that they will not accept the deeper things about Jesus. This is the superficial belief that gets excited about having a savior but their belief starts to sour when they realize what it means.
2. **The truth shall set you free.** One of the most oft quoted scriptures. Notice what Jesus says.
 - a. If we hold to his teaching then we really his disciples
 - b. **Then**, we will know the truth. The teachings of Jesus are not the truth He is referring to. They are true but He is referring to a very specific truth that has the ability to free the human soul from its corruption and condemnation
 - c. **The truth** is Jesus. *“Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6*
 - d. **How do we come to know Jesus?** Through entering into a saving relationship with Him.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28
Come to Jesus, not to a doctrine

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”” John 6:51 – You have to get really intimately involved with Jesus. Imagine what it takes for God to say and do this with such unholy people

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.” John 14:1 – Trust in Jesus, not just the idea of Jesus, but Jesus, Himself.
3. **“never been slaves of anyone”** - really. What about Babylon? What about Rome? And all the others. They wouldn’t have said something so obviously false. They are referring to their perceived exalted spiritual position based on God’s choice of them.
4. **Sin makes you a slave :34** – God’s choice of you for a specific task did not excuse your sin. Their sense of entitlement was a false hope.
5. **If you want to part of the family of God** – They have to be allowed in by someone in the family, the son of God. :35-36
6. **Sons of Abraham – Yeah right!**. Jesus confronts these apparent holy ones (in their own estimation) with their obvious unholiness (their intent to kill Him). :37-40
7. **Who’s your father** – Jesus makes it as plain as He can. They are not follow their father, God (or even Abraham). The father they follow is the devil :42-45
8. **Deal with who I am, not what you think I am.** :46-47

that you might believe (9)

*"1 "I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 2 The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. 3 The **watchman** opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his **own sheep by name** and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they **know his voice**. 5 But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." 6 **Jesus used this figure of speech**, but they did not understand what he was telling them. 7 Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; **I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full**. 11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd who **owns the sheep**. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me-- 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father--and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. 17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life-- only to take it up again. 18 No-one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.""*
John 10:1-18

Recognizing Jesus

How do the sheep recognize the shepherd? _____

How should the people recognize Jesus?

1. By His voice :4
2. By His knowledge of them – He calls them by name :3
3. He is perceived as one watching out for them :3

Jesus is the Gate :9

He isn't just someone who points to the gate or guides you through the gate

He is the gate. See also John 14:6

Similar lesson to the one we learned in John 8:32 in the previous session

Jesus is the Gate to the Full Life God Plans for His People :10

Thieves do not give life – they steal kill and destroy

Jesus hasn't come to take something away from us. He has come to give us a full and abundant life.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd :11

He is not some hired hand or temporary intermediary :12-13

He owns the sheep and will die for them :12 & :15

It is His choice to die :18

NOTE: Other sheep :16. Referring to the Gentiles (non Jews) who the gospel will go to soon.

*"22 Then came the Feast of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, 23 and Jesus was in the temple area walking in Solomon's Colonnade. 24 The Jews gathered round him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? **If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.**" 25 Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The **miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me,** 26 but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. 27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no-one can snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no-one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are one." 31 Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, 32 but Jesus said to them, "I have shown you many great **miracles** from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?" 33 "We are not stoning you for any of these," replied the Jews, "but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, **claim to be God.**" 34 Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I have said you are gods'? 35 If he called them 'gods', to whom the word of God came-- and the Scripture cannot be broken-- 36 what about the one whom the Father set apart as his very own and sent into the world? Why then do you accuse me of blasphemy because I said, 'I am God's Son'? 37 Do not believe me unless I do what my Father does. 38 But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, **believe the miracles,** that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father." 39 Again they tried to seize him, but he escaped their grasp. 40 Then Jesus went back across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing in the early days. Here he stayed 41 and many people came to him. They said, "Though John never performed a miraculous sign, all that John said about this man was true." 42 And in that place many believed in Jesus." John 10:22-42*

Who is Jesus? :24

The Jewish people want to Jesus to tell them "plainly"

Jesus says that He has told them in His miracles :25 –

Many today deny that Jesus actually did any miracles (notably the Jesus Seminar). Yet repeatedly the message from Jesus is that these very miracles are what communicate who He really is. Take away the miracles of Jesus and any reference by Him to the miracles and what have you got? A wondering Jewish preacher, no different to so many others and with no divine origin or commission.

But why extract the miracles in the first place. The answer they give is because miracles do not exist. That's circular reasoning. By that reasoning creation is a non starter.

Who are Jesus' sheep? :26-27

There are those who are ready for the message of Jesus. Those who are teachable and open to the truth. But there are also those who are prejudiced or threatened by Jesus. They have a wall that they will not allow Jesus to cross.

I give them eternal life No one can snatch them out of my hand ... My Father ... I and the Father are one. :28-30

You can't get any plainer than that. Jesus claims to be equal to the Father

The Jews seek to stone Him because they recognize He is claiming to be God :33

Jesus' defense is His miracles :32 & :38

Many continue to put their faith in Jesus :42 but by no means a huge number.

that you might believe (10)

The Story of Two Sisters and Jesus

*“1 Now a man named **Lazarus was sick**. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister **Martha**. 2 This **Mary**, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who **poured perfume on the Lord** and wiped his feet with her hair. 3 So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.” 4 When he heard this, Jesus said, “This sickness will **not end in death**. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.” 5 **Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus**. 6 Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days. 7 Then he said to his disciples, “Let us go back to Judea.” 8 **“But Rabbi,”** they said, “a short while ago the Jews tried to stone you, and yet you are going back there?” 9 Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? A man who walks by day will not stumble, for he sees by this world’s light. 10 It is when he walks by night that he stumbles, for he has no light.” 11 After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend Lazarus has **fallen asleep**; but I am going there to wake him up.” 12 His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” 13 Jesus had been **speaking of his death**, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. 14 So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead, 15 and for your sake I am glad I was not there, **so that you may believe**. But let us go to him.” 16 Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, “Let us also go, that we **may die with him**.” 17 On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. 18 Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, 19 and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. 20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. 21 “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “**if you had been here, my brother would not have died**. 22 But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” 23 Jesus said to her, “Your brother will **rise again**.” 24 Martha answered, “I know he will **rise again in the resurrection at the last day**.” 25 Jesus said to her, “**I am the resurrection** and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; 26 and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” 27 “Yes, Lord,” she told him, “I **believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world**.” 28 And after she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” 29 When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31 When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. 32 When **Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”**” John 11:1-32*

1. Lazarus, a friend of Jesus (:5), is sick and will soon die
2. Mary and Martha, also close friends of Jesus, live in Bethany, a town a few miles from Jerusalem, send for Jesus. Why? _____
3. Bethany is currently a Palestinian town called El-Azariyeh which literally means, the place of Lazarus.
4. Jesus predicts that this sickness of Lazarus would not end in death – somehow this will be used to glorify God and His Son :4
5. Jesus deliberately waits for 2 more days before responding to the sister’s plea for help. Why? _____
6. Dealing with disciples :7-13
 - a. They question the wisdom of going to Jerusalem :8

- b. They fail to understand what Jesus says about Lazarus death. :12. Why ask the question. Why not follow quietly and learn along the way.
 - c. What do these questions reveal about the faith of the disciples?
-

7. Martha's faith :21

- a. Faith in Jesus :22 :27
 - b. Faith in the resurrection :23
 - c. Jesus reveals even more about Himself. He IS the resurrection :25. In what way is Jesus the resurrection? _____
-

8. Mary's faith :28 - :32

Jesus is the Resurrection

*"33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was **deeply moved in spirit and troubled**. 34 "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. 35 **Jesus wept**. 36 Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37 But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" 38 Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 39 "Take away the stone," he said. "**But, Lord,**" said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." 40 Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" 41 So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but **I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.**" 43 When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "**Lazarus, come out!**" 44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."" *John 11:33-44**

1. Jesus is **emotionally moved** by their weeping :33 to the point of weeping Himself :35. Why is Jesus weeping? He is mourning with those who mourn. It is hard not to weep when all around you have broken hearts. This is the compassion of Christ. *"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."* Matthew 9:36
 2. His weeping is **mistaken** for mourning the loss of Lazarus :36-37
 3. The faith of Martha still has room to grow :39
 4. Patiently Jesus takes her to the next level of her journey of faith :40
 5. Jesus prays for the benefit of those listening :42
 6. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead by command of His voice :43-44
 7. Power of death is the greatest power in this world. Jesus displays publicly His power over this ultimate of barriers. Some find it hard to believe. However if you believe in the God who created this uerse, then his ability to overcome death is not that hard to believe in.
-
-

