



Survey of John

by
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Survey of John

**A study of the book of John for
Small Group or Personal Bible Study**

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Small Group or Personal Study Course

Introduction

This is a small group Bible study course to help you grow in your understanding of the Gospel of John. This study will be most effective as you get together with a small group to share the answers that each of you has written in your personal study. This can also be used as a personal study course to help you grow in your understanding of the Gospel of John. This course is designed to help you grow in three ways. Throughout the course you will read a paragraph to help you grow in your knowledge of the verses that you will be reading. After each paragraph you will usually have three questions. These three questions will focus on three things: Knowledge, Understanding and Application.

The first question will ask you to find the answer to some question in the verses that you are reading. This question is to help you pick out a key fact in those verses to help you grow in your knowledge of those verses. The answer to this question will usually be found in the verses as you read them.

The second question will ask you a question that will help you to think through the verses to understand the meaning of the group of verses being discussed. As you read this question, pray that the Lord will give you understanding of the passage as well as knowledge of the facts.

The third question will ask you a question that will help you to apply what you have learned from those verses both to your own and to your service for Christ. It is as we understand and apply the Scripture to our lives that the Lord really begins to change and transform our lives.

At the end of each lesson there will be an opportunity to write down something that you have learned for your own life through the study of those verses. Our prayer is that as you work through these lessons that three things will happen in your life:

1. First, you will grow in your knowledge of the Bible.
2. Second, you will grow in your understanding of the verses that you have studied.
3. Third, you will learn how to apply the Word of God to your life.

The basic material in each of these lessons was originally written in one of six Bible Survey texts written between 1969 and 1974 that cover the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation. We are making this material available in this new form to help you grow in your knowledge, understanding and application of the Bible to your life. The Lord willing, we will continue to make other books available as we have time to prepare them in this new form.

May the Lord bless you as you learn His Word.

Survey of John

	Page
Introduction	ii
1. Survey of John – John 1:1-51	1
2. Survey of John – John 2:1-3:36	5
3. Survey of John – John 4:1-54	10
4. Survey of John – John 5:1-47	15
5. Survey of John – John 6:1-71	19
6. Survey of John – John 7:1-53	24
7. Survey of John – John 8:1-59	28
8. Survey of John – John 9:1-41	32
9. Survey of John – John 10:1-42	36
10. Survey of John – John 11:1-57	40
11. Survey of John – John 12:1-50	44
12. Survey of John – John 13:1-38	48
13. Survey of John – John 14:1-31	52
14. Survey of John – John 15:1-27	56
15. Survey of John – John 16:1-33	60
16. Survey of John – John 17:1-26	64
17. Survey of John – John 18:1-40	68
18. Survey of John – John 19:1-42	72
19. Survey of John – John 20:1-31	76
20. Survey of John – John 21:1-25	80

Survey of John
Lesson 1
John 1:1-51

Today we are beginning a study of the book of John. In this book we will see that Christ is the Son of God. Many people today try to deny that Christ is God and equal with His Father. However, this book says over and over again that Christ is the Son of God and equal with the Father. In this first chapter we will see that Christ was with the Father in the beginning and that Christ created all things. We will also see that Christ is called the Word. Today we use words to get our ideas and thoughts to other people. We also use words to help other people understand how we feel. God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, so that we could understand how much God loves us. Christ spoke to us and showed us the love of God.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain the lessons we learn about the relationship between Christ and the Father.
- Tell what John the Baptist said about Christ.
- Explain what happened when John the Baptist introduced two of his followers to Christ.
- Tell what happened when Philip and Nathanael met Christ.

As we begin the book of John, we learn immediately that Christ is God and that He came from God. Here we learn that everything done by the Father and the Son is done together because they are in complete agreement. We read that all things were made by Christ and that nothing was made without Christ. We also read that Christ is life. A person who is not a Christian is spiritually dead and has no spiritual life. Only in Christ can a person have real purpose and meaning because Christ gives real life. In addition to being called the Word and the Life, this chapter also gives many other names for Christ that tell us more about Christ.

1. Read John 1:1-14 and write one other name or title given to Christ in these verses.
2. Explain why you think Christ is called the Word.
3. Tell why it is important that the Father sent Christ to share His message with you.

Christ is called the Light or True Light several times in the book of John. Light gets rid of darkness and darkness is not able to put out the light. That is what Christ came to do. He came to remove the darkness caused by sin. Christ is the true or real Light. He does not give a false kind of light. Instead He the True Light that takes away the darkness of sin.

4. Read John 1:1-14 and write what happened when Christ came to His own people, the Jews.
5. Explain why you think Christ is called the True Light.
6. Explain why you need the True Light to take away the darkness of sin in your life.

Most of the people of the world have not been willing to follow Christ. However, there are those who do accept His message and follow Him. In these verses Christ promises that all who receive Him become His children. We become a part of the family of God. We are not born into the family of God by physical birth. Instead we are adopted into the family of God by His will because He chose us before the world was ever created.

7. Read John 1:1-14 and write what Christ became.
8. Explain why you think it was necessary for Christ to become a human being.

9. Explain how you think a person becomes a child of God.

Christ became a man and lived among us so that He could die on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins. Christ was willing to leave all of the beauty and glory of heaven in order to come down to earth and become a man. As we study the book of John we see a little picture of the greatness and glory of Christ. This greatness and glory is given to Christ by the Father. The books of Matthew, Mark and Luke also tell us about the greatness and glory of Christ. Matthew shows that greatness and glory by presenting Christ as the King. Mark does the same by presenting Christ as the Servant. Luke then presents Christ as the Son of Man. As we study this book we will see the John shows us the greatness and glory of Christ by showing us that He is the Son of God.

10. Read John 1:1-14 and write what people were able to see as they saw Christ (the Word) on this earth.
11. Explain what these verses teach you about Christ.
12. Explain what the fact that Christ became a man and came to this earth means to you personally.

John 1:15-34 tells us some of the things that John the Baptist said as he preached about Christ. Since John, the disciple, does not mention his own name in this book, each time you see John it is talking about John the Baptist. John spoke of the fact that Christ is the only one who has ever seen the Father. Now Christ speaks to us about the Father so that we can know the Father also.

13. Read John 1:15-34 and write what two groups came from Jerusalem to ask John the Baptist who he was.
14. The law (which shows us what we have done wrong) was given by Moses (verse 17). Explain what it means that grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.
15. How has grace (God's forgiveness of sin) personally affected you?

The religious leaders who were supposed to be teaching about God were concerned because they heard that John the Baptist was preaching and everyone was going to listen to him. John told them that he was not Christ or one of the prophets. Instead he was sent to prepare the way for Christ. The men from Jerusalem asked John the Baptist who told him to baptize. John told the men that he was baptizing with water but there was one coming after him who would be greater and more important.

16. Read John 1:15-34 and write what John called Christ the next day.
17. Explain why you think that the religious leaders were upset that John was baptizing.
18. Explain why it is important to you that John the Baptist introduced Christ.

The Jews offered lambs as a sacrifice for sin for hundreds of years. The sacrifice of the lamb was to cover their sins until Christ died to take away sin. Now John was telling the people that Christ was the Lamb that God was sending to take away the sins of all those who followed Christ. The sacrifices that the Jews offered were only a covering for sin. Here John the Baptist said that the death of Christ would take away sin.

19. Read John 1:15-34 and write how John saw the Spirit come on Christ.
20. Explain in your own words the meaning of "Lamb of God".
21. Explain why it is important to you that Christ came to take away sin.

As John the Baptist preached in different places, there was a group of men who became his disciples and helped him. One day John the Baptist saw Christ come and told two of these men that the Lamb of God was coming. The two men immediately turned and followed Christ. Here we see an important lesson. John the Baptist was anxious to get men to follow Christ even though it meant that they would not follow him anymore. We are not to try and get people to follow us. Instead we are to help them follow Christ.

22. Read John 1:35-42 and write what the two men asked Christ.
23. Explain why you think it is important that John introduced these men to Christ.
24. Explain why it is important to you to tell others about Christ.

The two men wanted to know where Christ was staying so that they could visit Christ and get to know Him. Here we learn another lesson. A person will be able to understand much more if someone will sit down and explain to the individual what it actually means to be a Christian. Christ took time to talk with these two men. We read that they went with Christ, talked with Christ and followed Christ.

25. Read John 1:35-42 and write the name of one of the men who followed Christ.
26. Explain why it was important that Christ invited these two men to spend time with Him.
27. Explain why you think it is important for you to learn more about Christ for you in your own life.

Since Peter and Andrew fished with James and John, the other one who probably followed Christ that day was John. John never mentions himself in the book of John. Instead he takes every opportunity to speak about others. This is a good lesson for us today. We need to speak of others and the good things that they do instead of telling all of the things that we do.

28. Read John 1:35-42 and write the first things that Andrew did after he met Christ.
29. Explain what you think those two men learned about Christ as they spent time with Him.
30. Tell how studying this chapter is helping you to understand more about Christ.

We learn another important lesson from Andrew. He is not mentioned very many times in the book of John. However, each time Andrew is mentioned in the book of John, he is bringing someone to Christ. Andrew was not a great preacher like some of the other followers of Christ. In fact, we never read a single sermon that Andrew preached. However, he was faithful in bringing individuals to Christ. Today, many Christians are not concerned enough about those who do not yet know Christ to go and find them where they are and bring them to Christ.

31. Read John 1:35-42 and write what name Christ gave to Simon.
32. Explain what you learn as you think about the fact that both John the Baptist and Andrew introduced others to Christ.
33. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the life of Andrew.

The next day Christ invited Philip to follow Him. The first thing that Philip did was go and tell Nathanael about Christ. We will see many times in the book of John that the first thing a person did after meeting Christ was go and tell someone else about Christ. This should be the first thing that we teach a new Christian. We should encourage him to go and tell someone else about Christ immediately. If a new Christian learns to tell others about Christ right away, he will not be afraid and telling others will become a normal part of his life. Philip was excited because he had just met Christ. However, Nathanael was not as excited.

34. Read John 1:43-51 and write what Nathanael answered when Philip said that he had just met Jesus of Nazareth.
35. Explain why you think Philip was so quick to tell his friend about Christ.
36. Explain why it is important for us to be concerned enough about our friends to tell them about Christ.

An answer like Nathanael gave Philip would have discouraged many people, However, Philip gave a good answer to Nathanael. Instead of arguing or trying to prove to

Nathanael that he was wrong, Philip gave Nathanael a very simple answer. Philip told Nathanael to come and meet Christ for himself. We learn an important lesson for our lives. The thing that we need to do as we talk to other people is help them meet Christ. We are not to argue about which church is right or any other thing. Our privilege and responsibility is to help people meet Christ. This may mean having a Bible study with a person each week and go through John or one of the other Gospels a chapter each week. It may mean showing love and concern for a person when he has a need. It may mean many other things. Whatever may be necessary, we are to help people meet Christ.

37. Read John 1:43-51 and write what Christ called Nathanael when Christ first met him.
38. A man who speaks no guile is one who does not twist the truth. Explain why it is important to speak the truth without twisting it.
39. Explain why it is important for us to follow the example of Philip and introduce our friends to Christ.

When Nathanael and Philip came to Christ, Christ told Nathanael what he was like. Nathanael immediately asked Christ how Christ knew what he was like. Then Christ said that He knew Nathanael even before Philip called him as he sat under the fig tree. Suddenly Nathanael realized that Christ was no ordinary man. He realized that Christ knew all things. As we help people to meet Christ personally by sharing the Word of God with them, they will also begin to realize that Christ is no ordinary. As they study the book of John they will begin to realize that He is God.

40. Read John 1:43-51 and write what Christ told Nathanael he would see if he believed.
41. Explain why it is important for people to believe that Christ is the Son of God.
42. Explain why it is important in your own life for you to know and believe that Christ is truly the Son of God.

Lessons are learned best when we put them into practice. In this chapter we saw that the first thing Andrew did after he met Christ was tell his brother Peter. The first thing that Philip did after he met Christ was tell his friend Nathanael. You probably also have relatives and friends that have not met Christ and placed their trust in Him. Begin to pray daily for those relatives and friends that are not Christians. As you pray, ask Christ to give you the opportunity this week to share with at least one of those relatives or friends how they can get to know Christ and receive forgiveness of sins.

We have given a brief summary of the first chapter of the book of John. There are many more lessons that you will learn in the future as you ask Christ to give you greater understanding. However, for now reread John 1:1-51 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from this chapter as you studied it.

Survey of John
Lesson 2
John 2:1-3:36

Today we are going to learn about the first miracle of Christ. We read that Christ changed water to wine at a wedding in the city of Cana. Many people use this miracle as an excuse to drink. However, there are several things to consider. First, the water in the area was very poor and the people could not drink it. Second, there is a great difference between natural wine (grape juice) and wine that has something added to it. Grape juice turns to wine if it sits too long. However, it does not have very much alcohol in it unless something is added to it to make it stronger. In order for a person to become drunk on wine which has not had anything added to it, a person would have to drink several gallons. Wine and beer makers add rotten apples, rotten wheat, rotten hops or something else that is rotten to make wine or beer strong. We read that Christ made the best wine. It was not like wine that had rotten things added to it to make it stronger. It was natural wine which would not make a man drunk unless he drank several gallons. Finally we read many warnings in the Bible against becoming drunk.

As you study this lesson, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what lesson we learn from Christ changing water to wine.
- Tell what happened when Christ met people buying and selling in the temple.
- Explain what Christ taught Nicodemus about eternal life.
- Tell what John the Baptist said about Christ.

Soon after Christ met His first disciples, Christ and the disciples were invited to a wedding in the town of Cana. The people ran out of wine at the wedding so Mary came to Christ and asked for help. Christ told Mary that His hour had not yet come to show Himself to the world by doing a miracle. This shows that Christ had not performed any public miracles yet. However, Mary knew that Christ had the power to perform a miracle and so she gave some instructions to the servants.

1. Read John 2:1-12 and write what Mary told the servants.
2. Explain why you think Christ said His hour had not yet come.
3. Explain why it is important for you in your personal life to know that Christ has the power to change you just as He changed the water.

Here we see that Mary had complete faith in the power of Christ even though He had not performed a miracle yet. Here we learn an important lesson for our own lives. We should believe the promises of God even before we see the answer to our prayers. We also see that Christ was always ready to help when there was a need. He told the servants to take six stone waterpots and fill them with water. The servants obeyed and filled them to the top. Each of the waterpots held from 20 to 30 gallons. This means that there was somewhere between 120 and 180 gallons of water in the pots before Christ performed the miracle.

4. Now read John 2:1-12 and write what the man in charge of the wedding feast said about the wine to the man getting married.
5. Explain why you think Christ chose to do this miracle as His first miracle.
6. Tell why it is important to you in your own life that Christ has the power to perform miracles.

We also learn another important lesson. Christ made the wine good wine. When Christ does anything, He always does it right. Whatever, we do, we should do our best because we are doing it for Christ and not for other men. Every Christian needs to learn

the importance of doing everything for Christ. This gives new meaning to our work because we are working for Christ. The people we visit, we are visiting for Christ. If they are Christians, then we can teach and encourage them. If they are not Christians, we should look for opportunities to help them realize what it means to follow Christ. As we raise children in a family, we are raising them for Christ and we should do everything possible to help them want to love and follow Christ.

7. Now read John 2:1-12 and write what happened to the disciples of Christ because He did this miracle.
8. Just as Christ made the best wine, explain why you think it is important to do our best as we serve Christ.
9. Explain how this first miracle of Christ gives you a better understanding of the power of Christ to change your life.

John 2:13-25 tells about Christ chasing the people out of the temple because they were using the temple to change money and sell animals for sacrifices. Christ did this as He began preaching and also three years later just before He was crucified. The other Gospels tell about Christ chasing the men out of the temple just before His death. John is the only one who tells us that Christ also cleansed the temple when He first started preaching. The Jews asked Christ to give them a sign to show that he had a right to chase them out of the temple.

10. Read John 2:13-25 and write the answer of Christ.
11. Explain why you think that Christ chose to chase those who were changing money and those who were selling animals out of the temple.
12. Tell why it is important in your life to show respect for God.

Christ here makes the first mention of the fact that He is going to die and come back to life three days later. However, everyone thought that Christ was talking about the building instead of His body. Today many people do the same thing with the word “church”. They think of a church building instead of realizing that the word church is speaking of the people who are Christians. The church (group of Christians) can meet anywhere – in a house, under a tree, in an open field, or any other place. The building is not the important thing. The important thing is that every Christian is busy serving Christ. Here we see that it should be a living and active body.

13. Read John 2:13-25 and write what caused many people to believe Christ.
14. Explain what Christ meant when He said, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”
15. Tell why it is important to you that Christ both predicted His resurrection and then later rose from the dead.

While Christ was in Jerusalem, a man by the name of Nicodemus came to visit Christ one night. Nicodemus was a Pharisee and a leader of the Jews. Nicodemus wanted to know how to have eternal life. Christ told Nicodemus that he must be born again in order to have eternal life. Here we see that Christ uses the curiosity of Nicodemus in order to get his interest. When people are curious, they will ask questions to help satisfy that curiosity. Nicodemus immediately asked how he could become a baby and be born again. We see that Nicodemus did not understand what Christ meant but he was very curious to find out. Christ tells Nicodemus that there are two kinds of birth.

16. Read John 3:1-13 and write the verse that tells how the two kinds of birth are different.
17. Explain the difference between physical birth and spiritual birth.
18. Explain why you think it is important for you to help a person understand the meaning of spiritual birth.

Here we learn another important lesson. Christ used the words “born again” which Nicodemus did not understand to arouse his curiosity. However, Christ went on to explain the meaning of the phrase “born again” so that Nicodemus did understand what He meant. Today many Christians use words that people who are not Christians cannot understand. Then they fail to explain the meaning of those words. As a result, the person who is not a Christian never does understand. How many times have you heard a Christian say to another person: Are you saved? Have you been born again? Do you know that you are lost? Any of these questions might make a person curious. However, unless we explain what we mean, that person will not understand how to become a Christian.

19. Read John 3:1-13 and write down one of the statements in these verses that a person will not understand unless it is explained to him.
20. Now write how you would explain that verse to a person who is not yet a Christian.
21. Explain why we need to use easy, simple words in order to explain to a person how to become a Christian.

Christ went on to explain to Nicodemus that we must have a physical birth and a spiritual birth in order to go to heaven. Nicodemus was thinking of a second physical birth. We see from the next question that Nicodemus still did not understand completely. He was a religious leader but he did not understand what it means to be born again. It is easy to see why a person who has never heard much about Christ would find it very difficult to understand when we use words like saved and born again.

22. Read John 3:1-13 and write the second question that Nicodemus asked.
23. Explain why you think Nicodemus still could not understand.
24. Explain how you would help a person to understand the difference between physical birth and spiritual birth.

Christ was willing to keep explaining until Nicodemus did understand. As a leader of the Jews, Nicodemus knew the Old Testament very well. Christ used an event from the Old Testament to help Nicodemus understand how to have eternal life. In Numbers 21:5-11 the people had complained against God. As a result, God sent snakes among them that bit them. All those who were bitten by the snakes died. Then God told Moses to make a bronze snake and put it on a pole. All those who looked at that snake would live. Christ points out to Nicodemus that all men will die because of their sins. However, those who choose to follow Christ, the One that God put on the cross, and look to Him for salvation and forgiveness of sins will live.