Some Believe, Some Don't and Want to Kill Jesus

*"45 Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, **put their faith in him.** 46 But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. 47 Then the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin. "What are we accomplishing?" they asked. "Here is this man performing many miraculous signs. 48 **If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.**" 49 Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, spoke up, "You know nothing at all! 50 You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish." 51 He did not say this on his own, but as high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the Jewish nation, 52 and not only for that nation but also for the scattered children of God, to bring them together and make them one. 53 So from that day on **they plotted to take his life.**" John 11:45-53*

Two Responses to Jesus

1. Faith in Jesus :45
2. Plot to kill Jesus :53 – Caiaphas has a different path to this conclusion but the conclusion is the same; Jesus must die. It is amazing that they could just ignore the miracles. They have been looking for the messiah for ages and yet when He comes to them they seek to kill Him. Why?
3. Reasons the Religious Often Reject God's Will.
 - a. God's will doesn't fit their preconceptions.
 - b. God's will doesn't acknowledge their elite position.
 - c. God's will threatens their power.
 - d. They feel that they are the experts on God and will not listen to anyone else
 - e. _____
 - f. _____

that you might believe (11)

*"1 Six days before the Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. 2 Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. 3 Then **Mary** took about a pint of pure nard, an **expensive perfume**; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. 4 But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, 5 "**Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor?** It was worth a year's wages." 6 He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because **he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag**, he used to help himself to what was put into it. 7 "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. 8 You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me." 9 Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. 10 So the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, 11 for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and putting their faith in him." John 12:1-11*

Mary – John 11:2 – John is not chronological

Judas – Complains about the “waste” of money on the perfume used to anoint Jesus. :5

He was showing off his good sound and compassion financial management

But he was covering for his thievery :6

Financial matters reveal a lot about the true heart of a person

Jesus comes to Mary's defense - :7

Honoring Jesus is **always** a good use of our resources

There is a time priority here :8. The poor have needs but the fact that Jesus is only there for a short time makes Him a higher priority

*"12 The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. 13 They took **palm** branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "**Hosanna!**" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the King of Israel!" 14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it, as it is written, 15 "Do not be afraid, O Daughter of Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." 16 **At first his disciples did not understand all this.** Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that they had done these things to him. 17 Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. 18 Many people, because they had heard that he had given this miraculous sign, went out to meet him. 19 So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!" John 12:12-19*

- The resurrection of Lazarus by Jesus has really captured the hearts of the people :17-18
- Jesus is greeted as king as He enters Jerusalem :12-13
- Soon He will be executed on Jerusalem's garbage dump – Hebrews 13:11-13
- What a surprise, the Pharisees are upset out this :19

*“20 Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Feast. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” 22 Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. 23 Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 I tell you the truth, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. 25 **The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.** 26 Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. 27 “Now **my heart is troubled**, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very **reason** I came to this hour. 28 Father, **glorify** your name!” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” 29 The crowd that was there and heard it said it had **thundered**; others said an **angel** had spoken to him. 30 Jesus said, “This **voice was for your benefit, not mine.** 31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now **the prince of this world** will be driven out. 32 But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.” 33 He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die. 34 The crowd spoke up, “We have heard from the **Law that the Christ will remain for ever**, so how can you say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this ‘Son of Man’?” 35 Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. The man who walks in the dark does not know where he is going. 36 **Put your trust in the light** while you have it, so that you may become sons of light.” When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.” John 12:20-36*

- Jesus becomes preoccupied with his impending death :20-23
 - Life is about deciding about this world and life :24-26
-

- Jesus is troubled :27-28
-

- For your benefit :29-30 – Again God does something publicly for the benefit of the bystanders not the main characters of the story.
 - Prince of this world is about to be defeated :31
-

- Christ will draw people to him in His death :32-33
-

- Did the Law say that the messiah was to remain on Earth forever? :34 – Jesus doesn’t answer the question but this is a good illustration of how prophesy about the future gets confused by people.
-

- Put your trust in the light while it is so visible :35-36

that you might believe (12)

*"1 It was just before the Passover Feast. **Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he now showed them the full extent of his love.** 2 The evening meal was being served, and the devil had already prompted Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus. 3 Jesus knew that the Father **had put all things under his power,** and that he had come from God and was returning to God; 4 so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel round his waist. 5 After that, he poured water into a basin and began to **wash his disciples' feet,** drying them with the towel that was wrapped round him. 6 He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" 7 Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." 8 "No," said Peter, "**you shall never wash my feet.**" Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no part with me." 9 "Then, Lord," Simon Peter replied, "not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!" 10 Jesus answered, "A person who has had a bath needs only to wash his feet; his whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you." 11 For he **knew who was going to betray him,** and that was why he said not every one was clean. 12 When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. **"Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them.** 13 "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord', and rightly so, for that is what I am. 14 Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. 15 **I have set you an example** that you should do as I have done for you. 16 I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. 17 Now that you **know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.**" John 13:1-17*

Big Shift

Up until this point John has emphasized the public claims our Jesus about Himself and the proof (usually miracles) of those claims.

From here on He will focus on Jesus private ministry. He is alone with His disciples in chapters 13-17 and alone in his trial and crucifixion in chapters 18-21

The Apparent Contradiction of Jesus

He reveals Himself completely in a meal - :1-2. Simple. You would expect a more spectacular display by God in the flesh. That's human thinking. We need to listen to God.

Jesus knew who He was - :3. All powerful, from God, returning to God

Washes the disciple's feet - :4-5

Peter sees the contradiction and tries to resist - :6-8

Peter listens to Jesus and submits :9

The Judas question – Jesus washed His feet and also knew all about Judas' evil side, his stealing and future betrayal of Jesus.

Would you have had trouble washing Judas' feet? _____

The Example of Christ

Jesus is not only our teacher, He is our model :14-16

We benefit when we do not when we know :17

*“18 ‘I am not referring to all of you; I know those I have chosen. But this is to **fulfill the scripture**: ‘He who shares my bread has lifted up 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 tell you the truth, whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me; and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me.’ 21 After he had said this, Jesus was **troubled in spirit and testified**, ‘I tell you the truth, one of you is going to betray me.’ 22 His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. 23 One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. 24 Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, ‘Ask him which one he means.’ 25 Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, ‘Lord, who is it?’ 26 Jesus answered, ‘It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish.’ Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon. 27 As soon as Judas took the bread, **Satan entered into him**. ‘What you are about to do, do quickly,’ Jesus told him, 28 but **no-one at the meal understood** why Jesus said this to him. 29 Since Judas had charge of the money, some thought Jesus was telling him to buy what was needed for the Feast, or to give something to the poor. 30 As soon as Judas had taken the bread, he went out. And it was night.’ John 13:18-30*

The Judas Decision

- His betrayal of Jesus was prophesied – Psalm 41:9
- It is hard for us to understand the mind of God when it comes to His knowledge of the future. He knew ahead of time that Judas would betray Him. Questions come to our finite minds
 1. Why didn't He just NOT pick Judas as a disciple?
 2. Was Judas forced to betray Jesus?
- There was a point to Judas' presence among the disciples, just as there was a point to Peter's. Neither were perfect and all of them were sinners. Thomas was a skeptic. James and John were hotheads with mother problems.
- Despite His knowledge, Jesus is still troubled by Judas' actions :21. Not out of surprise. Just because you know something is going to happen doesn't mean it doesn't hurt when it happens.
- Jesus reveals that Judas is the betrayer :22-26 to at least Peter.
- “Satan entered into Him” is a euphemism for Judas allowing Satan's will to rule. Satan doesn't force Judas or anyone to do anything. :27

that you might believe (13)

*"31 When he was gone, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him. 32 If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once. 33 "My children, I will be **with you only a little longer**. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, **you cannot come**. 34 "A **new command** I give you: Love one another. **As I have loved you**, so you must love one another. 35 By this **all men will know that you are my disciples**, if you love one another." 36 Simon Peter asked him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus replied, "Where I am going, you cannot follow now, but you will follow later." 37 Peter asked, "Lord, why can't I follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." 38 Then Jesus answered, "Will you really lay down your life for me? I tell you the truth, before the cock crows, you will disown me three times! 1 **"Do not let your hearts be troubled**. Trust in God; **trust also in me**. 2 In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to **prepare a place for you**. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. 4 You know the way to the place where I am going." 5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" 6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." 8 Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us." 9 Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone 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 that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. 11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves." John 13:31-14:11*

The Jesus Model

- Glorified (:31-32) is an interested word to use to describe the execution of Jesus. However when you consider the resurrection there would have been no glory with the death. So, the whole series of events are really the glorification of Jesus.
- *"Where I am going, **you cannot come**."* – :33 This is a journey for Jesus alone. No one else can take this path. Only the perfect Lamb of God. See :36
- A New Command – Love one another is nothing new. See Leviticus 19:18. What is dramatically new is that this love is to be "as I have loved you" i.e. according to the life that Jesus modeled.
- A New Identifier - This will be such a transformative thing in the life of a follower of Jesus that it will become the key identifying factor for the disciples. NOT how they identify each other but how all people will identify them.
 - Their **love for each other** will mark them as being followers of Jesus.
 - NOT their love for the lost etc.
 - NOT their doctrine, name or good works
- Again Peter protests Jesus plans :37
 - You would think he would learn but no.
- Jesus confronts Peter with His real future NOT the idealistic one Peter has :38

The Place For Us All With God

- Don't get upset – TRUST ME 14:1. So many of our problems as disciples are dealt with by trusting Jesus.
- Jesus reveals what He is accomplishing by His death :2-4
 - Preparing a place for us with God
 - Coming back for us
 - You know the way
- **Thomas**, along with all of us, says that he doesn't know the way. Jesus says that they are looking at the way and also the truth and also the life :5-6
- **Phillip** asks for Jesus to show them God. Jesus says that they were looking at Him :7-11

*"12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has **faith in me** will do what **I have been doing**. He will do even **greater things** than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I **will do whatever you ask** in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. 15 "If you love me, you will obey what I command. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you **another Counselor** to be **with you forever**-- 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept **him**, because it neither sees him nor knows **him**. But you know **him**, for he lives with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Before long, the world will not see me any more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. 21 Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him." 22 Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?" 23 Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. 24 He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. 25 "All this I have spoken while still with you. 26 But the **Counselor, the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. 27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. 28 "You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. 29 I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. 30 I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, 31 but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me. "Come now; let us leave." John 14:12-31*

Jesus Comforts the Disciples and Prepares Them for His Departure

"faith in me will do what I have been doing" :12

All issues in Christ came back to this central dynamic, faith in Jesus. Faith = Trust.

NOT

Faith in faith – "believe it and you will receive it" – The secret about "The Secret"

Faith in facts – What we believe about Jesus (the facts) is important but faith is more than that

Faith in the church – The church will always disappoint. I wish it was different, but it is the truth. Only faith in Jesus satisfies and empowers.

Christ followers are people who do what He did. See John 13:15, 1 Peter 2:21

His life is a model for us. Specifics may vary but overall God has always planned for us to be like Him. Romans 8:29

“greater things” :12

How can we do greater things than Jesus.

Greater in the sense that

We will do them without being the Son of God

We will take the good news into the whole world, far beyond the nation of Israel that Jesus’ ministry focused on.

“in my name” :13

NOT a formula for the end of prayers

It is referring to

1. The means which we have access to God, the Father, in prayer
2. The authority of Christ

another Counselor :16-:17, :26

Jesus now begins to speak a lot about the Holy Spirit and His ministry to the disciples of Jesus. The immediate context of these statements about the help of the Holy Spirit is the help He will be to the Twelve. However that does not mean (and Jesus never limits it to this) that these verses have no reference to the disciples of Jesus that will follow later on. Some of the details of the Spirit’s work with the apostles are limited to them but by far the promise of comfort (help) is for all Christ followers.

“with you forever” :16

This is not a short lived ministry of the Holy Spirit, the “Spirit of Truth” (:17). It is forever.

He, the Holy Spirit, is part of the fulfillment of Jesus promise in Matthew 28:20 –

“... And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:20b

“him” :17 and all the other times in this chapter where the Holy Spirit is mention with the personal pronoun, him or he

The Holy Spirit is a person, a “he”. Because He doesn’t have a “conventional” name he is often spoken of as an “it”

He is not just an influence or power like “the force” in Star Wars

He is a personal expression of God with all the attributes of God. See the attached notes for an in depth study of the nature of the Holy Spirit.

that you might believe (14)

"1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. 2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. 3 You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. 4 Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can **bear fruit** by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you **bear fruit** unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will **bear much fruit**; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that **you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples**. 9 "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. 12 **My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you**. 13 Greater love has no-one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and **appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last**. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. 17 This is my command: Love each other." John 15:1-17

Vine and Branches

There are certainly a wide variety of interpretations of this section of scripture. Jesus defines who He is talking about and we should keep to that.

The true vine = Jesus

Gardener = God the Father

Branches – disciples (:2-5)

Fruit :4-5 – The natural result of being in Christ. Becoming like Jesus.

Fruit bearing reveals the disciples of Jesus :8 - See John 13:35

Fellowship with Christ (remaining in Him) has a lot to do with His words remaining in us. :7

- Not just the memory of His words
- But the obedience to those words.

"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." James 1:22

My command: love as I have loved.

- Christ's life is not just a perfect life lived to the glory of God.

It is a model for our life – *"Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." Ephesians 5:1, 2*

- God's love for us is unconditional

Jesus didn't just die for the good people or even for those who would be come Christians. He died for everyone. *"For Christ died for sins **once for all**, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit," 1 Peter 3:18*

- Salvation is conditional –

We have to accept the gift of forgiveness. God will not force it on anyone. *"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--" Ephesians 2:8*

- Our love for each other and God should be unconditional –

This is an extremely high calling

In the end it is not just a recommendation it is a command. :17 *"This is my command: Love each other."*

Becoming a friend of Jesus :13

Our love for God and others is to be unconditional. That doesn't mean everyone is my friend.

Jesus genuinely loves everyone.

Yet not all people are His friend. Why? Because, to become a friend of Jesus you need to obey him.

: 14 *"You are my friends if you do what I command."*

God chose us :16-17

We didn't choose God. He initiated the relationship and chose us first.

"We love because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19

We did need to choose God but we need to understand that His choice of us predated any choice on our part.

that you might believe (15)

Opposition and hatred against you will come.

*“18 “If the **world hates you**, keep in mind that it hated me first. 19 If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do **not belong to the world**, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. 20 Remember the words I spoke to you: ‘No servant is greater than his master.’ **If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also**. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. 21 They will treat you this way because of my name, for they do not know the One who sent me. 22 **If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not be guilty of sin**. Now, however, they have no excuse for their sin. 23 He who hates me hates my Father as well. 24 If I had not done among them what no-one else did, they would **not be guilty of sin**. But now they have seen these miracles, and yet they have hated both me and my Father. 25 But this is to fulfil what is written in their Law: ‘They hated me **without reason**.’” John 15:18-25*

Doesn't sound encouraging but there is some comfort and encouragement here.

The truth is always helpful. Ignorance is not bliss.

“29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him,” Philippians 1:29

*“2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you **face trials** of many kinds,” James 1:2*

*“12 Blessed is the man who **perseveres under trial**, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.” James 1:12*

*“10 Blessed are those who are **persecuted because of righteousness**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” Matthew 5:10-12*

*“13 But rejoice that you **participate in the sufferings of Christ**, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. 15 If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. 16 However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name.” 1 Peter 4:13-16*

Christ reveals the guilt of sin :22-24

Jesus appears to say that those He has spoken to would not be guilty of sin if He hadn't spoken to them.

However such would be very strange because then all He would have to do to deal with the sin problem in people's lives is to NOT tell them about it or God's issue with it.

Rather it is what Paul was talking about in the following verse. *“What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I **would not have known what sin** was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “Do not covet.”” Romans 7:7*

The Holy Spirit will testify about me

“26 “When the Counsellor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. 27 And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning.” John 15:26, 27

There are two testimonies here.

1. The Holy Spirit’s
2. The Apostles – They were eyewitnesses from the beginning and their testimony is going to be vital to the proclamation of the gospel, the good news of Jesus.