25. Read John 3:14-21 and write who will receive eternal life.
26. Explain what it means to believe in Christ.
27. Explain how you would help a person understand how to have eternal life.

Here we see that eternal life is for every person who believes in Christ and follows Him. Christ gives an invitation to the people in the world to follow Him. When Moses put the snake on the pole, all those who looked at the snake lived. Those who did not look at the snake died. All the people had the choice to look at the snake but some did not and died as a result. Today Christ offers eternal life to all that believe and follow Him.

28. Read John 3:14-21 and write what has already happened to those who have not believed.
29. Explain what it means to be condemned already.
30. Tell how you would explain the phrase “condemned already” to a person who is not a Christian.

When a man has murdered a person, he is taken to court, tried and then condemned. Then he waits to be put to death. The only way he can go free is if someone gives him a

pardon. Because we have sinned, we are all condemned to die. Christ offers a pardon to all that believe and turn from sin to follow Him. However, a person must be willing to accept that pardon. Then he will walk in the light that Christ gives instead of walking in the darkness of sin.

31. Read John 3:14-21 and write what the person who follows truth does.
32. Explain why you think many people want to walk in darkness instead of coming to the light.
33. Explain how you can help a person realize that he or she has a choice to continue to walk in darkness or choose to come to Christ who is the Light.

In John 3:22-36 we read a little more about John the Baptist. Some of the disciples of John the Baptist came to him and told him that people were starting to follow Christ instead of following him anymore. John then explained to those who were following him that he was glad that these people were now following Christ. John said he was like the friend of a person getting married. The one getting married is the important person and not his friend. John said that he was full of joy to see those people following Christ.

34. Read John 3:22-36 and write what John wanted to do as Christ increased and became more important.
35. Explain why John wanted to see Christ become more important than him.
36. Explain how you can allow Christ to become more important in your life this week.

Here we learn an important lesson for our own lives. Sometimes a pastor or a missionary will begin to get proud because of the large group of people who come to the church or mission. As a result, he begins to encourage the people to follow him and come to the church almost every night instead of encouraging the people to follow Christ and take the Gospel to people in their homes. One of the purposes of the church is to train the Christians to take the Gospel to others. Then the church needs to encourage the people to follow Christ by taking the Gospel to their relatives, friends, and neighbors in their homes.

37. Read John 3:22-36 and write what it caused John the Baptist to experience as he saw Christ become more important
38. Explain why Christians should have joy as they see Christ become more important in the lives of others.
39. Explain what the phrase “Christ must increase, but I must decrease means to you in your own life.

The chapter concludes by telling us that Christ came from the Father in heaven. We see that the One God sent speaks the words of God. When we follow Christ, we are saying that we believe God is true. Christ comes to us and tells us about God. We read that the Father has given all things into the hands of Christ. Those who repent of their sin and place their trust in Christ receive everlasting life.

40. Read John 3:22-36 and write what abides on that person who does not believe on the Son for life.
41. Explain why you think it is important to help all of our relatives and friends understand the importance of repenting and placing their faith in Christ.
42. Explain how your personal life was changed when you repented of your sin and placed your trust in Christ.

Lessons are learned best when we put them into practice. In this chapter we saw that Christ took time to personally explain to Nicodemus how he could receive forgiveness of sins with the result that he received everlasting life. This week as you pray and share the Gospel with relatives and friends, pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to answer the questions of a least one person who is seeking to know more about how to

have everlasting life.

We have given a brief summary of John 2:1-3:36. Now reread John 2:1-3:36 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from these chapters as you studied them.

Survey of John
Lesson 3
John 4:1-54

Today we will be studying about Christ talking to a woman who was a Samaritan. She was a very sinful woman. She was probably hated by all of the other women in the village because she was very immoral and lived in adultery. This was the reason why it was necessary for her to come and get water in the hottest part of the day instead of coming in the morning or the evening when it was cool. It was easier to get her water during the hot part of the day than it was to listen to the gossip and hatred of the other women. Here we see that Christ is able to change any person no matter how sinful that person may be.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what Christ meant by living water.
- Explain what Christ said about the right place to worship.
- Tell what Christ taught the disciples about the need around them.
- Tell the results of the woman following Christ.
- Tell what happened when Christ met a man whose son was sick.

We have learned before that the Jews hated the Samaritans. In this chapter we will see that Christ loves all people including the Samaritans. Part of the Jews lived in Judaea which was the area around Jerusalem. Another group of Jews lived in the area called Galilee. Samaria was between Judaea and Galilee. However, the Jews hated the Samaritans so much that they would walk an extra twenty or thirty miles to go around Samaria instead of walking through Samaria. We read here that Jesus purposely went through Samaria. He knew that those people needed eternal life so He was glad to go through Samaria even though the other Jews would not go through Samaria.

1. Read John 4:1-14 and write what Christ asked the woman as He sat by the well where the people of the city of Sychar got their water.
2. Explain why you think Jesus purposely chose to go through Samaria.
3. Explain what you can do to share the Gospel with people who are often ignored by others.

Here we learn an important lesson. Christ took time to talk to the woman before He started to explain to her how she could have eternal life. Then He used the things in which she was interested to begin to guide her thoughts to eternal life. When Christ asked her for a drink, the woman angrily asked Him why He wanted a drink from her since the Jews hated the Samaritans so much. Christ immediately began to arouse her curiosity just as He aroused the curiosity of Nicodemus. Instead of answering back in an angry voice because she did not sound like she was going to give Him any water, Christ offered her something.

4. Read John 4:1-14 and write what Christ offered the woman.
5. Explain why you think Christ began his conversation with the woman with a request for a drink of water.
6. List some ideas that this has given you about ways to share the Gospel with those who are not Christians.

The woman did not know what Christ meant by living water but she was curious and wanted to find out the meaning of living water. The tone of her voice immediately changed and she respectfully called Christ, Sir. She asked if Christ was greater than Jacob who dug the well. Then Christ told her that she would become thirsty again if she

drank from the well. However, the living water that He was offering would take away her thirst and also give her life that lasts forever. Here we see that Christ is increasing her curiosity. He also begins to make her realize that He is offering eternal life when she is afraid of death.

7. Read John 4:1-14 and write what Christ said the water that He offered would be like.
8. Tell how you would explain what Christ meant when He offered the woman living water.
9. Explain how you can use the example of Christ to give you ideas to build relationships with others to share the Gospel.

Christ offered the woman living water that would take away her thirst and give her everlasting life. She was still thinking about the water in the well. When the woman asked for water that would make it so that she would not need to come to the well for water any more, Christ began to teach her about the real meaning of living water. Christ began to point out her sin by asking the woman to go and get her husband. The woman immediately said that she had no husband. Christ agreed with her and told her that she was absolutely right. She did not have a husband. She had been married to five husbands but the man she was living with now was not her husband. She had told the truth. The woman was not happy to have her sin mentioned and so she quickly tried to change the subject.

10. Read John 4:15-30 and write what the woman said about Christ.
11. Explain why you think the woman recognized that Christ was a prophet.
12. Explain why it is important for you to speak with kindness even when dealing with people about their sin.

The woman said that she saw that Christ was religious. Then she asked Christ whether the Jewish religion or the Samaritan religion was the right religion. This is the question that people always ask today when we talk to them about Christ. They will say that they are Catholics, Methodists, Mormons or some other religion and then ask whether you're your church or their church is the right church. As soon as you say that your church is the right church, you have started an argument and have lost the opportunity to lead that person to Christ. Christ avoided an argument by pointing out the fact that no religion or church would save a person. Instead a person must follow Christ.

13. Read John 4:15-30 and tell where the Samaritans worshiped.
14. Explain why you think it is important to avoid making it sound like you think your church is the right church.
15. Explain how you would answer a person who asks you whether your church or his church is the right church.

As Christ pointed out to the woman that she must worship God and follow Him rather than any religion, the woman suddenly began to realize that Christ was the One who could take away her sin. She realized that Christ is God. Now we see the change in the woman as she followed Christ. She forgot all about her waterpot. Now she was anxious to tell others about Christ. She went to the men of the city and told them about Christ. She told the men that Christ was the Messiah who they were looking for to save them from their sins.

16. Read John 4:15-30 and write what the men of the city did when the woman told them about Christ.
17. Explain what you think it means to worship the Father in spirit and in truth.
18. Explain some ways that you can share with the people you know so they will know how they can have eternal life through Christ.

Just before the woman went into the city, the disciples returned with food for lunch.

While the woman was gone, Christ taught the disciples several lessons. The disciples were very surprised to see Christ talking to the woman. They had not yet learned that the Gospel is for everyone. They were still only concerned about their own people. Here Christ wanted to teach them that they should be concerned for all people. The disciples came to Christ and tried to get Him to eat. Christ told them that He had other food to eat.

19. Read John 4:27-38 and write what Christ said was His food.
20. Explain why you think Christ said that His food was to do the will of the Father and to finish His work.
21. Explain why you feel in your own life that it is important to do the will of the Father.

Here we learn some important lessons for our lives. The disciples were more concerned about their own needs and their own people than they were about doing the will of God. Here Christ tells them to lift up their eyes and look at the needs of others. Today we are to lift up our eyes and look at the needs around us. We need to realize that it is our responsibility to tell others about Christ right now, not four months or four years from now. You may say that you do not know very much about the Bible. However, you know more than those who are not Christians. You need to tell others what you do know. You can also have the privilege to witness to people of other tribes and races as well as your own tribe or race.

22. Read John 4:27-38 and write what Christ says about the harvest.
23. Explain what Christ means when He says the fields are white for harvest.
24. Tell something you could personally do to share the Gospel with someone from another race or culture.

Christ also promises a reward for telling others how to become Christians. He says that if we lead others to Him, we will receive wages and gather fruit that will last forever. We also will be able to rejoice with others because we have witnessed to people to whom they have also witnessed. Sometimes they have the privilege of leading a person to Christ and sometimes we have the privilege of leading a person to Christ. However, we will all rejoice together in heaven. We will each receive a reward for being faithful in telling others about Christ.

25. Read John 4:31-38 and write what we are promised if we reap and gather the harvest for Christ.
26. Explain why you think Christ promises to give us a reward if we faithfully tell others how to know Christ personally.
27. Explain what you can personally do to help others have the opportunity to hear how to become Christians.

We also read what happened when the men of the city came to Christ. We read that many of the people believed Christ because of the things that the woman said about Christ. Here we see the results of a changed life. This woman was so changed that everyone could see the change. The change in her life caused others to want to follow Christ also. Ask yourself the question, "Are there people following Christ today because they have seen a great change in my life?" Can people see a difference in your life because you have followed Christ?

28. Read John 4:39-45 and write how long Christ stayed in the city when the men asked Him to stay.
29. Explain why the Samaritans were able to quickly see that Christ had a different attitude toward them than most of the Jews.
30. Explain what you are presently doing so that people of other religions and cultures realize that you accept them as Christ accepted them.

We see here that the whole city was changed. Instead of asking Christ and the disciples to get out of town because they were Jews, the Samaritans asked Christ to stay and teach them more. We see that many more believed because they heard Christ. They believed because they had met Christ for themselves. Here we learn another important lesson. When people actually meet Christ, many will believe Christ and follow Him. As we study one of the Gospels with those who are not Christians, they will meet Christ and many will believe and follow Christ.

31. Read John 4:39-45 and write where Christ went when He left Samaria.
32. Explain why many people will have their lives changed once they really get to know Christ from the Word of God.
33. Explain what you can personally do to help others get personally acquainted with Christ.

When Christ arrived in Galilee, He went to the city of Cana. While Christ was in Cana a man from the city of Capernaum came to see Christ. The son of the man was very sick and the family was afraid he would die. The man had probably come from Capernaum that morning because it was a little over twenty miles and he arrived about one in the afternoon. The man asked Christ to come to Capernaum and heal his son.

34. Read John 4:46-54 and write what Christ said to the man.
35. Explain what Christ did to teach this man to have faith.
36. Explain some specific ways that you can show your faith in Christ by your actions.

The man could have prayed and asked God to heal his son. However, he felt that he had to see Christ come and heal him. The man asked Christ the second time to come and heal his son. Then Christ spoke to the father and said that his son would live. Suddenly the man realized that Christ could answer his request without going to Capernaum. We too, need to learn to believe the promises of God even though we have not seen the answer to our prayers yet.

37. Read John 4:46-54 and write what Christ told the man to do.
38. Explain what we learn from this man about the fact that God does answer our prayers.
39. Make a list of the various answers to your prayers that you have seen in your life recently.

The man started home knowing that Christ had answered his prayer even though he had not seen the son yet. He was no longer worried because he knew that he could trust the promise of Christ. He even stopped on the way home for the night instead of rushing through the night to see if his son was alive or not. The next morning as the man traveled along the road to Capernaum, one of his servants met him and told him that his son was living and well. The servant said the boy got well at one o'clock the previous day which was the exact time that Christ said the boy would live.

40. Read John 4:46-54 and write what happened to the man and his entire household because of the miracle.
41. Explain how this miracle affected the entire family of the man.
42. Explain why you have chosen to believe that Christ will work in your life in answer to your prayers.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we saw that Christ chose to go through Samaria. He chose to talk to a woman who had a bad past. He shared with her how to have living water. She and many people from her town placed their trust in Christ as a result. The disciples were encouraged to lift up their eyes and see the people of other cultures and begin to pray for them. This week as you pray, ask the Lord to help you meet a person from a different culture and begin to build

a friendship with that person so that you can share the Gospel with that person.

Here is one of the many places where we see that an entire family followed Christ at the same time. Now reread John 4:1-54 and write down the three most important lessons that you learned from this chapter today.

Survey of John
Lesson 4
John 5:1-47

Today we will learn how Christ healed a man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. This man was not able to move. One Sabbath day Christ met the man and healed him. Then Christ told him to take his bed and go home. The religious leaders were very angry because the man was carrying his bed on the Sabbath. As a result, the Jews began persecuting Christ. The Jews also looked for a way to kill Christ. As the Jews came to accuse Christ, Christ spoke of the fact that He came from God. Christ gave them four witnesses of the fact that He was God: the witness of John the Baptist; the witness of the works that Christ did; the witness of the Father; the witness of the Scriptures.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Tell why Christ only healed one man at the pool of Bethesda.
- Explain what Christ teaches about His relationship to the Father.
- Tell what will happen at the two resurrections.
- Explain who else spoke about Christ.

Christ went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish feasts. While Christ was there, He went to the pool of Bethesda. Many sick people lay around this pool. From time to time God would send an angel to move the water. The first person to step into the pool after the angel touched the water was healed of the disease that he had. Christ went to a man who had been lying there for thirty-eight years and asked the man if he would like to be healed. The man said he would like to be healed but he had no one to put him in the water when the angel came down. By the time he could crawl into the water, someone else was already first.

1. Read John 5:1-16 and write what Christ told the man.
2. Explain what problems the man saw which explained why he could not be healed.
3. Explain how you deal with problems in your life that seem like they have no solution.

We learn several important lessons from this man. He was depending on his own strength to get him down to the water so that he could be healed. However, he could not make it to the water by himself. Today many people are trying to get to heaven by their own efforts but they will never make it. The man did not know Christ so he did not know that Christ could help him. Christ came and volunteered to help the man. Today no person has the faith to follow Christ. Christ has to even give us the faith to be saved according to Ephesians 2:8.

4. Read John 5:1-16 and write what happened to the man when Christ told him to take up his bed and walk.
5. Explain how Christ can change a person's life if that person will start to obey Him.
6. Explain some of the ways that Christ will change in your life as you learn to become obedient to Him.

There were many people who were around the pool of Bethesda who were sick, blind or crippled. Since the people were very close together, many of the other sick people saw Christ heal the man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. However, we do not read that a single person out of the entire group asked Christ to heal him also. Here we learn another important lesson. Christ offers salvation to all people. Many people who are not Christians have seen great changes in others who have followed Christ. However, most of these people do not follow Christ and ask Him to change their lives also.

7. Read John 5:1-16 and write what day of the week this miracle happened.
8. Explain what the other Jews said when they saw this man carrying his bed.
9. Explain why many people may also oppose you when you choose to obey Christ.

Christ had healed the sick man on the Sabbath day. The religious leaders saw the man carrying the mat that he used for a bed. The religious leaders told the man that it was against the law to carry his bed on the Sabbath. Then the leaders asked the man who had told him to carry his bed on the Sabbath. Since the man did not know, the leaders let him go. Christ met the man a while later in the temple. Christ told the man not to sin again or a worse thing would happen to him. Here we see that sin may cause some sicknesses. After the man found out that it was Christ who had healed him, the man went and told the religious leaders that Christ was the one who had healed him.

10. Read John 5:1-16 and write what the Jewish leaders did to Christ because he healed a man on the Sabbath.
11. Explain why you think the Jews wanted to kill Christ for helping a man in great need.
12. Explain how Christ's warning to the man about sin applies to you in your own life.

Christ used this persecution as an opportunity to witness to those around Him. He told them that He had not healed the man by Himself. Instead He had healed the man in cooperation with God, the Father. This made the Jews much angrier. They did not want to believe Christ. Now Christ told them that He had done the miracle in cooperation with the Father. They thought it was terrible that Christ had healed a man on the Sabbath. However, they thought it was even worse when Christ said that God was His Father.

13. Read John 5:17-24 and write why the leaders were angry when Christ said that God was His Father.
14. Explain why you think that the Jews were angry that Christ said He was equal with the Father.
15. Tell why you personally have had to make a decision whether to recognize Christ is equal with the Father or not.

The Jews did not want to admit that Christ was God. This is the reason why they persecuted Him and later killed Him. To admit that Christ was God also meant that they must admit that they were sinners and the Jewish religious leaders were not willing to admit that they were sinners. Christ went on to point out the fact that He does all things in cooperation with the Father. He never does anything that would be against the Father. Instead the Father and the Son do all things together. Just as the Father gives life to those who are dead, Christ also gives life to those who are dead.

16. Read John 5:17-24 and write to whom the Father has committed all judgment.
17. Explain what these verses teach about the relationship between the Father and the Son.
18. Explain why you think it is very important for you to understand the relationship between the Father and the Son for your personal life.

Christ came to bring life to men. All those who believe Him and follow Him will receive everlasting life. They will not be judged because they now have life instead of death. However, those who fail to follow Christ will one day stand and be judged because of their sin. We see in these verses that if men honor the Father, they will also honor and follow the Son. The fact that the religious leaders did not honor the Father shows why they did not honor and follow Christ.

19. Read John 5:17-24 and write what Christ says a person has to do to have everlasting life.

20. Explain why a person who places his trust in Christ does not need to fear judgment any longer.
21. Tell how you would explain verse 24 to a person who was interested in knowing how to become a Christian.

Christ also teaches about the resurrection. Christ says that the hour is coming when the dead shall hear His voice. Christ has life and gives life to all those who follow Him. God has also given Christ the responsibility of judging all those who fail to follow Him. Christ actually judged all men when He died on the cross. We read in John 3:18 that those who do not believe in Christ have been condemned already. Men pass from that judgment into life when they follow Christ.

22. Read John 5:25-29 and write what will happen to all those who are dead when they hear the voice of Christ.
23. Explain why a person is not honoring the Father when he refuses to honor the Son.
24. Explain what caused you to realize that you had to make the personal choice to honor the Son in your own life.

Christ will raise those who have followed Him and will give them eternal life. When the Christians are raised from the dead, they will be given new bodies. These new bodies will then be united with their souls and their spirits, which went to be with Christ at the time their physical bodies died. Those who have done evil will also be raised from the dead. However, their resurrection will be very different from the resurrection of the Christians. They will be raised from the torment of Hades (Luke 16:19-31) and judged and then cast into the lake which burns with fire and brimstone.

25. Read John 5:25-29 and write what the resurrection of the evil is called.
26. Explain the two kinds of resurrections mentioned in John 5:25-29.
27. Write out how you would personally explain these two resurrections to a family member or friend who is not a Christian and then begin to pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to share that message with the friend or relative.

Christ goes on to teach that there are several witnesses to the fact that He comes from God. Christ is not the only one who says that He is God. The first one Christ mentioned was John the Baptist. John had told the religious leaders many times that Christ would come from God. The people even listened to John for a while but they did not accept His message about Christ. Instead the leaders hated the message of John.

28. Read John 5:30-47 and write the second thing that pointed to the fact that Christ came from God.
29. Explain how Jesus described John the Baptist.
30. Explain why it is important to you to know personally that there were several witnesses to the fact that Christ is God.

Christ had performed many miracles including at least one that very day. These religious leaders had just talked to a man who had been sick for thirty-eight years. They had seen the power of God as they looked at a man walking who had not walked for thirty-eight years. Some of the leaders probably knew the man and knew that he had not been able to walk for many years. They knew that it was a miracle that the man was now walking.

31. Read John 5:30-47 and write the third witness that testifies about Christ.
32. Explain how the witness of the Father also showed that Christ is God.
33. Explain why you know that you can believe the witness of the Father about Christ.

Christ told the Jews that they had never seen the Father at any time. They did not know the Father and they did not listen to Him. Today many people claim that they worship

the Father but they do not listen to Christ. If they do not listen to Christ, they are not listening to the Father either. They are showing their attitude toward the Father when they refuse to follow Christ. They do not have the Word of God in them.

34. Now read John 5:30-47 and write the fourth thing that testifies about Christ.
35. Explain why a person does not believe in God if he does not believe in Christ.
36. Explain why it is important to you in your own life to believe that the Father sent Christ and testifies about Christ.

The Jews had the entire Old Testament during the time of Christ. There are many places in the Old Testament, which spoke of the coming of Christ. The religious leaders were even familiar with many of these promises about Christ. Thirty years earlier the religious leaders had told Herod and the wise men that Christ would be born in Bethlehem just as Micah 5:2 had predicted. The leaders had asked John the Baptist if he was Christ or “the prophet” that was to come. These men knew the promises of God in the Old Testament but they refused to accept those promises and believe in Christ. Today many people know what the Word of God says about Christ. However, they are refusing to believe the Word of God and follow Christ.

37. Read John 5:30-47 and write what Christ said about the Scriptures.
38. Explain why the Scriptures told in many places in the Old Testament about the coming of Christ.
39. Explain how many people today are just like the Pharisees and other religious leaders during the time of Christ.

The religious leaders claimed to follow the law, which was given by God and written by Moses. Christ told them that if they really believed Moses they would also believe Christ because Moses wrote about Christ. The fact that they did not follow Christ showed that they did not believe the Word of God even though they had learned it and claimed to follow it. A person may know the Word of God but it does no good to know the Word of God if we do not obey it.

40. Now read John 5:30-47 and write the four things that the Jews did not believe that spoke of Christ.
41. Explain why you think the Jews would not come to Christ to have eternal life.
42. Explain what you are going to do this week to help someone understand how to come to Christ.

Lessons are learned best when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have seen that the Father sent Christ into the world and that the Father testified about Christ throughout the Old Testament. This week as you pray, ask the Lord to lead you to at least one person who does not understand that Christ came from the Father. Pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to share what you have learned from this chapter that shows that Christ truly did come from the Father.

We have given a brief summary of John 5:1-47. Now reread John 5:1-47 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Survey of John
Lesson 5
John 6:1-71

Today we will be studying about Christ feeding five thousand men besides women and children. As we study this chapter, we will be learning some important lessons from a young boy and also from a disciple named Andrew. The day after Christ fed the people, a large crowd came to Christ. They came because they wanted to be fed again. Christ took the opportunity to teach about the fact that He is the Bread of Life. He is the only One who is able to meet the real need of people. He offers life that lasts forever to those who choose to follow Him. In the last part of the chapter we read that many of those who have been following Christ stopped following Him.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what lessons we learn from Andrew and the boy with the lunch.
- Tell what Christ means by the Bread of Life.
- Tell what happened when Christ stopped a storm.
- Tell why some people stopped following Christ.

As we have studied the time Christ fed a crowd of five thousand men in the other Gospels, we learned several important lessons. In the book of John we learn some more important lessons from this miracle. We read that Christ asked Philip where to buy bread for the people so that they could eat. Instead of answering the question of Christ, Philip reported that they did not have enough money. One of the reasons why we fail is the fact that we worry about the lack of money or the lack of something else when Christ tells us to do something. If Christ gives us a job to do, He will provide whatever is needed to do that job.

1. Read John 6:1-14 and write what Andrew said to Christ.
2. Explain why many Christians tell the Lord why they cannot do something instead of obeying Him.
3. Explain why you think Philip gave a financial report instead of answering the question of Christ.

We learn several important lessons from Andrew. First we see that he is bringing someone to Christ. Every time we read about Andrew in the book of John he is bringing someone to Christ. We also see that he is concerned about the need of the people. Philip said that they could not help the people because they did not have enough money. Andrew teaches us that money is not the most important thing. The need of the people is the important thing to see. We also see real faith in Andrew. He believed that Christ could do the impossible. When there are five thousand men besides women and children, it would be completely ridiculous to suggest that here is a little lunch unless a person has faith that Christ is able to perform a great miracle. Andrew had the faith to believe that Christ could perform a miracle.

4. Read John 6:1-14 and write three results that you see from this miracle.
5. Explain why Christ asked Philip the question when verse 6 tells us that Christ already knew what He was going to do.
6. Explain why you think Christ had the disciples distribute the food to the people instead of just doing it instantly Himself.

We would also like to look at the little boy and learn some lessons from him. He had a lunch with five loaves and two small fish. Christ had been such a wonderful teacher that they boy had forgotten to eat all day. By now he was probably very hungry. Even the whole lunch might not have been enough to fill him because boys are usually able to eat

a lot of food. Now the boy was faced with a choice. He could sneak away and eat the lunch by himself. He could eat half of the lunch himself and give half to Christ or he could give the entire lunch to Christ. Christ had not yet said that He would multiply the lunch and give more back to the boy. All the boy knew was that Christ wanted some food. Here we see that the boy was willing to give all he had to Christ even though he did not know if he would receive any back from Christ.

7. Read John 6:1-14 and write what happened to the people as Christ prayed and distributed the food.
8. Explain why you think Christ told the disciples to gather up the food that was left after everyone had been satisfied.
9. Explain what lessons you learn from your own life from the giving of the boy.

After Christ fed the crowd, He sent them away and went up into a mountain to pray alone. Christ knew that the people wanted to make Him their king. Christ knew He must spend time in prayer so that He would be prepared for this temptation of the devil. The devil was using the people to try and tempt Christ to become important in the world rather than pay the penalty for the sins of men. The devil uses many things that look good to hinder Christians and keep them from doing their most effective work for Christ. If the devil can keep us so busy doing good things for the church that we do not have time to witness about Christ or teach new Christians, the devil is very happy.

10. Read John 6:15-21 and write what the disciples were doing while Christ was praying.
11. Explain why you think Christ thought it was very important to spend time praying to the Father.
12. Explain what Christ's time of prayer to the Father teaches you about the importance of prayer in your own life.

The disciples suddenly ran into a great windstorm, which caused high waves of water. A storm usually causes men to become a little concerned. They know a storm can fill a boat with water and cause the boat to sink. All at once the disciples saw something coming across the water toward them. It was dark and they could not see so they became afraid. However, Christ quickly told them that it was He and that they did not need to be afraid. The disciples were very glad and took Christ into the boat.

13. Read John 6:15-21 and write what happened to the boat as soon as Christ got into it.
14. Explain why you think Christ allowed the storm to come on the Sea of Galilee while the disciples were crossing it in the boat.
15. Explain what you learn for your own life about the fact that Christ is with you when you are going through difficult times.

The next day a large crowd of people came looking for Christ. When they found Christ, He told them that the reason they came was the fact that they wanted to be fed again. Free food will always gather a crowd of people. However, Christ told the people not to look for the food that soon passes away. Instead they need to get the food which endures and gives them everlasting life.

16. Read John 6:22-40 and write the question that the Jews asked Christ when He told them to work for the food that endures and gives them everlasting life.
17. Explain why you think Christ did not offer to feed the people this time when they came to Him.
18. Explain how you would explain to a friend what it means to labor not for the food that perishes but for the food that endures to everlasting life.

The Jews failed to understand Christ and so they asked what works they could do. Today men are just the same. They want to know what they can do to earn their way to

heaven. Christ said that the only work anyone can do is believe the One that God sent and put their faith and trust in Him. This came as a shock to the people because they had been trusting their own works to get them to heaven. Then the people asked Christ to give them a sign to show that His teaching was right just as Moses gave the people a sign by giving them manna in the wilderness. Christ points out that it was God and not Moses who gave them the manna. It is also God who gives the true bread from heaven.

19. Read John 6:22-40 and write who Christ says is that true bread.

20. Explain why Christ said that the bread that comes down from heaven is able to give life to the world.

21. Explain how you would explain to a relative why it is necessary for the relative to accept the true bread that comes from heaven to receive eternal life.

Christ promises that those who come to Him will receive life that lasts forever. He will not cast them out. He will not lose any of them but He will raise all of them again at the last day. Today there are people who feel that they are saved one day and lost the next. This makes it very hard for them to grow strong and serve Christ effectively. Instead, they spend all of their time worrying about whether they are saved or not. However, we see in these verses that it is Christ who would be the One who failed if any of those who follow Him are lost. Christ promises that He will lose none.

22. Read John 6:22-40 and write what Christ promises to all that come to Him.

23. Explain why Christ said He did not come to do His own will.

24. Reread John 6:22-40 and write a paragraph explaining why we can serve Christ better when we do not need to worry about whether we are saved or lost.

The Jews were angry when Christ said that He came down from heaven. They started talking among themselves. They said that they knew Christ and His parents. Christ went on to tell the people that they could not come to Him unless the Father drew them to Him. God gives us the faith to follow Christ. In ourselves, we do not even have enough faith to follow Christ. That faith must come from God. Romans 10:17 says, "So then, faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Men must hear the Word of God in order to receive the faith to believe in Christ.

25. Now read John 6:41-59 and write what Christ promises to those who believe on Him.

26. Explain what Christ meant when He said that no one could come to Him unless the Father drew Him.

27. Explain some of the things that the Father used to draw you to Christ.

Christ told the people that all those who ate manna in the wilderness died. They bread that they ate did not give a single one of them everlasting life. Christ is the living bread that gives eternal life. Christ said that those who eat His flesh will live forever. The Jews did not understand what Christ meant. All they could think was that it was impossible to eat the body of Christ. Here we learn another important lessons. The person who is not a Christian cannot understand many of the things that are in the Bible because that person only thinks about physical life and does not understand the meaning of spiritual life.

28. Read John 6:41-59 and write the two things that Christ said a person must do to have life.

29. Explain why you think Christ said that told the people that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood.

30. Tell how you would explain to a friend what Christ meant when He called Himself the living bread.

The statement of Christ that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood was very hard for the Jews to accept. Today people also find this statement of Christ very hard to

accept. People do not want to admit that it was necessary for Christ to shed His blood in order for us to be saved. People have felt this way since the beginning of time. The first boy born in the world, Cain, thought that he could bring a gift to God that was a result of his own works instead of a blood sacrifice. When his gift was rejected Cain was filled with hate and killed his brother.

31. Read John 6:41-59 and write what Christ promised to all those who eat His flesh and drink His blood.
32. Write a paragraph telling why people do not want to admit that it was necessary for Christ to shed His blood in order for them to have eternal life.
33. Explain what caused you to realize that Christ had to shed His blood so that you could have forgiveness of sins.

Christ had many followers until He said that men must eat His body and drink His blood in order to have eternal life. However, many of those who had been following Christ were only following because they liked the food and other things that Christ was giving. Now these people realized for the first time what it really meant to follow Christ. They were now faced with the decision to accept or reject the body and blood of Christ as the payment for their sins.

34. Read John 6:60-71 and write the decision that many of the followers made.
35. Explain what Christ meant when He said that His words are spirit and His words are live.
36. Explain why you need to help a person come to the understanding that he or she will have to make a decision to accept Christ or they are making the decision to reject Christ.

Here we see the decision that many people make today. There are many people who attend a mission or a church for several years. They are happy to be a part of the group that attends that church. However, we see here that it does no good only to attend a church faithfully. Every person needs to be brought to the point where he really realizes what it means to follow Christ. This usually means that a Christian must take time to sit down and help a person really understand what it means to follow Christ. Sometimes a person will understand right away. With other people you will need to sit and explain what it means to follow Christ many times before they actually understand. However, it is worth whatever time is necessary for that person to understand. If he becomes a Christian, it means that he will not go to hell. Instead he will have eternal life. He will also realize the importance of spending time with others until they understand what it means to be a Christian.

37. Read John 6:60-71 and write the question that Christ asked the twelve.
38. Write a paragraph explaining why it is so important for a person to really understand what it means to follow Christ.
39. Explain why you feel it is important in your own life to continue to explain to a person how to become a Christian until that person understands.

After the followers left Christ, Christ turned to the twelve and asked them if they were also going to go away. Peter answered for the group and said that there was no one else to whom they could go because Christ was the only one who could give eternal life. He was the only one who was the Son of the living God. Here we see the reason why we can depend on Christ for our salvation. We mentioned earlier that there are some that feel that they are saved one day and lost the next. Such people usually point to Judas as an example of one that was saved and then lost. However, we see here that it is pointed out very plainly that Judas was controlled by the devil and he had never followed Christ. Christ knew from the beginning those who did not really believe Him. He knew the one that would betray Him. Christ knew all the time that these men were not really

following Him.

40. Read John 6:60-71 and write what Christ said Judas had in these verses.

41. Explain why Peter said that they believed and knew for sure that Christ is the Son of the living God.

42. Explain why you think Christ chose one disciple that had a devil.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to explain to at least one person what Christ means when He says that He is the Bread of Life.

We have given a brief summary of John 6:1-71. Now reread John 6:1-71 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Gospel of John
Lesson 6
John 7:1-53

Today we will learn about Christ visiting Jerusalem and teaching the people of Jerusalem. The religious leaders in Jerusalem were already beginning to look for an excuse to kill Christ because He had said that He came from God. As Christ finished His teaching in this chapter, the religious leaders sent men to catch Christ and bring Him to them. However, the men who went to catch Jesus became so interested in His teaching that they forgot that they were sent to catch Christ.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what the brothers of Christ told Him to do.
- Explain what Christ said about the law.
- Explain what Christ said about His coming death.
- Tell what Christ said about the Holy Spirit.
- Tell what Nicodemus said to the religious leaders about Christ.

The brothers of Christ did not even believe Christ yet. Even though Christ had grown up in the same family, they were not yet ready to admit that Christ was God. One day the brothers came to Christ and told Him to go to Jerusalem and show His power at the feast of Tabernacles. They told Christ that if He wanted to make Himself important He must show Himself to the world. This is a real picture of the way that men think today. Men think that they must have other men talking about them if they want to be important. They fail to realize that we need to please God instead of trying to please men.

1. Read John 7:1-9 and write what Christ did when His brothers went to the feast at Jerusalem.
2. Explain why you think that the brothers of Christ did not yet believe that Christ is God.
3. Explain what has caused you to come to recognize that Christ is God.

God had a plan for Christ that included the time He would die. Since the Jews were already talking about killing Christ, it was necessary for Him not to stay in Jerusalem very long at any one time. Christ also told His brothers that they could go any time because the world did not hate them. The world hated Christ because He told them that their sins were evil. Men are never happy to admit that they are sinners. As we witness to others and tell them that Christ came to forgive their sins, we will not be popular because men do not like to hear about their sins. However, it is our responsibility to give the message even if people do not like us.

4. Read John 7:1-9 and write what Christ did when His brothers went to the feast in Jerusalem.
5. Explain why you think that the Jewish religious leaders wanted to kill Christ.
6. Explain why it is necessary for each of us to face the fact of our own sin.

After the brothers of Christ went to Jerusalem, Christ also went but He kept out of sight so that others would not see Him. However, all of the people were talking about Christ. Some said that Christ was a good man. Others said that Christ was deceiving and tricking the people. People today still have these same two attitudes toward Christ. Some people show that they hate Christ by saying that Christ does not exist or that He is dead. Others say that Christ is a good man but they refuse to admit that Christ is the One who is Savior and Lord. As a result, both groups fail to follow Christ. Both groups

are still lost in their sin.

7. Read John 7:10-24 and write what Christ did at the middle of the feast.
8. Explain why you think many people were murmuring about Christ.
9. Explain one of the key attitude changes that Christ has led you to make in your personal life.

As Jesus taught in the temple, the Jews were very surprised. They had never heard a teacher like Christ. They could not understand how Christ could know so much about God since He had not had one of the religious leaders teach Him. Christ used their surprise to teach them more about His relationship to the Father. Christ said that He was not speaking by Himself. He was speaking the things that the Father wanted spoken. Then Christ pointed out the fact that those who are doing the will of God know that Christ is speaking in agreement with the Father. Here we learn an important lesson. The only person who can really know the will of God is the one who is already following Christ. As we follow Christ, we learn the will of God for our lives.

10. Read John 7:10-24 and write whose glory a person is seeking when he speaks of himself.
11. Explain why you think Christ told the people that His teaching was the teaching of the One who had sent Him.
12. Reread John 7:10-24 and write a paragraph telling how you can know the will of God.

Christ also pointed out the reason why they were trying to kill Him. Moses had given the law but none of them could keep the law. As a result, they now wanted to kill Christ because He was pointing out the fact that they were breaking the law. The people were very shocked when Christ told them that He knew they were planning to kill Him. The religious leaders had thought their plan was a secret because they had told no one. They decided that Christ must have learned their plans from a demon. Since the leaders refused to admit that Christ was God, they failed to realize that His knowledge about their plans came from God.

13. Read John 7:10-24 and write how Christ tells us not to judge.
14. Explain what you think it means to judge with righteous judgment.
15. Explain why it is important for you not to judge something just by its appearance.

As Jesus was boldly speaking in the temple, the Jews asked each other if this was not the One that the leaders wanted to kill. The people were very surprised that Christ would come when the leaders wanted to kill Him. Then the people said that they knew where Christ came from and they knew his family so He could not be the Christ. Christ told them that they knew Him and where He came from but they did not know who had sent Him. Christ said that He knows God because He was sent from God.