*“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my **witnesses** in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”” Acts 1:8*

*“God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all **witnesses** of the fact.” Acts 2:32*

*“You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are **witnesses** of this.” Acts 3:15*

*“With great power the apostles continued to **testify** to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all.” Acts 4:33*

*“We are **witnesses** of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”” Acts 5:32*

*“We are **witnesses** of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree,” Acts 10:39*

*“He was not seen by all the people, but by **witnesses** whom God had already chosen--by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.” Acts 10:41*

*“and for many days he was seen by those who had travelled with him from Galilee to Jerusalem. They are now his **witnesses** to our people.” Acts 13:31*

*“You will be his **witness** to all men of what you have seen and heard.” Acts 22:15 Paul, a latter witness*

*“The life appeared; we have seen it and **testify** to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.” 1 John 1:2*

*“So **do not be ashamed to testify** about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God,” 2 Timothy 1:8*

What is our testimony?

- It is the repeating of the testimony of the apostles and Holy Spirit.

*“1 Now, brothers, I want to **remind you of the gospel I preached to you**, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. 2 By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. 3 For **what I received I passed on to you as of first importance**: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. 6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.” 1 Corinthians 15:1-6*

- It is also testifying of our experience with Christ

“now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.” 1 Peter 2:3

that you might believe (16)

“26 “When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me. 27 And you also must testify, for you have been with me from the beginning. 1 “All this I have told you so that you will not go astray. 2 They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, a time is coming when anyone who kills you will think he is offering a service to God. 3 They will do such things because they have not known the Father or me. 4 I have told you this, so that when the time comes you will remember that I warned you. I did not tell you this at first because I was with you. 5 “Now I am going to him who sent me, yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ 6 Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. 7 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. 8 When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; 10 in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; 11 and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. 12 “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. 15 All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.” John 15:26-16:15, .

“All this I have told you so that you will not go astray - :1

Jesus is leaving. They will suffer. He reveals a future that is far from their view of kingdom

Why did He tell them of such terrible things?

So it will not surprise them - :4

Because He didn't want them to “go astray” :1

offering a service to God - :2

Your enemies will think that your destruction is a service to God ie. a religiously righteous act.

Is there anybody like that in your life? _____

Are you like that with anyone? _____

Are you an enemy? _____

convict the world of guilt in regard to sin :9 –

The Holy Spirit has many tasks before Him. Specifically, Jesus speaks of the Spirit's job of convicting the world of 3 things, first of all, sin.

Convict = Convince at a heart level. Not just at an informational level.

He doesn't mention how He will do it but it does say that He will do it? Why? How is this a help to the disciples who He is leaving?

How is this a help to us? _____

righteousness :10 –

The Spirit will convict the unrighteous of the goodness and benefit of righteousness

He will show what you replace sin with. See

*“22 You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to **put off your old self**, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; 23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; 24 and to **put on the new self**, created to be like God in true **righteousness** and holiness. 25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. 26 “In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27 and do not give the devil a foothold. 28 He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. 29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. 32 Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. 1 Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children 2 and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.” Ephesians 4:22-5:2*

Judgment :11-

Judgment is real.

It is now - *“31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out.” John 12:31. See also John 12:48*

It is future - *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due to him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. 11 Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men. What we are is plain to God, and I hope it is also plain to your conscience.” 2 Corinthians 5:10, 11, .*

more to say to you, more than you can now bear :12

*“he will guide you into **all truth**” :13*

“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.” John 14:26

Important Implication of This – Jesus did not reveal all the truth needed for the kingdom for the next 2,000 years during his earthly ministry

Red letter Christianity is a false foundation

The Holy Spirit was sent by Jesus AFTER He returned to heaven with the particular task (among others) of revealing all the truth that was needed.

Why didn't Jesus reveal the whole package? _____

Like *“I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.” 1 Corinthians 3:2*

that you might believe (17)

*"1 After Jesus said this, he looked towards heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. **Glorify** your Son, that your Son may **glorify** you. 2 For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. 3 **Now this is eternal life:** that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have brought you **glory** on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.*

*5 And now, Father, **glorify** me in your presence with the **glory I had with you before the world began.** 6 "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.*

*9 **I pray for them.** I am **not** praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And **glory** has come to me through them. 11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the **power of your name**--the name you gave me--so that they may be one as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe **by that name** you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. 13 "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am **still in the world**, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. 14 I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are **not of the world** any more than I am of the world. 15 **My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.** 16 They are **not of the world**, even as I am not of it. 17 **Sanctify** them by the **truth**; your **word** is truth. 18 **As you sent me** into the world, I **have sent them** into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. 20 "My prayer is **not for them alone.** I pray also for those **who will believe in me** through their message, 21 that all of them may be **one**, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us **so that the world** may believe that you have sent me. 22 **I have given them the glory that you gave me**, that they may be one as we are one: 23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to **complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them** even as you have loved me." John 17:1-23, NIV.*

Father :1 – This chapter is a detailed record of a prayer of Jesus.

Throughout His life Jesus would refer to God in heaven as Father.

Very rare in the OT but very common in the NT. Why? Because Jesus was revealed God to us fully. See John 1:18 "No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him." NAS95.

Glorify – Glory :2, :4, :5 etc –

Even used today in the words glorious, glorification

1. The object of praise – to be honored, adored is to receive glory
2. Radiance, brightness, splendor – when you appreciate the beauty of a flower you have seen it's glory.

See the glory of God and passing it on is a bit like describing a beautiful rose. You could define it chemically, logistically, comparatively etc. but you probably could convey it's glory. The glory is only apparent when it is seen. The glory of God is seen in

1. Jesus
2. Disciples living for Jesus
3. His word
4. His creation
5. The part of creation that was made in God's image

Now this is eternal life :3 –

Eternal life ie. living eternally with God, is a matter of

1. Knowing God the Father, the true God
2. Know Jesus Christ His Son whom the Father sent

Eternal life is not just a matter of knowing certain key facts and obeying certain key commands. It is a matter of a relationship with the Father and the Son. It is a love relationship not just a ancestral relationship.

power of your name :11, :12

“Name” refers to who God is. He is so powerful that His name evokes power.

Protect them ... the world is hostile to them ... they are not of this world ... leave them in the world :14, :15

We can learn a lot about the will of God in this prayer

We often ask prayers of protection for those whom we love, as Jesus does here.

Sanctify them by your truth :17

Sanctify = set apart for a special purpose

What sets the disciples of Jesus apart? _____

Truth = God's word. God's word exists at three levels

1. Written – 2 Timothy 3:16-17
2. Creation's revelation – Psalms 19:1-2
3. Incarnational – John 1:1,14, 1 Corinthians 12:27, John 13:35

:20 this applies to us as well.

“that all of them may be one” :21

The unity of the disciples of Jesus who would come as a result of the preaching of the apostles is a clear focus of this prayer. It is important.

Jesus calls attention to 2 significant (and overlooked) components of the unity of Christ followers.

1. Our unity is like the unity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. Our unity is a key part of persuading the unbelievers to believe in Jesus. The incarnational truth. See :23, John 13:35

that you might believe (18)

*“1 When he had finished praying, Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was an olive grove, and he and his disciples went into it. 2 Now Judas, who **betrayed him**, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. 3 So **Judas came to the grove**, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying **torches, lanterns and weapons**. 4 Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, “Who is it you want?” 5 “Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. **“I am he,”** Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.) 6 When Jesus said, “I am he,” **they drew back and fell to the ground**. 7 Again he asked them, “Who is it you want?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” 8 “I told you that I am he,” Jesus answered. “If you are looking for me, then let these men go.” 9 This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: “I have not lost one of those you gave me.”*

*10 Then **Simon Peter**, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) 11 Jesus commanded Peter, “Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?” 12 Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him 13 and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. 14 Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it would be good if one man died for the people. 15 **Simon Peter** and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest’s courtyard, 16 but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there and brought Peter in. 17 **“You are not one of his disciples, are you?” the girl at the door asked Peter. He replied, “I am not.”** 18 It was cold, and the servants and officials stood round a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.*

*19 Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. 20 “I have spoken openly to the world,” Jesus replied. “I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret. 21 Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said.” 22 When Jesus said this, one of the officials near by struck him in the face. “Is this the way you answer the high priest?” he demanded. 23 “If I said something wrong,” Jesus replied, “testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?” 24 Then **Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest**. 25 As Simon Peter stood warming himself, he was asked, **“You are not one of his disciples, are you?” He denied it, saying, “I am not.”***

*26 One of the high priest’s servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, “Didn’t I see you with him in the olive grove?” 27 **Again Peter denied it**, and at that moment a cock began to crow.*

*28 Then the **Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor**. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness the Jews did not enter the palace; they wanted to be able to eat the Passover. 29 So Pilate came out to them and asked, “What charges are you bringing against this man?” 30 “If he were not a criminal,” they replied, “we would not have handed him over to you.” 31 Pilate said, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” “But we have no right to execute anyone,” the Jews objected. 32 This happened so that the words Jesus had spoken indicating the kind of death he was going to die would be fulfilled. 33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” 34 “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?” 35 “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “It was your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What is it you have done?” 36 Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my*

arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.” 37 “You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, **for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.** Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” 38 “What is truth?” Pilate asked. With this he went out again to the Jews and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him. 39 But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release ‘the king of the Jews?’” 40 They shouted back, “No, not him! Give us Barabbas!” Now Barabbas had taken part in a rebellion.” John 18:1-40, NIV.