16. Read John 7:25-36 and write what the Jews tried to do to Christ.
17. Explain why the Jews were not able to lay their hands on Him at this time.
18. Explain what you learn about the fact that Christ understood what was going to happen to Him and when.

The Jews tried to capture Christ but His hour had not yet come. As a result, the Jews could not do anything to Christ. As men saw the miracles of Christ, they realized that there would not be another who would be able to do such miracles. As soon as the Pharisees heard that some of the people were starting to believe Christ, they decided that they better get rid of Christ immediately. We will read in a few verses what happened when they sent men to capture Christ. The attitude of the Pharisees gives us a real picture of the devil. He will try to do everything possible to keep a person from listening to Christ.

19. Read John 7:25-36 and write what the Pharisees and chief priests sent officers to do.

20. Explain why the religious leaders were so anxious to get rid of Christ.
21. Explain why you think many people today also do not want to think about Christ.

Christ also said that He was going to a place where those listening could not come. The Jews could not understand what Christ meant. They thought that maybe He was going to visit the other nations where other Jews lived. They even thought that He might mean that He was planning to go and teach the people of the other nations. People today cannot understand everything about Christ and so they often refuse to believe Him. The only way people today can go to heaven and be with Christ is to follow Him while they are here on the earth.

22. Read John 7:25-36 and write where Christ said they could not come.
23. Explain why Christ told the people that they could not come where He was going.
24. Explain why you think many people today refuse to believe in Christ.

The last day of the feast Christ spoke to the people again. He told them that if any of them were thirsty to come to Him and drink. Christ said that those who come to Him and put their trust in Him will have rivers of living water flowing from their lives. Here is a wonderful promise from Christ. When He comes into our life He will fill our life to overflowing.

25. Read John 7:37-39 and write what Christ was speaking about when he said that rivers of living water would flow out of their lives.
26. Explain what Christ meant when He invited people to come to Him and drink living water.
27. Explain why you think Christ invited people to seek the living water.

As Christ was speaking to the people, the coming of the Holy Spirit was still in the future because Christ had not yet returned to heaven. Today we are baptized by the Holy Spirit at the moment we become Christians. Because we have the Holy Spirit in our life, the result should be that the living water is flowing out of our life to the lives of others. This means that we should be constant witnesses who are sharing the Good News about Jesus Christ with others.

28. Read John 7:37-39 and write why the Holy Spirit had not yet been given at that time.
29. Explain why it was necessary for Christ to be glorified before the Holy Spirit was given.
30. Reread John 7:37-39 and write a paragraph explaining what it means when it says that rivers of living water will flow out of your life.

The more people heard Christ speak, the more they talked about Him. Some said He was Christ while others refused to believe that He could be the Christ. Some of these people said that Christ must be born in Bethlehem and Christ had come from Galilee. They never even thought to ask Christ where He had been born. Today many people are just the same. They refuse to believe Christ even though they have never studied the Bible to see what it says about Christ.

31. Read John 7:40-53 and write what some of the men wanted to do with Christ.
32. Explain why the teaching of Christ caused division among the people.
33. Explain why you think some people today refuse to believe what the Bible teaches about Christ.

The men who had been sent from the chief priests and Pharisees came back to the leaders without Christ. The religious leaders immediately asked the officers why they had not brought Christ with them. They replied that they had never heard a man speak like Christ spoke. The Pharisees spoke roughly to the men and asked them if they had also been deceived. Then the Pharisees said that the officers should follow their

example. None of them had believed in Christ because they were trusting in the law to save them.

34. Read John 7:40-53 and write the name of one Pharisee who tried to speak up for Christ.
35. Explain why the Pharisees tried to make the officers feel like the officers were ignorant.
36. Explain why you think Nicodemus was willing to speak up for Christ.

As you remember, Nicodemus was the Pharisee who came to visit Christ alone one night. Now we see that Nicodemus is at least trying to speak for Christ. He said that the law did not allow them to condemn a person until that person had the opportunity to speak for himself. Today many people also condemn Christ without ever studying His Word and letting Him speak for Himself.

37. Read John 7:40-53 and write the question that the Pharisees asked Nicodemus.
38. Explain what attitude the Pharisees showed by their questions that they had toward the people of Galilee.
39. Explain why you think people refuse to follow Christ without ever studying the Bible so that Christ can speak for Himself.

When Nicodemus spoke in defense of Christ, the Pharisees immediately started speaking against Nicodemus also. Sometimes this will also happen to us. If men hate Christ, they may show that hate for Christ by speaking against us when we witness for Christ. However, we should not be upset when people speak against us for Christ's sake. In fact Luke 6:22-23 tells us to rejoice and leap for joy because we will be rewarded by Christ. The Pharisees tried to point out again that no prophet would come from Galilee. Then they asked Nicodemus if he was also a part of that minority that came from Galilee. The people of Galilee were looked down on by the people Judea because they spoke with an accent and their speech did not sound as fancy as that of the Jews from Jerusalem.

40. Read John 7:40-53 and write what the Pharisees did after they had spoken of their hate for Christ.
41. Explain why the Pharisees had such an attitude of hate toward Christ when He had never done anything evil to them
42. Explain what it means to you personally to know that Christ tells you to rejoice when people reject you for speaking to them about Christ.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have seen that Christ promised to send the Holy Spirit to live in the lives of all Christians after He returned to heaven. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to share Gospel with others as we meet them. This week begin each day asking the Holy Spirit to give you the opportunity and His power to share with at least two people how they can have their sins forgiven.

We have given a brief summary of John 7:1-53. Now reread John 7:1-53 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Gospel of John
Lesson 7
John 8:1-59

Today we will read about a woman who was caught committing adultery. The religious leaders came bringing her to Christ. As we study about this woman, we will learn several important lessons as the Pharisees once again try to catch Christ saying or doing something wrong. We will also learn what happens when the Pharisees ask Christ again about who He is and where He comes from. As Christ talks to these men, He tells them how they can have real freedom from their sins.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what lessons we learn from the woman caught committing adultery.
- Explain what Christ said to the Pharisees.
- Explain what Christ said to those Jews who believed Him.

In our last lesson we learned how the religious leaders were looking for a reason to kill Christ because He said that He came from God. The next morning the leaders had their plan ready. They thought that they had a perfect way to catch Christ. They thought that no matter how Christ answered, they could accuse Him of doing wrong. Early in the morning the religious leaders came dragging a woman into the area of the temple where Christ was teaching.

1. Read John 8:1-11 and write what the religious leaders said about the woman.
2. Explain why you think the Pharisees were so eager to trap Christ.
3. Explain why the attitudes of the religious leaders should cause us to examine our own attitudes toward others.

Here we see that the leaders had planned this sin so that they could accuse Christ of doing wrong. It takes two people to commit adultery. These men had caught this woman and a man in the very act of committing adultery. However, the leaders only accuse the woman. The man involved must have been one of the religious leaders who was now pointing a finger at the woman. The man had purposely gotten the woman to commit adultery with him so that he and the other religious leaders could use her to trick Christ and have an excuse to accuse Christ of doing wrong.

4. Read John 8:1-11 and write what the leaders said after they said that they had caught the woman committing adultery.
5. Explain what the law taught was the penalty for committing adultery.
6. Explain why you think the penalty for committing adultery was so severe.

The scribes and Pharisees thought that they had the perfect trap. Because the Roman government controlled the Jews, the Romans did not allow the Jews to put anyone to death. If Christ said to stone the woman, the religious leaders would tell the Romans that Christ was trying to get them to disobey the Roman law. Then the Roman soldiers would have killed Christ. If Christ told them not to throw stones at the woman, then the religious leaders would be able to accuse Christ of breaking the law of God. They thought that they had Christ trapped no matter what He answered.

7. Read John 8:1-11 and write what Christ did.
8. Explain why you think Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground.
9. Explain what you learn for your own life from the way that Christ waited for a little while before answering their question.

As the Jews continued to ask Christ what should be done to the woman, Christ finally stood up again and told them that the one without sin should be the first one to throw a

stone at the woman. Then Christ bent over and started to write again. We do not know what Christ wrote. However, He was probably writing the sins of the others who were standing around the woman. As Christ wrote their sins, they were convicted and began to sneak away. Pretty soon all of the men were gone.

10. Read John 8:1-11 and write what Christ said to the woman.

11. Explain why you think each of the men was convicted by his own conscience.

12. Explain how you should deal with sin when your conscience convicts you.

Here we see the difference between law and love. The law condemned the woman. The love of Christ forgave the woman. Christ said that He did not condemn the woman either. Instead He forgave her and told her to go and sin no more. Here we learn an important lesson. Christ forgave the woman but He also told her that she should now live a new life. When Christ forgives our sin and we follow Him, He also tells us to live a new life.

13. Read John 8:1-11 and write what Jesus told the woman after He told her that he did not condemn her.

14. Explain what kind of a life Christians should live once they place their trust in Christ.

15. Explain what you learn for your own life from these verses about forgiving others.

Later Christ began teaching again. We read that He was speaking to the Pharisees. Christ said that He is the Light of the world. Those who follow Him no longer walk in darkness. Instead they walk in His light. The Pharisees immediately said that Christ was speaking about Himself and His witness was not true. Christ said that the Father also spoke of Him and their witness agreed. The reason that the religious leaders did not know and believe Christ was due to the fact that they did not know and believe the Father either.

16. Read John 8:12-30 and write why the leaders could not lay their hands on Christ and catch Him.

17. Explain what you think Christ meant when he called Himself the Light of the world.

18. Explain how Christ can be a Light to you as you go through your life.

Christ went on to say that He was going away. He was going to a place where they could not come because they would die in their sins. The Jews could not understand what Christ meant. They wondered if Christ was going to commit suicide. Today many people cannot understand what Christ meant either. However, as Christians we know that no sinner can go to heaven unless his or her sins are forgiven. If a person dies in his sins, it is too late for him to be forgiven. The time of judgment has come. The person who dies in his sins will never go to heaven but will suffer in hell forever.

19. Read John 8:12-30 and write where in the temple Jesus was speaking these words.

20. Explain John 8:21 in your own words.

21. Explain what we must do to personally know the Father and Jesus.

Christ goes on to explain that He is not from this world but He came from heaven. He speaks the words that the Father tells Him to speak. He does the things that the Father tells Him to do. Here we learn an important lesson. We need to do everything that we do under the guidance of God. We need to speak the things that He wants us to speak. We need to always do the things that please God.

22. Read John 8:12-30 and write what many of the people did when they heard Christ speak these things.

23. Explain why you think what Christ said caused many to believe in Him.

24. Explain what Christ used in your life to bring you to believe in Him.

Christ began to speak to those Jews who believed what He said. However, we will see that their belief of the things that Christ said and even having the opportunity to see the actions of Christ did not mean that those men followed Christ. Instead we will find by the end of the chapter that they are ready to throw stones at Him. Here Christ tells them that if they continue to listen to Him they will learn the truth that would make them free. Here we see that they were still chained by their sin instead of enjoying the freedom that come from following Christ. They said that they were the children of Abraham and had never been a servant to anyone.

25. Read John 8:31-36 and what Christ says about whose servants they are.

26. Explain what you think Christ meant when He said that they were servants of sin.

27. Explain how we can be set free from being a servant of sin.

Those who are following the devil are slaves to sin. They are controlled by the devil and there is no way that they can free themselves. Many people who are following the devil try to stop doing things by their own strength. However, they are not strong enough to stop sinning by themselves and so they are soon committing the same sins all over again. Many people say that they are going to turn over a new leaf and start all over at the beginning of each year. However, it is only a short time until they are committing their same old sins again. They cannot stop sinning by themselves because they are slaves to sin.

28. Read John 8:31-36 and write what the Son is able to do in the lives of people.

29. Explain what you think Christ means in verse 36.

30. Explain how Christ set you free when you personally placed your trust in Christ.

Christ went on to agree that they were descended from Abraham. However, they did not obey God as their father, Abraham, had done. They were the physical children of Abraham but they did not worship God as Abraham had done so they were not the spiritual children of Abraham. The Jews immediately called Christ a liar and said that God was their Father. Christ said that if God were their Father, they would love Christ also. We can see the love of Christ even though these people hated Him. This is an important lesson. As Christians, we should have a real love for all people including the people that hate us.

31. Read John 8:37-59 and write who Christ says is their real father.

32. Explain why you think Christ said that the devil was their real father.

33. Explain how we can know that God is our real spiritual father and not the devil.

All those who do not follow Christ are following their father, the devil. They do the same things that the devil does. The people that day were planning to kill Christ because Christ told the truth. They believed the lie of the devil. They refused to listen to the Word of God because they were not following God. The Jews were so angry because Christ told them what they were like that they called Christ a Samaritan and said that He had a demon. The Samaritans were half Jewish and half foreigners so the Jews were calling Christ a half-breed. Instead of arguing, Christ gave them a wonderful promise.

34. Read John 8:37-59 and write what Christ promised to those who would keep His sayings and do what He said.

35. Explain what Christ meant when He said that those who keep His saying would never see death.

36. Explain why this promise means that you do not need to fear death.

Suddenly the Jews became even angrier. In order for Christ to keep people from dying, it was necessary for Him to be greater than Abraham and also greater than the prophets. Abraham and the prophets were all dead. Now Christ was saying that those who would

follow Him would never die. Christ also said that Abraham rejoiced to see Him and knew Him. This surprised the Jews even more because they could not understand how Abraham could know Christ. Abraham had died almost 2000 years before and they could see that Christ was less than 50 years old. The statement of Christ sounded impossible to the religious leaders.

37. Read John 8:37-59 and what Jesus answered when the Jews said He was not yet 50 years old.
38. Explain what Christ was actually claiming by that statement.
39. Explain how the various times that Christ said, "I AM" helps you to understand more about who Christ is.

Christ said, "Before Abraham was, I am." Here Christ is pointing out the fact that He has always existed. "I am" emphasizes the fact that Christ never had a beginning. This of course means that Christ is God because God is the only one who has always existed. Today many people are just like the Jews. These people do not want to admit that Christ is God. Since men do not want to admit that they are sinners, they refuse to admit that Christ is God.

40. Read John 8:53-59 and write what the Jews did when Christ said He existed before Abraham.
41. Explain why you think the Jews wanted to stone Christ.
42. Explain what you learn for your own life from the fact that many people refuse to believe that Christ is God.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have seen that Christ showed compassion to a woman who was condemned by the religious leaders. We have seen that Christ said that He is the Light of the world. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to reach out to someone that has been rejected by many people and help that person to understand that Christ came to be a Light to help the person find out how to have forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

We have given a brief summary of John 8:1-59. Now reread John 8:1-59 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Gospel of John
Lesson 8
John 9:1-41

Today we will be studying about a man who was born blind and was unable to see. We will see that everyone was very surprised when they saw that the blind man could see. The neighbors asked questions and then took the man to the Pharisees. The Pharisees refused to believe the man until they talked to the parents. The parents would not admit that they knew how their son was healed. When the man witnessed to the religious leaders, the religious leaders threw him out of the synagogue.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain how Christ healed the blind man.
- Tell what the neighbors and religious leaders said about the man.
- Tell what the parents said about the man.
- Explain what changes happened in the man.

In our last lesson we learned how the religious leaders picked up stones to throw at Christ because He said that He was God. As Christ was walking away, He and the disciples met a blind man. The disciples asked Christ if the man was born blind because of his sin or the sin of his parents. Here we see that the disciples were not very concerned about the blind man. Instead of wanting to help the man, they only wanted to find out what caused the man to be blind. Sometimes we are like the disciples. We are more curious than we are concerned about the needs of others.

1. Read John 9:1-7 and write who Christ said had sinned.
2. Explain why you think the disciples thought that blindness was the result of sin.
3. Tell why we need to have a concern for others and not talk about their problems.

Not all sickness is caused by sin. God allows sickness for many reasons. Here we see that this man was blind in order to bring glory to God. Christ came to work the works of God. God allowed this man to be blind so that others could see the power of God as Christ worked a miracle. Christ came to bring light to the world. Here we see that this man needed physical light as well as spiritual light. We will see that Christ met both of the needs of the blind man.

4. Read John 9:1-7 and write what Christ put on the eyes of the blind man.
5. Explain why Christ said as long as He is in the world He is the Light of the world.
6. Explain why we need to follow the example of Christ and do the works that the Father desires us to do.

When we study about Christ healing the blind in one of the other Gospels, we see that Christ healed the blind a different way each time He healed the blind. Here we see that Christ put clay on the eyes of the man and told him to go and wash in the pool called Siloam. Christ wanted to teach this man some important lessons about faith. This man had to decide whether to wash the clay from his eyes in the pool of Siloam or to wash it off some other place. If he would not have had faith in the promise of Christ, he would have remained blind. However, Christ caused the man to have faith to believe that he could see. Christ then used this faith to also help the man realize he could have eternal life.

7. Read John 9:1-7 and write what happened when the man washed his eyes.
8. Explain how Christ was working to help this man to grow in his understanding of faith.
9. Explain why we need to also grow in our understanding of what it means to place

our faith in Christ for all things.

The man was able to see immediately when he washed his eyes in the pool of Siloam. When the neighbors saw the man, they were very surprised. They had known the man ever since he was a baby and knew that he had been born blind. The neighbors asked the man why he was now able to see. Then the man had his first opportunity to speak about Christ. He told how Christ had put clay on his eyes and told him he would see if he washed his eyes. The man did not know very much about Christ but he told others what he knew. We will see that he begins to understand more about Christ as he tells others about Christ.

10. Read John 9:8-17 and write where the neighbors took the man who had been blind.
11. Explain why the man did not know where Christ had gone.
12. Tell what you learn about the power of Christ from the fact that He healed a blind man.

The Pharisees were very angry when they saw that Christ had healed a man on the Sabbath. They asked the man who had healed him. Again the man told how Christ had opened his eyes. Of course the Pharisees were not happy when they heard that Christ had healed the man. They were afraid that the people would start following Christ when they saw the miracles of Christ. However, we see that the religious leaders were divided. Some of them were beginning to realize that Christ must come from God if He had the power to heal the blind as well as heal the sick.

13. Read John 9:8-17 and write what the blind man said about Christ when the Pharisees asked him who had opened his eyes.
14. Explain why you think that the man thought that Christ was a prophet.
15. Explain what you have learned personally about Christ as you have studied the miracles that Christ did.

As the man who had been blind told others about Christ, he came to understand more for himself. He still did not know much. We see though that the more the man told others about Christ, the more he realized the power of God in his own life. Here we learn an important lesson. When a person first becomes a Christian, we need to encourage him to immediately begin telling others about Christ. The more he tells others, the more he will realize for himself what it means to be a Christian. This man still did not have a true understanding of Christ. However, his understanding was becoming clearer as he told others about Christ.

16. Read John 9:8-17 and write why many of the people did not believe Christ could be from God.
17. Explain why the Jews got so upset every time Christ did a miracle on the Sabbath day.
18. Explain why you think we should encourage a new Christian to begin telling others about Christ immediately.

The Pharisees did not believe that the man had been blind and so they called the parents to talk to them. When the parents came, the Pharisees asked if their son had been born blind. When the parents said he had been born blind, the Pharisees immediately asked why he was now able to see. Here we see that the parents were not willing to admit the truth. Instead of telling the truth, the parents said that they did not know how their son was now able to see.