The betrayal of Jesus by Judas

1. Judas revealed where Jesus was :2
 2. The size of the group and their being armed etc. indicate that maybe they thought that arresting Jesus was going to be a physical tussle. :3
 3. Jesus isn’t interested in resisting. This is what He had been called to do. He identifies Himself twice to the surprised captors :4-9
 4. It was important to Jesus that none of the rest of the apostles be captured :8-9. He is fulfilling his own prayer in 17:11-12
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Simon Peter and Jesus – the denials begin

1. Peter tries to defend Jesus by attacking Malchus, a servant of the high priest :10
 2. Interesting that Peter carried a sword
 3. Peter still hasn’t understood about the will of God for Jesus, despite being told repeatedly :11
 4. Jesus is arrested and taken to the High Priest :12-14
 5. Peter denies that he knows Jesus :15-:18. Big shift from militant defender a few verses before to Christ denier. STRIKE ONE
-

Jesus questioned by the High Priest

1. First to Annas, father in law of the High Priest and then finally to Caiaphas :12 & :24
2. Jesus response to the questions is to tell of His openness and transparency. He did not teach in secret. He had no hidden agenda. Everyone knows what He teaches because every day He would teach them publicly :19-:24
3. This is not the last time that these leaders would have to deal with Jesus and His disciples. Acts 4:6, 5:21, 5:27, 7:1, 9:1, 23:2-5, 24:1,
4. Peter again is challenged with knowing Jesus and again he denies it :25. STRIKE TWO
5. A relative of Malchus whose ear Peter had cut off, charges Peter with knowing Jesus :26-:27 and He denies it again. STRIKE THREE
6. John mentions that the cock crowing but doesn’t highlight its significance. He had recorded a prophecy about this very thing before in a conversation with Peter. “*Then Jesus answered, “Will you really lay down your life for me? I tell you the truth, before the cock crows, you will disown me three times!”* John 13:38, NIV.

Luke gives a little more detail of Peter’s reaction. “*The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to*

*him: "Before the cock crows today, you will disown me three times." 62 And he went outside and **wept bitterly.**" Luke 22:61, 62, NIV.*

Jesus taken to the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate

1. Pilate is very accommodating to the Jewish beliefs and comes outside his palace to speak to the Jews who had brought Jesus to him for judgment :28
 2. Pilate simplifies the whole situation with the question, "What charges are you bringing against the man?" :29
 3. Initially the Jewish leaders refuse to state a charge :30 and in so doing reveal why they had come to Pilate :31. Only he had the authority to legally execute a person. Later they would reveal their charge in 19:7, Jesus' claim to be the Son of God.
 4. Pilate speaks personally to Jesus :33 and Jesus explains to Pilate about how He is a king. :34-37
 5. Pilate can find no cause for execution :38
 6. Pilate offers the Jewish leaders a way out of this confrontation, the release of a prisoner as was his custom for Passover :39. He gives them a choice between a known enemy of the Roman state, Barabas and Jesus, the preacher of love.
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that you might believe (19)

*"1 Then Pilate took Jesus and had him **flogged**. 2 The soldiers twisted together a **crown of thorns** and put it on his head. They clothed him in a **purple robe** 3 and went up to him again and again, saying, "**Hail, king of the Jews!**" And they **struck him in the face**. 4 Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find **no basis for a charge against him**." 5 When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" 6 As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "**Crucify! Crucify!**" But Pilate answered, "You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him." 7 The Jews insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God."*

The Final Day of Jesus

1. Flogged :1
2. Mocked as a king :2-:3 – crown, purple, hail
3. Struck in the face
4. Pilate **refusal #1** - :4-:7 No basis for a charge against Jesus
5. The charge by the Jewish leaders is that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God :7. Nothing else.

*8 When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, 9 and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. 10 "Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you realize **I have power** either to free you or to crucify you?" 11 Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me **if it were not given to you from above**. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." 12 From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar." 13 When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement (which in Aramaic is Gabbatha). 14 It was the day of Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour. "Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews. 15 But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered. 16 **Finally Pilate** handed him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus.*

Another conversation with Jesus

1. What was Pilate afraid of? :8 _____
2. Jesus refuses to speak at first :19
3. Jesus does speak to reveal to Pilate the source of his power, God. The power of government is from God. God permits it. He doesn't endorse it or give it a "divine right".
4. This emboldens Pilate to set Jesus free :12 - :15– **refusal #2**
5. Finally Pilate relents and orders Jesus to be crucified :16. Why did Pilate do this?

17 Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). 18 Here they crucified him, and with him two others--one on each side and Jesus in the middle. 19 Pilate had

a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: **JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.** 20 Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in **Aramaic, Latin and Greek.** 21 The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews', but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews." 22 Pilate answered, "**What I have written, I have written.**"

Jesus Executed

1. Jesus carries His cross to Golgotha, (Aramaic for "the place of the skull")
2. Crucified with 2 others. Why the other two? Is it more economical?
3. Pilate's last snub to the Jewish leaders – a sign that says, "King of the Jews", written in 3 languages :18-:22

23 When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. 24 "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be **fulfilled** which said, "They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing." So this is what the soldiers did.

Odd detail about the execution of Jesus

1. Soldiers scavenge the clothes of Jesus :23
 2. Didn't want to divide the undergarment :24
 3. This fulfills a scripture
 4. Why include this detail? Is it to show the utter degradation that Jesus was subject to?
-

25 Near the cross of Jesus stood his **mother**, his mother's sister, **Mary** the wife of Clopas, and **Mary Magdalene.** 26 When Jesus saw his mother there, and the **disciple whom he loved** standing near by, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," 27 and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

People at the cross

1. Mary (mother), Mary (Mary's sister), Mary Magdalene, John :25
2. Jesus asks John to care for Mary as he would his own mother and He did :27

28 Later, **knowing that all was now completed**, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." 29 A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. 30 When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Jesus dies

1. Everything was completed :28.
 2. He takes a final drink of wine vinegar :29
 3. It is finished
 4. Jesus gives up His Spirit. :30
-

31 Now it was the **day of Preparation**, and the next day was to be a **special Sabbath.** Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. 32 The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had

*been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. 33 But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. 34 Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of **blood and water**.*

“Religious” devotion????

The Jewish leaders had killed off Jesus. They had no consciousness of doing anything wrong. They felt they were doing God's will.

They wanted to make sure they didn't break any laws of God so they ask for the body of Jesus to be buried. See Deuteronomy 21:22-23

Poor deluded souls. What had they really done. Peter would speak of it in Acts 2:22-23

Blood and water

The blood and water here are literal but the Holy Spirit would take the words, blood and water, to refer to some deep spiritual truths.

Blood = death = payment for sin = forgiveness

Water = blessing = Holy Spirit = forgiveness

*35 The man who saw it has given **testimony**, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. 36 These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken,” 37 and, as another scripture says, “They will look on the one they have pierced.”*

John affirms this testimony

In an indirect way, which he often did, John affirms that this document is the testimony of an eye witness :36

Another 2 prophecies are fulfilled – Psalms 22:16-17, 34:20

*38 Later, **Joseph of Arimathea** asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jews. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. 39 He was accompanied by **Nicodemus**, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about **seventy-five pounds**. 40 Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. 41 At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no-one had ever been laid. 42 Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was near by, they laid Jesus there.” John 19:1-42, NIV.*

Burial details

Joseph of Arimathea was a secret disciple of Jesus :38

He asks Pilate for the body of Jesus and Pilate grants this

Nicodemus, probably another secret disciple, brought 75 pounds of myrrh and aloes, to prepare Jesus body for burial according to Jewish burial customs :39-40. Once prepared the body is encased a gooey mess of linen and spices.