19. Read John 9:18-34 and write why the parents said the man could speak for himself.
20. Explain how the attitude of the parents showed their fear.
21. Explain why you think fear keeps many people from telling the truth.

The parents knew the truth but they refused to tell. The reason that they would not tell

the truth was due to the fact that they were more concerned about what other men said than they were about following Christ. The parents were afraid that if they said that Christ had healed their son that the Pharisees would not allow them to come to the synagogue any more. When the Pharisees saw that the parents would not tell them who healed their son, the Pharisees started talking to the man again.

22. Read John 9:18-34 and write what the Pharisees said to the man about Christ.

23. Explain why the Pharisees said that Christ was a sinner.

24. Explain why you think that the Pharisees had decided that Christ was a sinner.

The blind man then began to teach the Pharisees several things about Christ. First he told them that Christ had changed his life. Once he had been blind but now he could see. The Pharisees then asked the man again how he could see. The man immediately took the opportunity to invite them to follow Christ also. The Pharisees said bad things about the man because he followed Christ. Then they claimed that they were disciples of someone else.

25. Read John 9:18-34 and write whose disciples the Pharisees claimed to be.

26. Explain why you think that they thought that they were disciples of Moses.

27. Explain why a person cannot become a Christian by just following the Law of Moses.

We saw in our last two lessons that the Pharisees did not really obey the Law of Moses. They were only giving an excuse for not following Christ. We see though that the man is beginning to realize more about Christ. The man who had been born blind told the Pharisees that God would not answer the prayer of a sinner so Christ must not be a sinner. He goes on to point out to the Pharisees that no one ever before had been able to the blind as Christ was doing. If Christ were not God, He could do nothing.

28. Read John 9:18-34 and write what the Pharisees did to the man who had been born blind.

29. Explain why you think the Pharisees treated the man the way that they treated him.

30. Explain what you learn about the fact that you may also be opposed when you speak for Christ.

We learn several lessons from the blind man. First, we see that he was not afraid to witness for Christ even though he knew it would mean persecution. Although the blind man did not know very much about Christ, he was willing to tell all he knew to others. As the man told what he knew about Christ, he began to understand much more for himself. We also see that as he understood more about Christ, he became bolder in speaking for Christ.

31. Read John 9:18-34 and write what the Pharisees said to the man before they expelled him from the temple.

32. Explain why you think the Pharisees had such anger against the man that was born blind.

33. Explain what you learn for your own life from the witnessing of the man who had received his sight.

After the man who had been blind was thrown out of the temple for speaking about Christ, we read that Christ immediately found the man and talked to him. Here we learn another lesson. Christ will always be there to encourage us when the devil gets others to persecute us. Christ asked the man if he believed on the Son of God. The man immediately wanted to know who the Son of God was so that he could believe Him. Then Christ told the man that He was the Son of God.

34. Read John 9:35-41 and write what the man said and did when he found out that Christ was the Son of God.

35. Explain how meeting Christ changed this man both physically and spiritually.
36. Explain why true belief in Christ will also cause us to worship Him.

Here we learn another important lesson. Christ had purposely let the man witness to his parents, the neighbors, and the Pharisees before Christ tried to teach the man additional truth about Himself. Now when Christ came to the man, the man already realized that he knew very little about Christ. He realized that he had much to learn. Now the man was eager to listen to every word of Christ so that he would have the answers the next time that he had an opportunity to witness for Christ. One of the best ways to help a new Christian realize his need to really study the Bible is to get that new Christian out witnessing immediately. As he tells others about Christ, he realizes that he knows very little about the Word of God. He then is eager to get into a Bible study where he can learn the Word of God so that he will be able to answer the questions of others as he witnesses for Christ.

37. Read John 9:35-41 and write why Christ said He came into this world.
38. Explain what you learn from these verses about the way that you can help a new Christian to realize the importance of Bible study.
39. Explain how you personally began to realize the importance of Bible study.

As Christ was speaking to the man, we read that there were some Pharisees listening. Christ said that He came to give sight to those who were blind and to blind those who thought they could see. The Pharisees could not understand what Christ meant because they were thinking of physical blindness instead of spiritual blindness. When a man realizes that he is blind and lost in his sin, then he is able to turn to Christ and have his sin forgiven. However, when men think that they are all right and can see, then they do not turn to Christ.

40. Read John 9:35-41 and write what remains when men think that they can see.
41. Explain why Christ said that He came to give sight to those who could not see.
42. Explain what it means to you to have received spiritual sight from Christ.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have seen that Christ showed compassion to a man who was physically blind. In addition to giving him physical sight, Christ also helped this man to learn how to have spiritual sight. This week pray that the Lord will give the opportunity to share with at least two people how they can receive spiritual sight.

We have given a brief summary of John 9:1-41. Now reread John 9:1-41 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Gospel of John
Lesson 9
John 10:1-42

Today we will learn about Christ being the Good Shepherd. We will see the difference between a shepherd and a thief. Then we will see the difference between a shepherd and a man who is only hired to take care of the sheep. In this chapter, Christ also tells how a person can know whether he is a Christian. Finally Christ finishes the chapter by saying again that He is God. As a result, we see that the Jews again try to kill Christ.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why Christ is called the Good Shepherd.
- Tell why a shepherd has a greater concern for the sheep than a hired man does.
- Explain what Christ says about the ones who follow Him.
- Explain what Christ says about His relationship to the Father.

Many of the Jews had a flock of sheep and were familiar with the way to take care of sheep. Christ uses this knowledge about sheep to teach many important lessons in this chapter. First we see the difference between a shepherd and a thief. A thief tries to climb over the wall of the sheep corral because he knows someone might see him and catch him if he goes into the corral through the gate. In fact the Jews would have a man called a porter guarding the gate of the corral so that no one could steal the sheep at night. All of the people in the same village would keep their sheep in one corral so that one porter could guard many flocks of sheep.

1. Read John 10:1-11 and write how a shepherd would get his sheep in the morning.
2. Explain why the thief gives us a picture of the way that Satan tries to deceive people.
3. Explain how you can recognize the difference between Christ the Shepherd and Satan the thief.

We see the first reason why Christ is called the Good Shepherd. He has called each person who has become a Christian individually. He has called them by name and given them eternal life. Today most people who have sheep chase their sheep. A pet lamb is usually the only one that comes running when he is called. The Jews treated all of their sheep like pet lambs so when the shepherd called them they would follow him. Christ also takes a real interest in every single Christian and shows His loves to each one. This is why we should want to follow Him instead of going our own way.

4. Read John 10:1-11 and write how many times Christ says that He is the door in these verses.
5. Explain why you think that Christ says the shepherd goes before his sheep.
6. Explain why you think that the people did not understand the parable of Christ.

A door allows a person to enter a building. Christ is the door that allows men to have eternal life and enter into heaven. All those who come to Christ will receive eternal life because Christ gave His life for us so that we could have life. A thief kills but Christ gives life. This is why it is so important for us not to listen to the devil. He cannot give us life. All he can give a person is death.

7. Read John 10:1-11 and write what kind of life Christ wants to give to every person.
8. Explain why you think Christ refers to Himself as the door.
9. Explain how Christ because like a door for you when you placed your trust in Christ.

An abundant life is a full and joyful life. It is an exciting life. Christ wants to give a full, joyful and exciting life to every Christian. Today there are many Christians who

talk about the Christian life being a struggle. It is a struggle for them because they are depending on their own strength instead of letting the Lord take control of their lives. When we depend on our own strength, we fail all the time and that causes us to become discouraged. We will experience this full and joyful life as we depend on Christ to give us the strength that we need.

10. Read John 10:1-11 and write what the Good Shepherd does for the sheep.

11. Explain why Christ wants people to have an abundant life.

12. Explain what it means to you personally to have an abundant life in your life.

John 10:12-21 tells us about the difference between a shepherd and one who is hired to take care of the sheep. One who is hired to take care of the sheep is not concerned about the sheep. He is only concerned about himself. If a hired man sees a wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away. The hired man is not willing to lose his life if necessary to kill the wolf and protect the sheep. He is only concerned about his own life.

However, we see that Christ is the Good Shepherd. He is concerned about each one of us and knows us by name.

13. Read John 10:12-21 and write what Christ does for each of us who are His sheep.

14. Explain why Christ calls shepherds (pastors) to follow His example as they lead Christ's sheep and not be like a hireling.

15. Explain how you can follow the example of Christ and be like a shepherd to those who have recently become Christians.

In addition to the sheep who are already following Christ, there are also many others who have not yet followed Christ and come into His corral. God has given some of these to Christ and right now Christ is working to bring them into the corral so that they will be one with us in Christ. Christ asks each Christian to help Him in His work of bringing others into the corral. We help others to come and be with Christ as we explain to them what it means to follow Christ.

16. Read John 10:12-21 and write who loves Christ.

17. Explain what Christ means by the fact that He has other sheep who are not of this fold.

18. Explain some specific things that you can do to help these other sheep come into the fold.

The Father loves Christ because Christ was willing to lay down His life for our sins. No man took the life of Christ from Him. Instead He was willing to give His life for us. Here we see that Christ has all power. He has the power to give His life and He has the power to come back to life again. Here we learn a wonderful lesson. Although Christ has all power, He was willing to give His life for us. Now we should be willing to give our lives to serve Him.

19. Read John 10:12-21 and write what the words of Christ caused among the Jews.

20. Explain why you think every Christian should want to serve Christ.

21. Explain how you can personally help other Christians learn to serve Christ.

The Jews were confused. Some thought that Christ came from God and others thought that He had a demon. As a result, the Jews came to Christ and asked him to tell them plainly whether He was Christ. As we have seen in our study of the book of John, Christ told the Jews many times that He came from God. However, they refused to believe Him. Now they are asking Christ again whether He is God. They refused to believe His words and they also refused to believe the miracle that Christ had done.

22. Read John 10:22-30 and write why the Jews did not believe Christ.

23. Explain why you think the Jews refused to believe Christ after they had seen the miracles that He had done.

24. Explain what things caused you to believe and recognize that Jesus is the Christ.

Those who are the sheep of Christ know His voice and they follow Him. Here we learn an important lesson. If we have asked Christ to forgive our sin, the thing that we should be doing is following Christ. To follow Christ means to walk behind Him doing the things that He would do and saying the things that He would say. As Christians, we should always be doing the things that please Christ. Since we are now the servants of Christ instead of the devil, it is only normal that we should serve our Master instead of continuing to serve the devil.

25. Read John 10:22-30 and write what Christ promises to those who follow Him.

26. Explain what Christ means when He says that His sheep follow Him.

27. Explain how you can follow Christ each day in your life as you go through the rest of your life.

Christ talks about the fact that if we follow Him we will never perish or lose our life. Christ says that He holds us in His hand and that no one can take us from His hand. Here we see that the only way we could lose our salvation would be for Christ to fail and lose His hold on us. We can rejoice and be thankful that our salvation does not depend on what we can do to earn it. We see that it is not our own efforts that keep our salvation either. It is Christ who saves us and Christ who keeps us. The only way we could lose our salvation would be if Christ failed and we know that cannot happen.

28. Read John 10:22-30 and write how Christ described His relationship to the Father.

29. Explain why Christ says that no person can take His sheep out of either His hand or His Father's hand.

30. Explain why these verses tell you that you do not need to worry about losing your salvation.

The last part of this chapter talks about the relationship of Christ to the Father. Just as we are held in the hand of Christ, we are also held in the hand of the Father. In order for us to lose our salvation, it would be necessary for both the Father and the Son to fail. Christ says that He and the Father are one. They are in perfect unity and agreement. All things that they do, they do together. Since they are one, this also means that they are equal.

31. Read John 10:29-42 and write what the Jews did when Christ said that He and the Father are one.

32. Explain why the Jews became so angry when Christ said that He and the Father are one.

33. Explain why you can have great peace because of the fact that Christ and the Father are one.

Christ asked the Jews why they were planning to stone Him after He had done so many good works. The Jews said that they were going to stone Him because He made Himself God. Today there are many false religions that try to claim that Christ is not God. Here we see that the people who lead and teach these religions are like the Jews. They are doing every possible thing to deny that Christ came from God. Instead of receiving eternal life, these people are only bringing greater judgment upon themselves. They are also confusing those who follow their religions.

35. Read John 10:29-42 and write why Christ told the Jews that they did not believe.

36. Explain how you could use these verses to explain that Christ is God to someone who has been confused by the teachers of a false religion.

37. Explain how you came to understand that Christ is God.

The Jews became very angry because Christ said that He is God. Christ then reminded

the Jews that Psalm 82:6 calls all those who follow God, gods. If those who receive the Word of God are called gods, certainly the Jews could not condemn Christ for calling Himself God when He came from God. The Scripture calls us gods and the Scripture cannot be broken (never tells a lie). Then Christ again mentioned the miracles that He had done. He told them that if they would not believe His words, then they should believe the miracles.

38. Read John 10:29-42 and write what the Jews tried to do again.

39. Explain why Jesus told them to believe His miracles even if they did not believe His words.

40. Explain why you do not think that Christ was speaking blasphemy when He said that He is the Son of God.

Since the Jews were now making every effort to kill Christ, it became necessary for Him to leave Jerusalem and go to the desert on the side of the Jordan River. Although the Jewish religious leaders wanted to kill Christ, there were many other people who realized that Christ is God. Many of these people went out to the desert to listen to Christ preach. As they listened to Christ, they realized that all of the words spoken by John the Baptist about Christ were true.

41. Read John 10:29-42 and write what happened to many of the people as they listened to Christ in the desert.

42. Explain why you think that these people believed in Christ when the Jewish religious leaders were rejecting Him.

43. Explain how these verses have helped you learn how to explain that Christ is God.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have seen that Christ is the Door and He is also the Good Shepherd. He has called us to follow His example. This week pray that Christ will give you the opportunity to explain to two people how they can enter the door into eternal life by placing their trust in Christ. Christ also calls us to follow His example as the Good Shepherd. Pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to answer the questions of two new Christians so that they will be protected from false teachers who want to deceive and destroy them.

We have given a brief summary of John 10:1-42. Now reread John 10:1-42 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Gospel of John
Lesson 10
John 11:1-57

Today we will learn about Christ raising Lazarus from the dead. Lazarus and his sisters were very good friends of Christ. One day Mary and Martha sent word to Christ that Lazarus was very sick. By the time Christ reached the city of Bethany where Mary, Martha and Lazarus lived, Lazarus had already been dead for four days. As we study this chapter we will learn about the sadness and grief of the sisters. Then we will learn about the power of Christ as He raises Lazarus from the dead. Finally we will learn how the religious leaders felt about the raising of Lazarus.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why Christ did not go to Bethany immediately.
- Tell about the sadness of Mary and Martha.
- Tell about Christ raising Lazarus from the dead.
- Explain how the religious leaders felt about the raising of Lazarus.

One day as Christ was preaching out in the desert, someone came with a message from Mary and Martha. The message said that their brother Lazarus was very sick and they were afraid that He was going to die. They asked Christ to come immediately and heal Lazarus before he died. When Christ heard that Lazarus was sick, He said that the sickness of Lazarus would bring glory to the Son of God.

1. Read John 11:1-16 and write what Christ did when He heard that Lazarus was sick.
2. Explain what you think Christ meant when He said that this sickness was not a sickness that would result in death.
3. Explain why you think Christ was very special to this family.

Some of the people may have thought that Christ did not love Lazarus very much because Christ did not go to Bethany immediately to heal Lazarus. Others may have thought that Christ did not go to Bethany to heal Lazarus because Bethany was very close to Jerusalem. Those people may have thought that Christ was afraid that the Jews might kill Him. However, Christ had a different reason for not going to heal Lazarus immediately.

4. Read John 11:1-16 and write where Jesus told the disciples He was going to go.
5. Explain what Christ meant when He said that this sickness would bring glory to God.
6. Explain how God can use sickness and other things that happen in your life to bring glory to God.

The disciples were afraid when Christ said that he wanted to go to Judea again. They knew that the Jews would try again to kill Christ. Then Christ told the disciples that Lazarus was sick and He was going to wake Lazarus. Of course the disciples did not understand that Christ meant that Lazarus was dead. They thought that Lazarus was getting better if he was asleep. Then Christ told the disciples plainly that Lazarus was dead. By the time Christ reached Bethany, we will learn that Lazarus had already been dead four days. By the end of four days, a body begins to rot and smell. The other people that Christ had raised from the dead had only been dead for a few hours. Christ wanted to show the disciples that He had all power including the power to put a rotten body back together again.

7. Read John 11:1-16 and write what Thomas said to the other disciples.
8. Explain how Christ raising Lazarus from the dead would show the great power of

God more than any other miracle that Christ had done.

9. Explain why you think Christ chose to do this miracle so close to Jerusalem where the Jews wanted to kill Him.

Christ said He was going to Jerusalem. Then Thomas spoke to the other disciples and encouraged them to go with Christ and die with Him. Here we see two important lessons. First, Thomas still failed to realize that Christ had come to die. The second lesson is more important. We see that Thomas was willing to die for Christ if necessary. He had come to realize that following Christ was so wonderful that He was willing to die for Christ. We read that Christ and the disciples traveled to Bethany which was a town that was less than two miles from Jerusalem.

10. Read John 11:17-32 and write what information they received about Lazarus when they reached Bethany.
11. Explain how many of the Jews in Jerusalem responded to the death of Lazarus.
12. Explain why you think it is important to come and provide comfort to those who have just experienced the death of a family member.

Martha came to meet Christ as He came to the edge of the town. Later we will see that Mary also comes to the same place to meet Christ. Both sisters said the same thing when they saw Christ. We see that the things they said showed that both of them realized that Christ had great power. However, it also shows that they did not yet realize that Christ had all power. Sometimes we are like Mary and Martha. We recognize that Christ is God but we fail to realize that Christ can do all things.

13. Read John 11:17-32 and write the first thing that both Martha and Mary said to Christ.
14. Explain what this statement shows that both women recognized about Christ.
15. Explain why studying the signs that Jesus did in the book of John helps you to understand more about the power of Christ.

The two women realized that Christ could heal their brother but they did not yet realize that Christ could also raise their brother from the dead. They were limiting the power of Christ in their minds. Christ told Martha that Lazarus would rise again. Martha said that she knew her brother would rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Christ used this opportunity to point out the fact that He is the resurrection and the life. He is the one who will raise people from the dead and give them life. This is what happens when a person becomes a Christian. Once that person was spiritually dead. Now that person has received eternal life.

16. Read John 11:17-32 and write whether you think Martha answered the question that Christ asked in verse 26.
17. Explain in your own words what Christ means when He says that He is the resurrection and the life.
18. Explain why the fact that Christ is the resurrection and the life has changed your life.

After Martha had talked with Christ, she hurried back to her home and told Mary that Christ wanted to talk to her. Mary quickly hurried out to meet Christ. Many of the Jews thought that Mary was going to cry at the grave of Lazarus so they followed her. When Mary came to Christ, she said that if Christ would have been there, her brother would not have died. As Christ saw Mary and those who were following her, He became very sad. There were several reasons for this sadness. The first reason Christ was sad was the fact that the people had no hope in the resurrection. The death of a Christian produces sadness because we will miss the person. However, it does not produce the same sadness as the death of one who is not a Christian. The death of a Christian is also a time of rejoicing because the person has been promoted to be with the Lord.