Jesus is buried in a tomb near his crucifixion.

that you might believe (20)

*"1 Early on the **first day of the week**, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the **stone had been removed** from the entrance. 2 So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have **taken the Lord** out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" 3 So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. 4 Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, 7 as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was **folded up by itself**, separate from the linen. 8 Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. 9 (They still **did not understand** from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) 10 Then the disciples went back to their homes," John 20:1-10, NIV.*

Underwhelming reaction of the disciples to Jesus' Resurrection

Mary (along with some other women) got the tomb very early Sunday morning

Why? "On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb." Luke 24:1, NIV.

To prepare the body of Jesus. They didn't realize that Joseph and Nicodemus had already done this (19:40).

Where were the apostles?

Jesus had specifically predicted His resurrection.

"21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life." Matthew 16:21, NIV.

"22 When they came together in Galilee, he said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. 23 They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised to life." And the disciples were filled with grief." Matthew 17:22, 23, NIV.

"17 Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside and said to them, 18 "We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death 19 and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!" Matthew 20:17-19, NIV.

Even when the woman told the apostles of the resurrection of Jesus they didn't believe.

"4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. 5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'" 8 Then they remembered his words. 9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense." Luke 24:4-11, NIV.

The enemies of Christ remembered his predictions of resurrection.

“11 but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb 12 and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. 13 They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” 14 At this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise that it was Jesus. 15 “Woman,” he said, “why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?” Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” 16 Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned towards him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” 18 Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Mary & Jesus

Mary is mourning at the empty tomb. Why? Because she believes that Jesus body has been stolen. She has no room for the idea that Jesus rose from the dead :13

Angels appear and she doesn’t realize :12

Jesus appears and she doesn’t realize :15

Jesus speaks and she realizes :16

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. 21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” 24 Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.” 26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” 28 Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” 30 Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” John 20:11-31, NIV.

The other disciples

Sunday evening of the day Jesus is raised from the dead - :19

Disciples were meeting in secret (:19) and Jesus appears to them. Thomas is not present - :24

They are overjoyed :20

Jesus commissions them to be sent into the world in a similar way to Him - :22

He associates this commission closely to the ministry of the Holy Spirit :22

A week later :26 – Another Sunday meeting

Thomas has expressed his skepticism at the claims of Jesus resurrection :24-25

Jesus again appears and confronts Thomas with the evidence of His body :27

Thomas immediately proclaims the only explanation possible :28 – “My Lord and my God”.

Life is a faith in Jesus issue

Jesus praises Thomas' confession :29

Jesus praises those who will believe without the actual physical evidence.

This is the reason the book of John was written :20-21; so that those who haven't seen the physical evidence can believe

“1 Afterwards Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way: 2 Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. 3 “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. 4 Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. 5 He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered. 6 He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. 7 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. 8 The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. 9 When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. 10 Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” 11 Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. 12 Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. 14 This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.” John 21:1-14, NIV.

Every day life waiting for the next step

Back to the fishing business but with little success :1-:3

Jesus helps them catch a huge haul of fish :4-:6

They realize that this must be Jesus :7

Peter jumps in the water and swims to shore

Jesus makes them breakfast of bread and fish :8-:13

This is the third time Jesus appears to the disciples :14

“4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. 6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, 8 and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.” 1 Corinthians 15:4-8, NIV.

*“15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, **do you truly love me more than these?**” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.” 16 Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.” 17 The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, **“Feed my sheep.** 18 I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” 19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!” 20 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”) 21 When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?” 22 Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.” 23 Because of this, the rumour spread among the brothers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, 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 Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.” John 21:15-25, NIV.*

The challenge of Peter by Jesus

- *Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these? :15* Love = Agape = sacrificial love by choice

Peter’s Response: I love you. Love = Phileo = Fond

Jesus: Feed my lambs

- *“Simon son of John, do you truly love me?” :16.* Agape

Peter’s Response: Phileo = Fond

Jesus: Feed my sheep

- *“Simon son of John, do you love me?” :17.* Phileo

Peter’s Response: Phileo

Jesus: Feed my sheep

Is there a significance to the use of two words for love in different questions?

There is a significance in it being three fold just as Peter’s denial of Jesus was three fold.

Peter’s death at the hands of others is foretold :18-:19

Peter asks about John :20-:23

Johns finishes with 2 main points

1. This book is his testimony about Jesus
2. It is not everything that Jesus did.

that you might believe (17)

*"1 After Jesus said this, he looked towards heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. **Glorify** your Son, that your Son may **glorify** you. 2 For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. 3 **Now this is eternal life:** that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. 4 I have brought you **glory** on earth by completing the work you gave me to do.*

*5 And now, Father, **glorify** me in your presence with the **glory I had with you before the world began.** 6 "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.*

*9 **I pray for them.** I am **not** praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And **glory** has come to me through them. 11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the **power of your name**--the name you gave me--so that they may be one as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe **by that name** you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. 13 "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am **still in the world**, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. 14 I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are **not of the world** any more than I am of the world. 15 **My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.** 16 They are **not of the world**, even as I am not of it. 17 **Sanctify** them by the **truth**; your **word** is truth. 18 **As you sent me** into the world, I **have sent them** into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. 20 "My prayer is **not for them alone.** I pray also for those **who will believe in me** through their message, 21 that all of them may be **one**, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us **so that the world** may believe that you have sent me. 22 **I have given them the glory that you gave me**, that they may be one as we are one: 23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to **complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them** even as you have loved me." John 17:1-23, NIV.*

Father :1 – This chapter is a detailed record of a prayer of Jesus.

Throughout His life Jesus would refer to God in heaven as Father.

Very rare in the OT but very common in the NT. Why? Because Jesus was revealed God to us fully. See John 1:18 "No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him." NAS95.

Glorify – Glory :2, :4, :5 etc –

Even used today in the words glorious, glorification

1. The object of praise – to be honored, adored is to receive glory
2. Radiance, brightness, splendor – when you appreciate the beauty of a flower you have seen it's glory.

See the glory of God and passing it on is a bit like describing a beautiful rose. You could define it chemically, logistically, comparatively etc. but you probably could convey it's glory. The glory is only apparent when it is seen. The glory of God is seen in

1. Jesus
2. Disciples living for Jesus
3. His word
4. His creation
5. The part of creation that was made in God's image

Now this is eternal life :3 –

Eternal life ie. living eternally with God, is a matter of

3. Knowing God the Father, the true God
4. Know Jesus Christ His Son whom the Father sent

Eternal life is not just a matter of knowing certain key facts and obeying certain key commands. It is a matter of a relationship with the Father and the Son. It is a love relationship not just a ancestral relationship.

power of your name :11, :12

“Name” refers to who God is. He is so powerful that His name evokes power.

Protect them ... the world is hostile to them ... they are not of this world ... leave them in the world :14, :15

We can learn a lot about the will of God in this prayer

We often ask prayers of protection for those whom we love, as Jesus does here.

Sanctify them by your truth :17

Sanctify = set apart for a special purpose

What sets the disciples of Jesus apart? _____

Truth = God's word. God's word exists at three levels

4. Written – 2 Timothy 3:16-17
5. Creation's revelation – Psalms 19:1-2
6. Incarnational – John 1:1,14, 1 Corinthians 12:27, John 13:35

:20 this applies to us as well.

“that all of them may be one” :21

The unity of the disciples of Jesus who would come as a result of the preaching of the apostles is a clear focus of this prayer. It is important.

Jesus calls attention to 2 significant (and overlooked) components of the unity of Christ followers.