19. Read John 11:33-44 and write the question that Christ asked Mary.
20. Explain why the death of a Christian is a time of sadness but also a time of joy.
21. Explain how you can share with others the good news of the resurrection with others even at the time of a death.

Another reason why Christ was sad was the fact that He loved Mary, Martha and Lazarus. He was sad to see their sorrow. As Jesus went to the grave, He cried with Mary and Martha. The Jews could see that Christ had great love. Here is an important lesson for us. If we love those who are lost in their sin, we will let our heart be broken and cry for them. As they can see the love of Christ in our lives, they will often be drawn to Christ because they have seen His love. As the people followed Christ to the grave of Lazarus, some of them asked each other if Christ could not have kept Lazarus from dying.

22. Read John 11:33-44 and write what kind of a grave it was where they buried Lazarus.
23. Explain what the people learned about the love of Christ from the fact that He cried with Mary and Martha.
24. Explain what you learn for your own life about how to show love to those who have experienced the death of a family member.

When Christ arrived at the cave where Lazarus had been buried, He told the people to roll away the stone. Martha immediately said that Lazarus had already been dead for four days and by now his body would stink because it was starting to rot and decay. Martha was exactly right. That was the reason Christ had waited for two days before coming to Bethany after he heard that Lazarus was sick. Christ wanted the body to be rotting already so that His power over all things would be shown. Christ then told Martha that she would see the power of God if she would believe.

25. Read John 11:33-44 and write what the people did.
26. Explain why Christ told Martha that she would see the glory of God if she would believe.
27. Explain how the resurrection of Lazarus helps you to realize the power of Christ to give spiritual life as well as physical life.

After they had taken away the stone from the front of the cave where Lazarus was buried, Christ prayed and thanked God for what God was going to do. Here we see the attitude that we should have in prayer. We should pray with complete confidence in God knowing that He will answer our prayers. Then Christ called with a loud voice, "Lazarus come forth." Christ called Lazarus by name instead of just saying, Come forth. If Christ had not called Lazarus by name, all those who had died since the beginning of time would have come out of the graves alive.

28. Read John 11:33-44 and write how Lazarus came out of the cave.
29. Explain what will happen in the future when Christ does call come forth.
30. Explain what you learn for your own prayer life about giving thanksgiving as you pray.

When Lazarus came out of the grave, Christ told the people to take off the graveclothes and free Lazarus. Here we learn another important lesson. Christ told the people to do the things that they could do such as roll away the stone and take off the graveclothes. Then Christ did the thing that men cannot do when He raised Lazarus from the dead. Today Christ performs the miracle of saving a person from his sins. However, Christ expects us to witness to the person and then help that person to grow when he becomes a Christian. Here we see that Christ expects us to do the things we can do and He does the things that are impossible for us to do.

31. Read John 11:33-44 and write what Christ told the people to do when Lazarus came out of the tomb.
32. Explain what these verses teach us about the power of Christ over death.
33. Explain why Christ expects you to do the things that you can do in His strength.

As a result of Christ raising Lazarus from the dead, many of the Jews who saw the miracle believed Christ and followed Him. However, there were some who refused to believe and went and told the Pharisees what Christ had done. The Pharisees were very angry when they heard that Christ had raised Lazarus from the dead. They were afraid that all of the people would follow Christ instead of following them any more. Caiaphas, the high priest, told the leaders that they knew nothing.

34. Read John 11:45-57 and write what advice Caiaphas gave.
35. Explain why Caiaphas said it was necessary for one person to die for the people.
36. Explain why you are glad that Christ chose to die for your sins.

The leaders immediately agreed with Caiaphas and began to plan together how to put Christ to death. The leaders had talked before about putting Christ to death. Now they were doing much more than talking. They were actually planning to put Him to death. The religious leaders did not realize that they were actually fulfilling the Old Testament. The death of Christ would not only be for the Jewish nation; it would also be for the sins of the whole world. Here we see that God uses very sinful men to complete His plan and fulfill the Old Testament.

37. Read John 11:45-57 and write what the religious leaders did from that day.
38. Explain how God used the evil religious leaders to fulfill His plan to provide our salvation.
39. Explain what you learn from this to see that God works through all things to complete His plan.

Since it was not yet quite time for Christ to die, He went to a little city away from Jerusalem for a little while. It was the time for the Jewish Passover and many Jews came to Jerusalem. As they gathered in Jerusalem, the Jews talked among themselves about whether Christ would come to Jerusalem for the Passover. Many thought that Christ would not come to the Passover because they knew that the Jewish religious leaders wanted to kill Christ.

40. Read John 11:45-57 and write the two groups of people who had given an order that the people should tell them if they knew where Christ was.
41. Explain why these two groups were so anxious to put Christ to death.
42. Explain how this chapter helps you to grow in your understanding of the power of Christ to give both physical and spiritual life.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have seen that Christ defeated physical death by giving physical life to Lazarus. Christ also wants to give spiritual life to those who are spiritually dead. This week pray that Christ will give you the opportunity to explain to at least two people how they can have spiritual life because of the fact that Christ died for their sins and rose again.

We have given a brief summary of John 11:1-57. Now reread John 11:1-57 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Gospel of John
Lesson 11
John 12:1-50

Today we are beginning the study of the last week of Christ before His death on the cross. This week was a busy week and many things happened during the week. In this chapter we will study about Mary washing the feet of Christ and wiping them with her hair. We will also read about Christ riding into Jerusalem on a colt. Then we will learn about some men who were Greeks. We will learn that they wanted to see Christ. In the last half of the chapter we will learn again that Christ says He will soon die.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain why Judas was concerned when Mary washed the feet of Christ.
- Tell what happened when some Greek men wanted to see Christ.
- Tell what Christ said about His coming death.
- Tell why many of the religious leaders failed to follow Christ.

In our last lesson we learned how Christ raised Lazarus from the dead. As we begin this chapter we learn that Christ has returned from the town of Ephraim to the town of Bethany. Christ was invited to attend a dinner. One of those who was sitting at the table with Christ was Lazarus. The sisters of Lazarus were also at the dinner. Martha was helping serve the dinner. Mary came to the dinner and washed the feet of Christ. Then she dried His feet with her hair and put some very expensive perfume on His feet.

1. Read John 12:1-11 and write who complained at what he thought was a waste of money.
2. Explain why Judas was complaining.
3. Explain what lessons you learn about love from the actions of Mary.

Judas said that the expensive perfume should have been sold and the money given to the poor. We see that the perfume was worth as much as a man would earn in a year. Here Judas tries to make it sound as though he is really concerned about the poor. However, the real reason why Judas was concerned is also given in these verses. We read that Judas took care of the money and he was also a thief. Instead of helping the poor, he would have put the money in his own pocket.

4. Read John 12:1-11 and write what Christ said about the poor.
5. Since Judas was a thief, explain why you think Christ chose him to handle the money.
6. Explain what it means to you to have a genuine concern for the poor.

We will never get rid of poor people. There will always be some people that are poorer than other people. However, we should have a great concern for the poor. As Christ was eating, many people came to the place where He was eating. However, not all of them were coming to see Christ. Many were coming to see Lazarus who Christ had raised from the dead. As a result, the religious leaders decided to kill Lazarus also. They saw that the fact that Christ had raised Lazarus from dead was causing many people to believe Christ. Here we see that men may try to destroy the followers of Christ because they hate Christ.

7. Read John 12:1-11 and write what was leading the plot to put Christ to death.
8. Explain why there are people who hate Christians today because of Christ.
9. Explain how you should respond even if people would hate you because you are a Christian.

The day after the dinner in Bethany, we read that Christ rode into Jerusalem on a colt. The people shouted many wonderful things as Christ rode into Jerusalem. They called Christ the King of Israel and realized that He was coming in the name of the Lord. Many people followed Christ and listened to Him because they heard Christ had raised Lazarus from the dead. All of these people following Christ did not make the Pharisees happy.

10. Read John 12:12-22 and write what the Pharisees said.

11. Explain why the Pharisees were so upset to see so many people following Christ.

12. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from the fact that Christ chose to ride into Jerusalem on a colt instead of a strong horse.

The Pharisees were angry when they saw the people following Christ. They realized that all of their plans to stop Christ had not worked. Instead there were even more people who were following Christ. Here we learn an important lesson. The work of Christ will be done according to His plan. There is nothing that can stop the plan of God. It is our responsibility to work according to the plan of God instead of trying to do things our own way.

13. Read John 12:12-22 and write what some Greeks told Philip.

14. Explain what you learn from the fact that the Pharisees could not stop the plan of God.

15. Explain how you know that the Lord will carry out His plan for your life as you choose to follow Him.

Today Christians are concerned about many things. Some are concerned about building big and fancy church buildings. Some are concerned about community improvement programs. Some are concerned about their many programs and activities. However, the need of the world is not fancy church buildings, community programs or activities. The need of the world is the same now as it was in the time of Christ. Then the world needed to see and know Christ. The world has that same need today. These Greeks knew that was their need.

16. Read John 12:12-22 and write who Philip told about the request of the Greeks.

17. Explain why you think Philip went and told Andrew instead of taking them directly to Christ.

18. Explain why you need to follow the example of Andrew and help people get acquainted with Christ.

Christ began to talk of His coming death again. He told the people that the hour had come for Him to die. Then Christ gave a wonderful picture of what He was going to do. He said that as long as a piece of wheat was alive, it could not multiply. However, once it is planted it could multiply and produce much fruit. By His death, Christ brought life to many people. Here we also learn a lesson for our own lives. If we are going to be effective for Christ, we must die to our own wants and desires and put Christ first in our lives.

19. Read John 12:23-36 and write what Christ tells us to do if we want to serve Him.

20. Explain why Christ was willing to die so that He could give life to many people.

21. Explain what it means to you to die to your own wants and desires so that you can be effective in your service for Christ.

To serve Christ means to follow Him. Christ promises that if we follow Him, He will be with us. He also promises that the Father will honor us. Then Christ tells us that the reason He came was to die and meet death for our sake. He had come for that hour and He was not going to try and avoid it. As Christ spoke, we read that the Father also spoke from heaven.

22. Read John 12:23-36 and write what God said when He spoke from heaven.
23. Explain why Christ was looking forward to this hour even though it caused His soul to be troubled.
24. Explain what Christ meant when He promised that He would honor you if you serve Him.

Christ had just asked the Father to give glory to the name of Christ when God spoke from heaven. Here we see the love of Christ and His Father for each other. Christ was an obedient Son who was doing the will of His Father. The Father showed His love by giving glory to the Son. Christ said that God spoke for the sake of the people who were listening. Then Christ said that the time of judgment had come. Christ was going to die on the cross and pay the penalty for our sins. He was also going to gain complete and total victory over the world.

25. Read John 12:23-36 and write what Christ says He will do when He is lifted up on the cross.
26. Explain what Christ meant when He said that He would draw all men to Himself.
27. Explain why you want to share with others the fact that Christ wants to draw them to Himself.

The people did not understand what Christ meant. They were looking for Christ to become a king and live forever. They did not expect Christ to die. Then Christ spoke again of the fact that He is the Light. Christ told them to walk in the light because those who walk in darkness do not know where they are going. There is a real warning in these verses. Many people do not realize that they are lost and wandering in the darkness of sin.

28. Read John 12:23-36 and write what Christ says people will become if they believe in the light.
29. Explain what it means to walk in spiritual darkness and to walk in the light.
30. Explain how you personally can help people who are walking in spiritual darkness learn how they can begin to walk in the light.

During the more than three years that Christ carried on His public ministry, He had done many miracles. These miracles included healing the sick, opening the eyes of the blind, cleansing the lepers, casting out demons, raising the dead and many other miracles. Although the people had seen all of these miracles, they still refused to believe Christ and follow Him. This is a good example of what many people are like today. They have decided that they are not going to follow Christ and they do not plan to change their minds.

31. Read John 12:37-50 and write what prophet predicted that the people would be that way.
32. Explain what the prophet meant when he said, "Who has believed our report?"
33. Explain why you personally think that these people did not believe even though they had seen all of the miracles that Christ had performed.

Isaiah spoke of the fact that men would not believe in Christ. He spoke of the fact that their eyes would be blinded so that they could not see. Their hearts would also be hardened so that they could not understand. Isaiah spoke these things 700 years before Christ came to this earth. Isaiah had spoken these things when He had seen the glory of Christ. We see that these words caused many people to think. In fact we read that many of the most important rulers believed what Christ said. However, there was one thing that these men did not do.

34. Read John 12:37-50 and write what the chief rulers would not do.
35. Explain why these leading rulers made the choice to say nothing.

36. Explain what these verses show what will happen if you are controlled by your own fears instead of depending on Christ for strength.

These leading rulers were more concerned about what others said than they were about following Christ. They believed that everything that Christ said was true. They knew that He was right. However, they failed to follow Christ and tell others that they were following Him. Here we see that a person who truly believes in Christ and follows Christ will also speak to others about Christ.

37. Read John 12:37-50 and write what these rulers loved the most.

38. Explain the difference between believing about Christ and following Christ.

39. Explain why it is important to you to let others know that you have chosen to follow Christ.

Christ also emphasized again the fact that those who believed in Him also believed in the Father. We cannot separate belief in the Father and belief in the Son. If we do not believe in the Son, we do not believe in the Father either. Today there are many false groups who do not believe that Christ is the Son of God and that He is equal with the Father. According to these verses, we see that they really do not believe in the Father either. Those who reject the word of Christ also reject the word of the Father.

40. Read John 12:37-50 and write why Christ came into the world.

41. Explain what these verses teach about the fact that people must believe that Christ is equal with the Father if they claim to believe in the Father.

42. Explain what helped you come to the point where you realized that the Father and Christ are equal.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have seen that people like Judas can pretend to be followers of Christ and deceive the people around them. We have also seen that people can believe in Christ but not put their trust in Him because they are more concerned to be accepted by men than to have their sin forgiven by Christ. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to explain what this chapter teaches to at least two people who are more concerned about being accepted by people than they are about having their sins forgiven.

We have given a brief summary of John 12:1-50. Now reread John 12:1-50 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Gospel of John
Lesson 12
John 13:1-38

Seven chapters of the book of John talk about the last 24 hours before and during the time Christ was crucified on the cross. Our study today covers the first of those seven chapters. We will be seeing that many things happened during the few hours before the death of Christ. In chapters 13 and 14 we read the instructions of Christ to the disciples as they ate the Last Supper. Chapters 15 and 16 give the teaching of Christ as He walked to the Mountain of Olives to pray. Chapter 17 is the prayer of Christ just before He was betrayed by Judas and led away to be judged. Then in chapters 18 and 19 we read about the trial and death of Christ.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Tell why Peter did not want his feet washed.
- Explain what changed the mind of Peter.
- Tell what Christ said about the one who would betray Him.
- Explain the new commandment that Christ gives to us.

As we begin the study of the last few hours before the death of Christ, we read first about Christ eating the Passover Supper with His disciples. As you remember from our study of the other Gospels, the dinner was held in an upstairs room that they borrowed for the night. Since the upstairs room was not the home of any of the disciples, there was no one who felt that he should wash the feet of the other disciples. Instead they all waited for someone else to wash their feet.

1. Read John 13:1-11 and write who washed the feet of the disciples after the dinner was over.
2. Explain why you think none of the disciples volunteered to wash the feet of the other disciples.
3. Explain what the example of Christ shows you about serving others.

The disciples here show us what we often do. Many Christians do not like to volunteer to do the hard and dirty jobs. Instead we sit back and wait for some else to do those jobs. Here Christ gives us an example. He was the Master and the disciples should have volunteered to wash His feet. Instead we see that Christ washed the feet of the disciples. When Christ came to Peter, Peter was very embarrassed because he had not offered to wash the feet of Christ.

4. Read John 13:1-11 and write what Peter said that Christ would never do.
5. Explain why you think Peter refused to let Christ wash his feet at first.
6. Explain how our own attitudes are often like the attitudes of Peter and the other disciples.

Because Peter was ashamed, he did not want Christ to wash his feet. However, Christ told Peter that Peter would not be with Christ unless Christ washed his feet. Suddenly Peter was ready to have Christ wash his hands and his head also. Then Christ told Peter that he only needed his feet washed in order to be clean. Here we have a beautiful picture. When we become Christians, we are Christians forever. We do not need to get saved again every time we sin. Instead we need to confess our sins to Christ daily knowing that He forgives and cleanses us from our sins. This daily confession is the washing of our feet to cleanse us and make us feel clean in the presence of Christ.

7. Read John 13:1-11 and write what Christ said about the disciples being clean.
8. Explain why every Christian needs to confess his sins to Christ each day.

9. Explain how you personally feel after you have prayed and confessed your sins to Christ.

After Christ had finished washing the feet of the disciples, He began to talk to the disciples about what He had just done. They called Him Master but He washed their feet. He told that that just as He had washed their feet, they should also serve one another and wash one another's feet. Here we learn an important lesson. We should always be looking for ways to help our Christian brothers and sisters. As we serve and help other Christians, we are actually helping Christ.

10. Read John 13:14-20 and write what Christ says He is giving us in these verses.
11. Explain why Christ chose to give the disciples the example of serving one another the night before He was crucified.
12. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life about serving other Christians.

Just as Christ was an example for us, we should also be an example for others. This means that we must live our lives the way that Christ lived His life. However, the only way it is possible to live as Christ lived is if we are always depending on His strength instead of our own. Christ tells us that it is important to know that we should serve others. It is even more important though that we know and do those things and not just know them.

13. Read John 13:14-20 and write what we will be if we do the things that we know we should do.
14. Explain why obedience to Christ will cause Christians to experience joy and happiness in their lives.
15. Explain why you realize that it is important for you to be an example and show others how to serve Christ and each other.

Although Christ had chosen the twelve disciples, He knew that one of the disciples was not a true follower. Christ here speaks of the fact that the disciple who eats bread with Him will be the one who will lift up his heel against Christ. Christ says that He was telling the disciples ahead of time so that they would believe Him when it happened. The disciples did not understand yet. Christ knew that they would not understand until it actually happened.

16. Read John 13:14-20 and write who Christ says men receive when they receive Him.
17. Explain why Christ told the disciples in advance about the fact that one of the disciples would turn against Him.
18. Explain what promise Christ has made to you and to all who have received Him.

Christ went on to tell the disciples more about the one that would betray Him. We read that Peter did not understand what Christ meant so he motioned to the disciple who was sitting next to Christ. Peter wanted that disciple to ask Christ what He meant. The name of the disciple who was sitting next to Christ is not mentioned. However, we are told something about that disciple.

19. Read John 13:21-30 and write what we are told about the disciple who was sitting next to Christ.
20. Explain why the disciples were confused when Christ told them that one of the disciples was going to betray Him.
21. Explain how you think the disciple was able to deceive the other disciples for the three years that the disciple traveled with Christ so that none of them realized that he did not truly believe in Christ.

As we study the book of John, we see that John does not use his own name in the book. Instead John always uses some other title to refer to himself. One of the ways John

referred to himself was the disciple who Jesus loved. Many people think that John was the youngest of the disciples. Because John was younger, Jesus may have showed a little extra love and concern for him. We need to also show love and concern for young Christians and help and encourage them so that they grow to become mature Christian.

22. Read John 13:21-30 and write who Christ gave the sop (piece of food) that was to show which of the disciples would betray Him
23. Explain why every Christian should know as John knew that Christ loves him or her.
24. Explain some of the ways that Christ personally shows His love to you.

We read that Satan entered into Judas when he took the piece of food that Christ gave him. Judas had earlier agreed to sell Christ to the religious leaders for thirty pieces of silver. Because Judas had chosen to reject Christ, Satan now controlled him. This is what may happen to any person who continually rejects Christ. The disciples did not realize that Judas was going to betray Christ. They thought he was going to buy some food or possibly give some money to the poor.

25. Read John 13:21-30 and write what it was like when Judas left the other disciples.
26. Explain why Satan was able to enter into Judas and totally control what Judas did that night.
27. Explain why this shows you the importance of warning people not to keep rejecting Christ.

As Judas went out, it was night in two different ways. It was night because the sun had set and darkness had come. However, it was also night in another way. The powers of darkness controlled by Satan were also making their greatest effort to destroy Christ who is the Light of the World. Judas had turned the complete control of his life over to the devil. Satan had entered into Judas and now he was ready to do the work that Satan wanted him to do. The power of the devil is great but we can be thankful that the power of Christ is much greater.

28. Read John 13:21-30 and write how soon Judas went out after Christ gave him the piece of food.
29. Explain what the actions of Judas teach you about those who are still in spiritual darkness.
30. Explain how the Lord began to change your actions when you placed your trust in Him so that you were walking in the light instead of in spiritual darkness.

After Judas went out into the night, Christ began to teach the disciples many things that He could never teach them when Judas was with them. The things that Christ taught the rest of that evening were only for those who had truly placed their faith and trust in Christ. Christ said that the time had now come for Him to be glorified. He was going to die. He was going to go to a place where the disciples could not follow Him. However, as Christ prepared to leave the disciples, we read that He gave them something new.

31. Read John 13:31-38 and write the new thing that Christ gave the disciples.
32. Explain why Christ said the Father would be glorified in Him.
33. Explain what it means to you in your personal life that the Father was glorified by what Christ would do in the next 24 hours.

The new commandment was to love each other as Christ loved them. This is a wonderful commandment. It is a commandment that Christ showed these men how to obey for three years as He walked among men. Christ loved every person so much that He gave His life for every person. He loved others so much that His time was never spent to please Himself. Instead He spent His time helping and serving others. For three years Christ was with the disciples nearly all of the time except when He went alone to pray to the Father. Christ showed His love by serving others.

34. Read John 13:31-38 and write how Christ says that people will know that we are disciples of Christ.
35. Explain why our actions toward one another as Christians should be something that Christ causes other people to notice.
36. Explain some things that you are already doing to show your love to other Christians.

Today many Christians do not show that they are the disciples of Christ by loving each other. Today many churches have programs and activities that keep people busy almost every night. The people are so busy with the programs and activities that they never get to know and love each other. Instead of so many programs, most churches need to encourage their families to get together with two or three other families for Bible study and fellowship. As the families study the Word of God together, they get to know the Word of God better. As they relate the Word of God to their own lives, they get to know each other better. The result is that they grow to love each other as Christians are commanded to do in this new commandment.

37. Read John 13:31-38 and write how Christ told the disciples to love one another.
38. Explain what is required for Christians to love one another in the same way that Christ has loved us.
39. Explain some specific things that you can begin to do today to obey this new commandment of Christ.

As Christ prepared to die, He told the disciples that they could not follow Him where He was going to go. However, Christ said that they would follow Him afterward. Peter said that He was ready to follow Christ wherever Christ went. In fact Peter said that he was willing to die for Christ. Peter sounded very brave but he was only depending on his own strength. The same thing can easily happen in our lives. We can speak brave words and think that we can carry out those words in our own strength. The problem is that we will fail if we are depending on our own strength.

40. Read John 13:31-38 and write what Christ said Peter would do before the night was over.
41. Explain why the Lord said that Peter would fail that night even though he said that he was willing to die for Christ.
42. Explain what the example of Peter shows you about the importance of yielding to Christ and depending on His strength in order to obey Christ's commandments.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have seen that Christ gave us an example of the importance of serving one another. Christ also gave us a new commandment to love one another as He has loved us. We are able to obey that commandment as we ask Christ for His strength to serve one another in love. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to show the love of Christ in a very specific way to two other Christians.

We have given a brief summary of John 13:1-38. Now reread John 13:1-38 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Gospel of John
Lesson 13
John 14:1-31

In our study today we will learn some more of the things that Christ taught His disciples as they ate their last meal together before the death of Christ. Christ taught the disciples several important lessons as they talked together. We learn some important lessons about heaven. We also learn about the way that Christ will answer our prayers. As Christ prepared to die and leave the disciples, He promised that He would not leave them alone. Instead He would send the Holy Spirit to be with them and teach them.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what Christ says about heaven.
- Explain what Christ teaches about prayer.
- Tell what Christ teaches about the Holy Spirit.
- Tell what Christ says about peace.

As Christ prepared to leave the disciples He gave them several wonderful promises. The first promise is about heaven. Christ says that we do not need to worry if we are Christians. He is preparing a place for us. The disciples were worried because Christ had just told them that Peter would deny Him that very night. Since Peter who was their leader was going to fail, the disciples knew that they would fail also. Here we see that we are not perfect. As Christians, we still will fail and sin. However, Christ has forgiven our sin and promises us a place in heaven.

1. Read John 14:1-6 and write what Christ promises He will do after he prepares a place for us.
2. Explain why Christ wanted the disciples to know that they did not need to be troubled.
3. Explain why you personally know that you do not need to be troubled or fearful as a Christian.

Christ promises that He will not forget about us when He leaves this earth. Instead He will come back and take us to heaven. There we will be with Him. The disciples did not understand completely and so Thomas asked a question. He said that they did not know where Christ was going. However, they wanted to know the way so that they could go also. This is the same problem that many people face today. They do not know how to get to heaven.

4. Read John 14:1-6 and write three things that Christ said that He is as He answered the question of Thomas.
5. Explain what Christ means when He says that He is the Way.
6. Explain what it means to you personally to know that Christ is the Truth.

Christ is the only way to heaven. There is no other way that people can get to heaven. All those who want to go to heaven must follow Christ. Christ is also the only one who always speaks the truth. His words are true when He says that He is the only way to God. Finally Christ is the only one who gives life. As we have studied the book of John we have seen that Christ is the only one who has victory over death. This means that He has all the power necessary to give life to every person that follows Him.

7. Read John 14:1-6 and write what Christ said about the only way to come to the Father.
8. Explain what Christ means when He says that He is the Life.
9. Explain how you can help someone else to understand that the only way that person

can get to God is through Christ.

After Christ told the disciples again about the way to have eternal life, Christ told the disciples that they now know the Father because they know Christ. Here we see that Christ and the Father are one. Everything that we know about Christ is also true about the Father. However, the disciples did not understand what Christ meant. This time it was Philip who spoke. Philip said that they would be happy and satisfied if Christ would show them the Father.

10. Now read John 14:7-14 and write who Christ says has seen the Father.
11. Explain what Christ meant when He said that He that has seen Me has seen the Father.
12. Explain how you personally came to understand that Christ and the Father are one.

When we become acquainted with Christ, we become acquainted with the Father also. The more we learn about Christ as we follow Him, the more that we know about the Father. The words that Christ spoke were the words of the Father. The miracles that Christ did were also done by the Father. This is due to the fact that the Father is living in Christ and Christ is living in the Father as we will learn in John 17. In Galatians 2:20 we see that Christ lives in us once we become Christians. That also means that we have the Father living in us. Later in this chapter we will see that Christ promised to send the Holy Spirit to also live in us.

13. Read John 14:7-14 and write what Christ promises to those who believe on Him.
14. Explain why the fact that the Father lives in Christ and Christ lives in the Father should be an encouragement to every Christian.
15. Explain what it means to you to know that you have Christ living in your life.

The promise of Christ to the disciples is a wonderful promise to each one of us. Through the power of Christ, we are able to do even more than Christ did when He was here on the earth. When Christ was here on this earth, He was limited to one body. Now that Christ has returned to heaven, He no longer has the limits of one body that He took when He became a man. Now Christ is able to do greater things that He did when He was on the earth because He is able to work through the body and life of every Christian.

16. Read John 14:7-14 and write what Christ promised to do for the disciples if they asked Him.
17. Explain what that promise to the disciples now means to all Christians.
18. Explain what this promise means to you as you personally pray to Christ.

Here we see the reason why we will be able to do more than Christ did when He was here on the earth. It is Christ who now works through each Christian. Here we have a wonderful promise about prayer. Whatever we ask in prayer, we know that Christ will answer our prayers. Christ promises to answer our prayers so that glory and praise will be given to the Father. Many times Christians limit God by failing to believe that Christ can do all things. Here the promise is given to us that Christ will do all things in order to bring glory to God. That is why I John 5:13 tells us that we are to pray according to the will of God.

19. Read John 14:7-14 and what Christ what says happens as Christ answers our prayers.
20. Explain how the fact that Christ answers our prayers brings glory to the Father.
21. Explain how you can help a new Christian to know that Christ will answer his prayers.

Christ was getting ready to leave the disciples. However, Christ promised that He

would not leave the disciples alone. Instead He would send the Holy Spirit to be with them. Here we see that the Holy Spirit is called the Comforter. This means that the Holy Spirit has come to live in us and give us His strength as we yield to Him. Here we see a beautiful picture. We do not need to worry or feel that we are alone. Instead we have a person to help, comfort and encourage us.

22. Read John 14:15-26 and write what promise Christ gave us about the Holy Spirit.

23. Explain what Christ meant when He said that the Holy Spirit shall be in you.

24. Explain how your life is changing as you are learning to yield moment by moment to the Holy Spirit.

At the moment we become Christians, the Holy Spirit comes into our lives. He then gives us help and encouragement. A Christian is never alone. He always has the Holy Spirit living in him. The Holy Spirit gives us the power of God in our lives. When we yield to the Holy Spirit, we have the power to change. When we depend on ourselves we have no power. Christ also gives us a wonderful promise. Because He lives, we will live also. We know that we have eternal life because Christ had power over death.

25. Read John 14:15-26 and write how we show that we love Christ.

26. Explain the promise of Christ that because He lives, we will live also.

27. Explain how the promise of eternal life gives you hope for the future.

There is a great need today for Christians who are keeping the commandments of Christ. It is very easy for Christians to forget the commandments that Christ has given. However, if we really love Christ we will not forget to obey Christ. Christ summarized all of the commandments into a very short summary. Jesus summarized all of the commandments in the Old Testament when He said in Matthew 22:37-40, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.' Then He gave the new commandment in John 3:34-35. Those commands can all be summarized in one word – love.

28. Read John 14:15-26 and write two things Christ promised the Holy Spirit would do.

29. Explain what Christ meant when He said He would teach us all things.

30. Explain how Christ helps you to remember what Christ taught when you are trying to answer the questions of others.

Here we see some more of the things that the Holy Spirit does for us. First, the Holy Spirit is our teacher. God uses many Christians to help each of us learn. However, we do not learn anything unless the Holy Spirit helps us to understand. This is the reason that people who are not Christians understand very little when they attend a church. They do not have the Holy Spirit in their lives to teach them. They are also blinded by Satan. We also see that the Holy Spirit helps us to remember the things that we have learned. Sometimes we will learn verses and then forget them. However, the Holy Spirit will often bring those verses back to our memory when we are talking to others who need those verses.

31. Read John 14:15-26 and write the three names that are given to the Holy Spirit in these verses.

32. Explain what these verses teach about the Holy Spirit.

33. Explain how the power of the Holy Spirit working in your life continues to change you.

As Christ prepared to leave the disciples, He also gave them another promise. He gave the disciples the promise of peace. Today one of the most important concerns of people around the world is peace. Another war starts almost as soon as one war is over. Men

of the world talk about peace and want peace but they cannot have peace. The reason men do not have peace is due to the fact that they have sin in their lives that causes them to want what others have. As a result, people have war and not peace. However, Christ gives a different kind of peace.

34. Read John 14:27-31 and write what Christ says about our hearts.

35. Explain what kind of peace Christ gives to those who trust in Him.

36. Explain how it changes your life when you trust the Lord about a problem and experience His inner peace.

Here we see the kind of peace that Christ promises to give us as we follow Him. We have peace in our hearts that takes away our fears as we yield to Him. Today many people are worried because they are afraid of death or afraid of what will happen tomorrow. As Christians we do not need to be afraid of what will happen because we know that whatever happens is a part of the plan of God for our lives. Since we do not need to worry about what will happen to us, we have inner peace. This is a peace that no one can take away from us.

37. Read John 14:27-31 and write why Jesus told the disciples that they could rejoice.

38. Explain why you think that many Christians do not experience the inner peace that Christ promises.

39. Explain how you can help such Christians learn to understand how to have this inner peace.

Christ says that we should rejoice and be happy because He has gone to be with His Father. The fact that Christ has gone away also means that He will return to the earth for us. Christ also told the disciples that He was going away before He left so that they would believe. As we come to the end of this chapter, we read that Christ had finished His teaching around the supper table. Now the time had come for Christ to go and pray. The next two chapters were spoken as Christ and the disciples walked to the garden where Christ prayed to the Father.

40. Read John 14:27-31 and what Christ said to show it was time to leave for the place where Christ was going to pray.

41. Explain why Christ told the disciples in advance what was going to happen.

42. Explain how the teaching of Christ at the Last Supper with His disciples has helped you to grow in your understanding.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have seen that Christ told the disciples that they did not need to be troubled even though He would soon be leaving to return to heaven. He promised them that He would answer their prayers. He also promised that He would send the Holy Spirit to live in them and give them inner peace. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to share with two other Christians how they can experience this inner peace in their daily lives.

We have given a brief summary of John 14:1-31. Now reread John 14:1-31 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter as you have studied it.

Gospel of John
Lesson 14
John 15:1-27

Christ teaches us about our relationship to Him in this chapter. We will see that Christ is the vine or trunk of the tree and we are the branches. If we try to do things in our own strength we will fail. However, if we get our strength from Christ we will have victory. We show that we are abiding in Christ by obeying His commandments. Christ also tells us that we are His friends as well as His servants. A friend is one who has real fellowship with another person. We also see that Christ teaches that the world will hate us because it hates Christ. This should not bother us. Instead we should rejoice because we have the privilege of suffering for Christ.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what Christ teaches about abiding in Him.
- Explain what Christ teaches about bearing fruit.
- Tell why Christ says He now calls us friends instead of servants.
- Tell why Christ says the world will hate us.

In this chapter Christ shows the importance of depending on Him for our strength at all times. He gives us a picture by saying that He is the vine or tree and we are the branches. A branch that is growing on a tree will be strong and beautiful. However, if that branch is cut off from the tree, it soon dries out and has no strength. The only way that we can have strength is to depend completely on Christ for our strength.

1. Read John 15:1-14 and write what kind of a vine or tree Christ calls Himself.
2. Explain why Christ says that He takes away those branches that do not bear any fruit.
3. Explain what it means to you personally for you to bear fruit for Christ.

Today there are many people who are trying to lead other people. Some have even organized various religions in order to get the people to follow them and depend on them. However, Christ is the only one who can give real strength. These other men may help people a little. However, they can never change people. As a result, those who follow such men are weak and confused because they cannot receive spiritual strength from their leader.

4. Read John 15:1-14 and write what we produce as we abide in Christ and depend on Him for our strength.
5. Explain why depending on Christ makes it possible for Christians to become fruitful and produce much fruit.
6. Explain some of the ways that you have found that your life has become more fruitful as you have learned to yield to Christ and allowed Him to work in your life and through your life.

As we read about producing fruit, we should remember that Christ is talking only to Christians in these verses. As you remember, Christ did not begin teaching the disciples these things until Judas had left the group. As we read through these verses, we see that there are four different levels of producing fruit: no fruit, fruit, more fruit and much fruit. Today many Christians are producing no fruit because they are depending on their own strength. In these verses we see that if we abide in Christ that we will produce fruit. We also see that Christ will then make our lives what He wants them to be. The final result will be that we produce much fruit.

7. Read John 15:1-14 and write what we can do when we depend on our own strength.

8. Explain how a person goes from the point of producing no fruit to the point of producing much fruit.
9. Explain what you would like to change in your life so that your life will produce much fruit.

When a man has a fruit tree, he prunes it and cuts off some of the branches so that the branches that are left will produce good fruit. This is the same thing that Christ does as we serve Him. He wants to get rid of the things in our lives that cause us to sin and keep us from being effective for Him. This is the reason that Christ brings tests into our lives. Those tests are to make us stronger so that we can serve Christ better. This is one reason why we should thank the Lord for everything that happens to us and then pray and ask Christ what lessons He is trying to teach us.

10. Read John 15:1-4 and write what happens to a branch that does not produce fruit.
11. Explain what these verses say is the key to bearing much fruit.
12. Explain how the Lord has helped you to become more fruitful as He has led you to get rid of certain things in your life.

Here is a verse that causes much confusion among Christians. Some people use this verse about a branch being burned to teach that a Christian can be lost again. They say this burning refers to judgment in hell. Other Christians say that this must refer to people who are not Christians because a Christian cannot be lost again. Such Christians usually say this because their lives are bearing little or no fruit for Christ and so they do not want these verses to apply to their lives. However, I Corinthians 3:12-15 explains the meaning of John 15:6. In those verses we see that those who produce fruit are rewarded. Those who produce no fruit will have their works burned up and they receive no rewards. In fact, they enter heaven with nothing. This is a real warning to every Christian.

13. Read John 15:1-14 and write who is glorified when we bear much fruit.
14. Explain why these verses teach that Christians will have no rewards if they produce no fruit.
15. Explain why you want the Lord to help your life become a life that bears more fruit and much fruit.

Now we need to ask the question, What is the fruit of the Christian? In Galatians 5:22-23 we have the fruit of the Holy Spirit. These are the attitudes that the Holy Spirit produces in our lives as we walk in the strength of the Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit is changed attitudes that produce changed actions. The fruit of the Christian, however, is explained in Romans 1:13. There we see that the fruit of a Christian is others who become Christians as a result of our witness to them. Here is a beautiful picture. As we walk in the Spirit, the Holy Spirit produces changed thoughts, changed attitudes and changed actions. The changed life causes people to listen to what we say about Christ. As a result, we have the opportunity to bear fruit for Christ.

16. Read John 15:1-14 and write what will be full as we keep the commandments of Christ.
17. Explain how the Lord produces fruit through the life of a person as that person develops godly thoughts, attitudes and actions.
18. Explain how the changes that have happened in your life as a Christian have caused your life to become fruitful.

Christ also gives us another important lesson about bearing fruit in these verses. He emphasizes again the importance of loving each other. The thing that will cause a person who is not a Christian to listen to a Christian is seeing love in the life of that Christian. Christ gave us a great example of love when He left heaven to come to this

earth and give His life for us. Now we are to show this same kind of love to each other and to the world.