3. Our unity is like the unity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
4. Our unity is a key part of persuading the unbelievers to believe in Jesus. The incarnational truth. See :23, John 13:35

that you might believe (18)

*“1 When he had finished praying, Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was an olive grove, and he and his disciples went into it. 2 Now Judas, who **betrayed him**, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. 3 So **Judas came to the grove**, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying **torches, lanterns and weapons**. 4 Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to him, went out and asked them, “Who is it you want?” 5 “Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “**I am he**,” Jesus said. (And Judas the traitor was standing there with them.) 6 When Jesus said, “I am he,” **they drew back and fell to the ground**. 7 Again he asked them, “Who is it you want?” And they said, “Jesus of Nazareth.” 8 “I told you that I am he,” Jesus answered. “If you are looking for me, then let these men go.” 9 This happened so that the words he had spoken would be fulfilled: “I have not lost one of those you gave me.”*

*10 Then **Simon Peter**, who had a sword, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) 11 Jesus commanded Peter, “Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?” 12 Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him 13 and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. 14 Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jews that it would be good if one man died for the people. 15 **Simon Peter** and another disciple were following Jesus. Because this disciple was known to the high priest, he went with Jesus into the high priest’s courtyard, 16 but Peter had to wait outside at the door. The other disciple, who was known to the high priest, came back, spoke to the girl on duty there and brought Peter in. 17 “**You are not one of his disciples, are you?**” **the girl at the door asked Peter. He replied, “I am not.**” 18 It was cold, and the servants and officials stood round a fire they had made to keep warm. Peter also was standing with them, warming himself.*

*19 Meanwhile, the high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. 20 “I have spoken openly to the world,” Jesus replied. “I always taught in synagogues or at the temple, where all the Jews come together. I said nothing in secret. 21 Why question me? Ask those who heard me. Surely they know what I said.” 22 When Jesus said this, one of the officials near by struck him in the face. “Is this the way you answer the high priest?” he demanded. 23 “If I said something wrong,” Jesus replied, “testify as to what is wrong. But if I spoke the truth, why did you strike me?” 24 Then **Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas the high priest**. 25 As Simon Peter stood warming himself, he was asked, “**You are not one of his disciples, are you?**” **He denied it, saying, “I am not.**”*

*26 One of the high priest’s servants, a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, challenged him, “Didn’t I see you with him in the olive grove?” 27 **Again Peter denied it**, and at that moment a cock began to crow.*

*28 Then the **Jews led Jesus from Caiaphas to the palace of the Roman governor**. By now it was early morning, and to avoid ceremonial uncleanness the Jews did not enter the palace; they wanted to be able to eat the Passover. 29 So Pilate came out to them and asked, “What charges are you bringing against this man?” 30 “If he were not a criminal,” they replied, “we would not have handed him over to you.” 31 Pilate said, “Take him yourselves and judge him by your own law.” “But we have no right to execute anyone,” the Jews objected. 32 This happened so that the words Jesus had spoken indicating the kind of death he was going to die would be fulfilled. 33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, “Are you the king of the Jews?” 34 “Is that your own idea,” Jesus asked, “or did others talk to you about me?” 35 “Am I a Jew?” Pilate replied. “It was your people and your chief priests who handed you over to me. What is it you have done?” 36 Jesus said, “My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my*

arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.” 37 “You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, **for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.** Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” 38 “What is truth?” Pilate asked. With this he went out again to the Jews and said, “I find no basis for a charge against him. 39 But it is your custom for me to release to you one prisoner at the time of the Passover. Do you want me to release ‘the king of the Jews’?” 40 They shouted back, “No, not him! Give us Barabbas!” Now Barabbas had taken part in a rebellion.” John 18:1-40, NIV.

The betrayal of Jesus by Judas

5. Judas revealed where Jesus was :2
 6. The size of the group and their being armed etc. indicate that maybe they thought that arresting Jesus was going to be a physical tussle. :3
 7. Jesus isn’t interested in resisting. This is what He had been called to do. He identifies Himself twice to the surprised captors :4-9
 8. It was important to Jesus that none of the rest of the apostles be captured :8-9. He is fulfilling his own prayer in 17:11-12
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Simon Peter and Jesus – the denials begin

6. Peter tries to defend Jesus by attacking Malchus, a servant of the high priest :10
 7. Interesting that Peter carried a sword
 8. Peter still hasn’t understood about the will of God for Jesus, despite being told repeatedly :11
 9. Jesus is arrested and taken to the High Priest :12-14
 10. Peter denies that he knows Jesus :15-:18. Big shift from militant defender a few verses before to Christ denier. STRIKE ONE
-

Jesus questioned by the High Priest

7. First to Annas, father in law of the High Priest and then finally to Caiaphas :12 & :24
8. Jesus response to the questions is to tell of His openness and transparency. He did not teach in secret. He had no hidden agenda. Everyone knows what He teaches because every day He would teach them publicly :19-:24
9. This is not the last time that these leaders would have to deal with Jesus and His disciples. Acts 4:6, 5:21, 5:27, 7:1, 9:1, 23:2-5, 24:1,
10. Peter again is challenged with knowing Jesus and again he denies it :25. STRIKE TWO
11. A relative of Malchus whose ear Peter had cut off, charges Peter with knowing Jesus :26-:27 and He denies it again. STRIKE THREE
12. John mentions that the cock crowing but doesn’t highlight its significance. He had recorded a prophecy about this very thing before in a conversation with Peter. “*Then Jesus answered, “Will you really lay down your life for me? I tell you the truth, before the cock crows, you will disown me three times!”* John 13:38, NIV.

Luke gives a little more detail of Peter’s reaction. “*The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to*

*him: "Before the cock crows today, you will disown me three times." 62 And he went outside and **wept bitterly.**" Luke 22:61, 62, NIV.*

Jesus taken to the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate

7. Pilate is very accommodating to the Jewish beliefs and comes outside his palace to speak to the Jews who had brought Jesus to him for judgment :28
 8. Pilate simplifies the whole situation with the question, "What charges are you bringing against the man?" :29
 9. Initially the Jewish leaders refuse to state a charge :30 and in so doing reveal why they had come to Pilate :31. Only he had the authority to legally execute a person. Later they would reveal their charge in 19:7, Jesus' claim to be the Son of God.
 10. Pilate speaks personally to Jesus :33 and Jesus explains to Pilate about how He is a king. :34-37
 11. Pilate can find no cause for execution :38
 12. Pilate offers the Jewish leaders a way out of this confrontation, the release of a prisoner as was his custom for Passover :39. He gives them a choice between a known enemy of the Roman state, Barabas and Jesus, the preacher of love.
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that you might believe (19)

"1 Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. 2 The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe 3 and went up to him again and again, saying, "Hail, king of the Jews!" And they struck him in the face. 4 Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him." 5 When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" 6 As soon as the chief priests and their officials saw him, they shouted, "Crucify! Crucify!" But Pilate answered, "You take him and crucify him. As for me, I find no basis for a charge against him." 7 The Jews insisted, "We have a law, and according to that law he must die, because he claimed to be the Son of God."

The Final Day of Jesus

6. Flogged :1
7. Mocked as a king :2-:3 – crown, purple, hail
8. Struck in the face
9. Pilate **refusal #1** - :4-:7 No basis for a charge against Jesus
10. The charge by the Jewish leaders is that Jesus claimed to be the Son of God :7. Nothing else.

8 When Pilate heard this, he was even more afraid, 9 and he went back inside the palace. "Where do you come from?" he asked Jesus, but Jesus gave him no answer. 10 "Do you refuse to speak to me?" Pilate said. "Don't you realize I have power either to free you or to crucify you?" 11 Jesus answered, "You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above. Therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." 12 From then on, Pilate tried to set Jesus free, but the Jews kept shouting, "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar. Anyone who claims to be a king opposes Caesar." 13 When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus out and sat down on the judge's seat at a place known as the Stone Pavement (which in Aramaic is Gabbatha). 14 It was the day of Preparation of Passover Week, about the sixth hour. "Here is your king," Pilate said to the Jews. 15 But they shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Crucify him!" "Shall I crucify your king?" Pilate asked. "We have no king but Caesar," the chief priests answered. 16 Finally Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified. So the soldiers took charge of Jesus.

Another conversation with Jesus

6. What was Pilate afraid of? :8 _____
7. Jesus refuses to speak at first :19
8. Jesus does speak to reveal to Pilate the source of his power, God. The power of government is from God. God permits it. He doesn't endorse it or give it a "divine right".
9. This emboldens Pilate to set Jesus free :12 - :15– **refusal #2**
10. Finally Pilate relents and orders Jesus to be crucified :16. Why did Pilate do this?

17 Carrying his own cross, he went out to the place of the Skull (which in Aramaic is called Golgotha). 18 Here they crucified him, and with him two others--one on each side and Jesus in the middle. 19 Pilate had

a notice prepared and fastened to the cross. It read: **JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.** 20 Many of the Jews read this sign, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in **Aramaic, Latin and Greek.** 21 The chief priests of the Jews protested to Pilate, "Do not write 'The King of the Jews', but that this man claimed to be king of the Jews." 22 Pilate answered, "**What I have written, I have written.**"

Jesus Executed

4. Jesus carries His cross to Golgotha, (Aramaic for "the place of the skull")
5. Crucified with 2 others. Why the other two? Is it more economical?
6. Pilate's last snub to the Jewish leaders – a sign that says, "King of the Jews", written in 3 languages :18-:22

23 When the soldiers crucified Jesus, they took his clothes, dividing them into four shares, one for each of them, with the undergarment remaining. This garment was seamless, woven in one piece from top to bottom. 24 "Let's not tear it," they said to one another. "Let's decide by lot who will get it." This happened that the scripture might be **fulfilled** which said, "They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing." So this is what the soldiers did.

Odd detail about the execution of Jesus

5. Soldiers scavenge the clothes of Jesus :23
 6. Didn't want to divide the undergarment :24
 7. This fulfills a scripture
 8. Why include this detail? Is it to show the utter degradation that Jesus was subject to?
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25 Near the cross of Jesus stood his **mother**, his mother's sister, **Mary** the wife of Clopas, and **Mary Magdalene.** 26 When Jesus saw his mother there, and the **disciple whom he loved** standing near by, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," 27 and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

People at the cross

3. Mary (mother), Mary (Mary's sister), Mary Magdalene, John :25
4. Jesus asks John to care for Mary as he would his own mother and He did :27

28 Later, **knowing that all was now completed**, and so that the Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." 29 A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. 30 When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Jesus dies

5. Everything was completed :28.
 6. He takes a final drink of wine vinegar :29
 7. It is finished
 8. Jesus gives up His Spirit. :30
-

31 Now it was the **day of Preparation**, and the next day was to be a **special Sabbath**. Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. 32 The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. 33 But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. 34 Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of **blood and water**.

“Religious” devotion????

The Jewish leaders had killed off Jesus. They had no consciousness of doing anything wrong. They felt they were doing God's will.

They wanted to make sure they didn't break any laws of God so they ask for the body of Jesus to be buried. See Deuteronomy 21:22-23

Poor deluded souls. What had they really done. Peter would speak of it in Acts 2:22-23

Blood and water

The blood and water here are literal but the Holy Spirit would take the words, blood and water, to refer to some deep spiritual truths.

Blood = death = payment for sin = forgiveness

Water = blessing = Holy Spirit = forgiveness

35 The man who saw it has given **testimony**, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. 36 These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: “Not one of his bones will be broken,” 37 and, as another scripture says, “They will look on the one they have pierced.”

John affirms this testimony

In an indirect way, which he often did, John affirms that this document is the testimony of an eye witness :36

Another 2 prophecies are fulfilled – Psalms 22:16-17, 34:20

38 Later, **Joseph of Arimathea** asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jews. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. 39 He was accompanied by **Nicodemus**, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about **seventy-five pounds**. 40 Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. 41 At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no-one had ever been laid. 42 Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was near by, they laid Jesus there.” John 19:1-42, NIV.

Burial details

Joseph of Arimathea was a secret disciple of Jesus :38

He asks Pilate for the body of Jesus and Pilate grants this

Nicodemus, probably another secret disciple, brought 75 pounds of myrrh and aloes, to prepare Jesus body for burial according to Jewish burial customs :39-40. Once prepared the body is encased a gooey mess of linen and spices.

Jesus is buried in a tomb near his crucifixion.

that you might believe (20)

*"1 Early on the **first day of the week**, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the **stone had been removed** from the entrance. 2 So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have **taken the Lord** out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" 3 So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. 4 Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. 5 He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, 7 as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was **folded up by itself**, separate from the linen. 8 Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. 9 (They still **did not understand** from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) 10 Then the disciples went back to their homes," John 20:1-10, NIV.*

Underwhelming reaction of the disciples to Jesus' Resurrection

Mary (along with some other women) got the tomb very early Sunday morning

Why? "On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb." Luke 24:1, NIV.

To prepare the body of Jesus. They didn't realize that Joseph and Nicodemus had already done this (19:40).

Where were the apostles?

Jesus had specifically predicted His resurrection.

"21 From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life." Matthew 16:21, NIV.

"22 When they came together in Galilee, he said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. 23 They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised to life." And the disciples were filled with grief." Matthew 17:22, 23, NIV.

"17 Now as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside and said to them, 18 "We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death 19 and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!" Matthew 20:17-19, NIV.

Even when the woman told the apostles of the resurrection of Jesus they didn't believe.

"4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. 5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'" 8 Then they remembered his words. 9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense." Luke 24:4-11, NIV.

The enemies of Christ remembered his predictions of resurrection.

“11 but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb 12 and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. 13 They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” 14 At this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise that it was Jesus. 15 “Woman,” he said, “why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?” Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” 16 Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned towards him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). 17 Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” 18 Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

Mary & Jesus

Mary is mourning at the empty tomb. Why? Because she believes that Jesus body has been stolen. She has no room for the idea that Jesus rose from the dead :13

Angels appear and she doesn’t realize :12

Jesus appears and she doesn’t realize :15

Jesus speaks and she realizes :16

19 On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. 21 Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” 24 Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.” 26 A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” 28 Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” 30 Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” John 20:11-31, NIV.

The other disciples

Sunday evening of the day Jesus is raised from the dead - :19

Disciples were meeting in secret (:19) and Jesus appears to them. Thomas is not present - :24

They are overjoyed :20

Jesus commissions them to be sent into the world in a similar way to Him - :22

He associates this commission closely to the ministry of the Holy Spirit :22

A week later :26 – Another Sunday meeting

Thomas has expressed his skepticism at the claims of Jesus resurrection :24-25

Jesus again appears and confronts Thomas with the evidence of His body :27

Thomas immediately proclaims the only explanation possible :28 – “My Lord and my God”.

Life is a faith in Jesus issue

Jesus praises Thomas' confession :29

Jesus praises those who will believe without the actual physical evidence.

This is the reason the book of John was written :20-21; so that those who haven't seen the physical evidence can believe

“1 Afterwards Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way: 2 Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. 3 “I’m going out to fish,” Simon Peter told them, and they said, “We’ll go with you.” So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. 4 Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. 5 He called out to them, “Friends, haven’t you any fish?” “No,” they answered. 6 He said, “Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.” When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. 7 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, “It is the Lord,” he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. 8 The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. 9 When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. 10 Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.” 11 Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. 12 Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. 14 This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.” John 21:1-14, NIV.

Every day life waiting for the next step

Back to the fishing business but with little success :1-:3

Jesus helps them catch a huge haul of fish :4-:6

They realize that this must be Jesus :7

Peter jumps in the water and swims to shore

Jesus makes them breakfast of bread and fish :8-:13

This is the third time Jesus appears to the disciples :14

“4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. 6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, 8 and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.” 1 Corinthians 15:4-8, NIV.

*“15 When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, **do you truly love me more than these?**” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.” 16 Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.” 17 The third time he said to*

him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "**Feed my sheep.** 18 I tell you the truth, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go." 19 Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!" 20 Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is going to betray you?") 21 When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?" 22 Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me." 23 Because of this, the rumour spread among the brothers that this disciple would not die. But Jesus did not say that he would not die; he only said, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, 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 Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written." John 21:15-25, NIV.

The challenge of Peter by Jesus

1. *Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?* :15 Love = Agape = sacrificial love by choice

Peter's Response: I love you. Love = Phileo = Fond

Jesus: Feed my lambs

2. *"Simon son of John, do you truly love me?"* :16. Agape

Peter's Response: Phileo = Fond

Jesus: Feed my sheep

3. *"Simon son of John, do you love me?"* :17. Phileo

Peter's Response: Phileo

Jesus: Feed my sheep

Is there a significance to the use of two words for love in different questions?

There is a significance in it being three fold just as Peter's denial of Jesus was three fold.

Peter's death at the hands of others is foretold :18-:19

Peter asks about John :20-:23

Johns finishes with 2 main points

3. This book is his testimony about Jesus

4. It is not everything that Jesus did.