19. Read John 15:1-14 and write how we show that we are the friends of Christ.
20. Explain what it means to love one another as Christ has loved us.
21. Explain some specific ways that you can obey the command of Christ to love one another as Christ has loved you.

In John 13 Christ called the disciples, servants. Now Christ uses a new word as He talks to the disciples. We read that Christ now calls us friends. There is a great difference between a servant and a friend. A servant does not know what his master does or thinks. However, a friend knows how his friend thinks and feels. He also knows why his friend does the things that he does. Christ calls us friends because He tells us the things that the Father has told Him.

22. Read John 15:15-17 and write how we became the friends of Christ.
23. Explain how the fact that Christ calls us friends shows that we have a changed relationship with Him.
24. Explain what it means to you in your personal life to know that Christ has called you His friend.

Here we actually see several things that Christ has done for us. First we see that He chose us. We do not have a single good thing in ourselves. Christ knew that there was nothing good in any of us. However, He chose us anyway to be His friends. This does not mean that we should be proud because Christ chose us. Instead we must realize that He chose us and appointed us to have a ministry. That ministry is to bear fruit. Here we see that God has chosen every Christian for the greatest ministry in the entire world. The ministry that Christ gives every Christian is not a little ministry that is not important. Instead it is the only ministry in the entire world that can really change the lives of people.

25. Read John 15:15-17 and write what should happen to the fruit that we bear.
26. Explain what makes it possible for the fruit that we bear to remain.
27. Explain the key thing that happened in your life that helped you grow in your Christian life.

Today there are many people who think that leading others to Christ means getting them to raise their hand in a meeting, come forward in a meeting or repeat a prayer after the person. However, we have seen over and over again in the Gospels that to become a Christian means to follow Christ and make Him the Master of our lives. Nearly every person in any group will raise his hand if you ask him if he wants to go to heaven. Nearly every person will repeat a prayer after you if you tell him that it will keep him from going to hell. Many people think that going forward in a church service is the thing that saves them because that is the thing they hear emphasized every Sunday. None of these things in themselves cause a person to understand what it means to follow Christ. The way we have real fruit and fruit that remains is if we help a person to really understand what it means to follow Christ.

28. Read John 15:15-17 and write what Christ again commands us in these verses.
29. Explain how we can help other Christians understand what it means to bear fruit that remains.
30. Explain what you focus on in your ministry in order to produce fruit that remains.

Christ goes on to warn the disciples that the world will hate them because the world hates Christ. As the servants of Christ, we have the privilege of sharing His sufferings as people persecute us and do evil things to us. The message that men are sinners is never popular. People like to hide their sin so that others do not know how bad they

really are. As a result, people may do evil things to us when we speak for Christ because Christ reveals their sin.

31. Read John 15:18-27 and write why men hate Christ.
32. Explain why the hatred of Christ by some that are not Christians will cause them to hate Christians.
33. Explain what has helped you to learn not to take it personally when people speak evil of you because you are a Christian.

Christ points out the fact that those who hate Him hate the Father also. Even though Christ had done many miracles, the religious leaders still hated Him. Here we see that the love of Christ and His concern for sinful men only caused them to hate Him more. This fulfilled a prophecy in the Old Testament, which said that Christ would be hated even though there was no reason to hate Him.

34. Read John 15:18-27 and write what Christ promised the Holy Spirit would do when He came.
35. Explain why the religious leaders hated Christ even though He had done no evil.
36. Explain how we should react when people speak words of hatred toward us because we are Christians.

One of the most important things that the Holy Spirit does is point people to Jesus Christ. Today there are a few people who claim that the Holy Spirit has given them special power. However, such people do spend their time talking about Christ. The true test of whether a person is walking in the Spirit is seen by what that person says. If a person is truly walking in the Spirit, that person will be speaking about Christ.

37. Read John 15:18-27 and write where the Holy Spirit comes from.
38. Explain how you can tell when the Holy Spirit controls a person when that person speaks.
39. Explain why you will be able to speak boldly for Christ when you are yielding to the Holy Spirit.

These verses also tell us several other things about the Holy Spirit. We read that the Holy Spirit comes from the Father and is sent by Christ. Here we see again the fact that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit all work together. They do different things but they all have one purpose and one goal. We also see that the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth. Here we see that the things that the Holy Spirit says and does are always true. The Holy Spirit makes no mistakes.

40. Read John 15:18-27 and write what Christ told the disciples to do.
41. Explain why the Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Truth.
42. Explain why you personally need to yield to the Holy Spirit when you speak to others about Christ.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have learned about the importance of abiding in Christ in order to be fruitful Christians. We also see that Christ has called us His friends and has appointed us to bear fruit. In the process of bearing fruit, we see that we can expect opposition from Satan working through other people. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to share with at least two other Christians how they can be fruitful in their lives.

We have given a brief summary of John 15:1-27. Now reread John 15:1-27 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter today.

Gospel of John
Lesson 15
John 16:1-33

In our study of the last two chapters, we have learned several things about the Holy Spirit. We learned that Christ sent the Holy Spirit to come alongside us and help us. We saw that the Holy Spirit lives in every Christian. We also learned that the Holy Spirit is our teacher and the one who helps us remember the things that Christ taught. We saw also that the Holy Spirit speaks of Christ. Today we will learn several other things about the Holy Spirit. This chapter again speaks of the fact that people will persecute Christians. In the first half of the chapter, Christ speaks of His coming death and resurrection.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Tell why Christ warned the disciples that suffering was coming.
- Explain what Christ teaches about the Holy Spirit.
- Explain what Christ says about His death and resurrection.
- Tell what Christ promises about prayer.

As we begin this chapter, Christ again warns the disciples of coming persecution. The first thing that the Jewish religious leaders would do would be to put the disciples out of the Jewish synagogues. The synagogue was the building where the Jews met each Sabbath day for reading of the Old Testament and religious worship. Because the Jewish life centered around their religion, a person who was put out of the synagogue was left alone and very few people would talk to him. To be put out of the synagogue meant that a person could have very few friends.

1. Read John 16:1-6 and write what the Jews would think that they were doing when they killed the disciples.
2. Explain why the Jews would think that they were serving God when they killed Christians.
3. Explain how you would feel if you were rejected by some of your friends for becoming a Christian.

We read in the book of Acts that Saul actually thought he was serving God by putting Christians in jail and even killing them. The reason that the Jews thought that they were serving God when they killed Christians was due to the fact that Satan tricked them. Satan was able to trick them because they did not know God or Jesus Christ. It is easy for the devil to trick a person who does not know Christ. Christ told the disciples in advance that suffering was coming so that they would be prepared. Here we see that Christ allows certain things to happen in our lives to prepare us for the things that will happen in the future.

4. Read John 16:1-6 and write why Christ had not told the disciples these things at the beginning.
5. Explain why the disciples did not need to fear these things as long as Christ was with them.
6. Explain why you do not need to fear even though the day may come when you might face persecution for being a Christian.

As the disciples heard that Christ was going away, they were filled with sadness. However, Christ told them that He must go away or the Holy Spirit could not come to fill their lives. Christ then promised that when He went away that He would send the Holy Spirit to be with them. Here we see that Christ sends the Holy Spirit to fill the

empty life of each person at the moment that person decides to follow Christ.

7. Read John 16:7-15 and write the three things that Christ promised the Holy Spirit would reprove the world of when He came.
8. Explain why the presence of the Holy Spirit in the lives of Christians is even more important than having Christ physically present.
9. Explain how the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life has changed your life.

Here we see that the Holy Spirit came to reprove or convince men in three very important areas. First, the Holy Spirit convicts men of sin. During the time of Christ, men were trying to cover their sin by calling Christ a sinner. Today men are just the same. They talk about the sins of other men in an effort to cover their own sins. However, there is one sin that keeps people from having eternal life. That is the sin of which the Holy Spirit convicts people.

10. Read John 16:7-15 and write the sin about which the Holy Spirit convicts people.
11. Explain the meaning of the sin of which the Holy Spirit convicts people.
12. Explain how you can work with the Holy Spirit as you share with people the one sin that keeps them from having forgiveness of sin and eternal life.

The Holy Spirit also convinces people of the fact that Jesus Christ is the Righteous One. We see many things in the Bible that show us that Christ is the Righteous One because He is without sin. The Father showed that Christ is righteous by raising Him from the dead and receiving Him back to heaven. The Holy Spirit also speaks of judgment. When Christ died on the cross and rose from the dead, the judgment of Satan was completed. Christ had sealed the judgment of Satan. Now the Holy Spirit convinces people of the completed judgment of Satan.

13. Read John 16:7-15 and write why the Father convinces the world that Christ is the Righteous One.
14. Explain why the Holy Spirit needs to convince those who are not Christians that Christ is righteous.
15. Explain how you can work with the Holy Spirit as you share with people the Scriptures that show that Christ committed no sin.

We also learn some more lessons about the Holy Spirit in these verses. We learned earlier that the Holy Spirit teaches us all things. Now we learn a little more about the way that He teaches us. We read that the Holy Spirit will guide us into all truth. Here we learn an important lesson about teaching. Effective teachers guide the pupils to learn for themselves. This means that the teacher causes the pupils to think and study for themselves. Many people only learn about 10% of the things that they hear. This means that a teacher who does all of the talking may be a poor teacher because the pupils are not learning very much.

16. Read John 16:7-15 and write what the Holy Spirit will guide us to.
17. Explain why the Holy Spirit needs to convince those who are not Christians of the fact that Satan has already been judged by the death and resurrection of Christ.
18. Explain how you can work with the Holy Spirit as you share with people the Scriptures that show that Satan has been judged.

We also see a little about the way that the Holy Spirit guides us in these verses. First of all we see that He does not speak by Himself. Instead the Holy Spirit speaks the things that the Father wants Him to speak. We also read that the Holy Spirit will show us things to come. One of the best ways to teach a person how to do something is to show the person how to do it and then have that person do it to see if he or she understands. Another way to see if a person understands is to have the person explain to you what you have just explained to him.

19. Read John 16:7-15 and write what the Holy Spirit will do as He shows us things to

come.

20. Explain what these verses teach us about the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit.
21. Explain how the Holy Spirit helps you to understand the Bible as you study it.

Christ gives the disciples some wonderful promises about His death and resurrection as He prepares to die. Christ told the disciples that in a little while they would not be able to see Christ. Then in a little while they would be able to see Him again. The disciples could not understand what Christ meant and so they started talking between themselves and asking each other what Christ meant. Christ knew that the disciples wanted to understand the things that He was saying. He then told them that for a little while they would be filled with sorrow and sadness.

22. Read John 16:16-22 and write what Christ promised would happen to their sorrow.
23. Explain why the disciples were having a hard time understanding what Christ was saying.
24. Explain what you do to try and understand when you have a hard time understanding some of the things that Christ spoke.

Christ gave a beautiful picture of the way that their sorrow would be turned into joy. He said that their sorrow was like the sorrow of a woman who was in pain just before the birth of a child. That sorrow only lasts until the child is born. As soon as the child is born, the pain is forgotten because of the joy at the birth of the child. Christ also gave the disciples a wonderful promise about the joy that they would receive.

25. Read John 16:16-22 and write what Christ said no man could do to their joy.
26. Explain why the world could not destroy the joy of the disciples.
27. Explain why the world cannot destroy your joy as you yield your life to Christ.

This is a wonderful promise. The disciples were sad at the death of Christ. However, they were full of joy when Christ rose from the dead. The joy that we have because of the resurrection of Christ is a joy that no one can take from us. The resurrection shows the complete power and victory of Christ over the devil. As a result, there is nothing that the devil can do to remove that joy.

28. Read John 16:16-22 and write who Christ said would see the disciples again.
29. Explain why the disciples would experience a joy that could not be removed when they saw Christ again.
30. Explain why your relationship with Christ means that you can experience a life of joy and peace rather than a life of fear.

In the last part of the chapter Christ gives several wonderful promises. The first promise is about prayer. Christ promises that whatever we ask the Father in the name of Christ, the Father will give it to us. Christ says that we have not yet asked anything in His name. Most Christians have not asked Christ to make their lives of greatest possible use by the Lord in His work. Most Christians are only experiencing a little part of what the Lord could do through their lives if they would ask Christ to really use their lives and then yield to Him.

31. Read John 16:23-33 and write why Christ wants us to ask and receive.
32. Explain why most Christians are not experiencing all that the Lord would like to do through their lives.
33. Explain why you experience great joy when you pray and ask the Lord to work through your life.

Here again we see that the result of praying and asking the Lord to make real use of our lives will cause us to be full of joy. Every Christian has within his life a desire to help others. This is true even among many people who are not Christians. Many people

serve as volunteers in organizations that are designed to help others. Such people say that they are finding joy and happiness as they help others. However, they can only help meet the physical needs of people. As Christians we can meet the spiritual needs of people as well as their physical needs. As we see the Lord change the lives of people, we are filled with joy.

34. Read John 16:23-33 and write where Christ said He was going to go when He left the world.
35. Explain why Christians are able to experience great joy as they minister to the spiritual needs of others.
36. Explain why you think the Lord brings great joy to your life as you serve the spiritual needs of others.

Christ told the disciples plainly that He would soon be leaving the world and returning to the Father. This is why it was important for them to know the importance of praying and asking for help. For three years the disciples had been able to ask Christ for any help they needed. Now Christ is telling them that they can receive the same help when they prayed to the Father. Christ will be with the Father and the Father and Son will together answer their prayers. This is also the reason why we know that Christ answers our prayers today.

37. Read John 16:23-33 and write what we should be when we have tribulation and suffering in the world.
38. Explain why Christians can know that both the Father and Son will together answer their prayers when they pray according to the will of God.
39. Explain why it is important to you that you can bring your requests to the Father and Christ at any time through prayer.

Christ gave a wonderful promise to each of us as Christians. We can be cheerful and full of joy even though the world around us is trying to make us suffer because we serve Christ. Christ has already won the victory over Satan and the powers of this world. Because of this we can have real peace and joy no matter what people do to us. We can be thankful for the privilege of suffering for Christ. In this way we are sharing a little of the suffering that Christ suffered for us. Christ also said that the disciples would leave Him that night. However, Christ would not be alone.

40. Read John 16:23-33 and write who Christ said would be with Him.
41. Explain what Christ meant when He said that He would not be alone even though the disciples would be scattered that night.
42. Explain why you can personally experience joy even when you are going through times of suffering or even persecution.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. In this chapter we have learned that the Holy Spirit convinces and convicts those who are not Christians of three things. We have also seen that the Holy Spirit is the One who teaches us and gives us understanding of spiritual truth. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to practice learning to work with the Holy Spirit as you share with at least two people who are not yet Christians: the fact that the one sin that will keep them from having eternal life is the sin of unbelief; the fact that Jesus Christ is the Righteous One; and the fact that Satan was judged by the death and resurrection of Christ.

We have given a brief summary of John 16:1-33. Now reread John 16:1-33 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter today.

Gospel of John
Lesson 16
John 17:1-26

Today we will be studying the prayer of Christ just before He was tried and put to death. As we study this prayer, we see again the concern of Christ for others. We see that His first concern was to do the will of the Father. Then we read that Christ prays for the disciples as He prepares to leave them. However, we read that Christ did not end His prayer after He had prayed for the disciples. He also prayed for all those who would follow Him from the time of His death until He comes again. Here we see that Christ was more concerned about you and me than He was about Himself on the night before He died. Here Christ gives us a real example of the concern we should have for others.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Tell what Christ said about His desire to do the will of the Father.
- Explain the prayer of Christ for the disciples.
- Explain the prayer of Christ for all Christians.

As we have studied the Gospels, we have learned that Christ prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mountain of Olives during the hours just before Judas betrayed Christ. John is the only Gospel that gives us very many details of the prayer of Christ as He prayed. As Christ begins His prayer, we see that Christ prays that the Father will bring glory to Him so that He can also bring glory to the Father. Here we learn an important lesson. Our desire should be to do everything that we do to bring glory to God and not to ourselves.

1. Read John 17:1-8 and write what God has given Christ power over.
2. Explain why Jesus said that the hour of His death would bring glory to both the Father and the Son.
3. Explain why you want the things that you do to bring glory to God.

God has given Christ power over all men so that Christ can give eternal life to all those that the Father has given Him. In this chapter it speaks seven times of those that the Father has given to Christ. The Father gave Christ to the world as a gift so that people can have eternal life. Here see that that the Father gives all Christians to Christ as a gift. This is a wonderful promise to every Christian. Here we see that our salvation is based on this promise of the Father to Christ. The only way we could lose our salvation would be for the Father to break His promise to Christ. Since we know that the Father will never break that promise, we know that our salvation and eternal life are certain.

4. Read John 17:1-8 and write what Christ says is life eternal.
5. Explain why Christ promises to give eternal life to all that the Father has given Him.
6. Explain how you know that Christ has given you eternal life.

Here we see that we must know Christ if we are going to have eternal life. It is not enough to just know about Christ. We must know that Christ is the Lord and Master of our lives. Christ goes on in His prayer to say that He has done the will of the Father and shown the Father to those that the Father gave Him. As a result, the disciples knew that everything Christ said came from the Father. Christ also told the Father that He had finished the work that the Father had given Him to do.

7. Read John 17:1-8 and write what the disciples had done with the words that Christ had given them.
8. Explain what Christ meant when He said that He had finished the work that the Father had given Him to do (since this was before His crucifixion).

9. Explain what things caused you to realize that everything Christ said while He was here on this earth came from the Father.

Because the disciples received the words of Christ, they knew without any doubts that Christ came from the Father. Here we learn an important lesson. If we will accept the words of Christ in faith, we will not be filled with all kinds of doubts. God will strengthen our faith so that we know for sure that the things we believe are true. When we have victory over doubts, then we will be filled with joy and happiness.

10. Read John 17:1-8 and write what the disciples had believed.
11. Explain why having faith in the things that Christ spoke will give us victory over doubts.
12. Explain what caused you to realize that you could believe the words that Christ spoke when He was here on this earth.

After Christ had prayed about His desire to do the will of the Father, then He prayed for His disciples. Here is a beautiful picture. As Christ was facing death, His greatest concern was for the men who had followed Him for three years. Christ says that He is not praying for the world but for those that the Father has given Him. Those that the Father has given to Christ also belong to the Father. Christ knew that He was leaving the world but the disciples would be staying on the earth. The concern and prayer of Christ was now for the men that He would be leaving.

13. Read John 17:9-19 and write what Christ prayed that the Father would do for the disciples.
14. Explain why the main part of the prayer of Christ was for the disciples and not for Himself since He knew He would be crucified in a few hours.
15. Explain what you learn from the example of Christ about having a concern for others.

As we see the concern of Christ for the disciples, we have a wonderful lesson. Christ was concerned about much more than the salvation of the disciples. He was concerned that the disciples and all believers would realize that God was keeping them so that they did not need to worry about losing their salvation. Christ was also concerned that all disciples would realize that they are one body and not many separate parts. Today there is much fighting between Christians. Those Christians are acting like many separate parts instead of one body. As a result, some people do not want to follow Christ because they see so much fighting between Christians.

16. Read John 17:9-19 and write how Christ prayed that believers would follow the example of he and the Father.
17. Explain what makes it possible for Christians in a church to be one body instead of many separate parts.
18. Explain why you believe Christ wants you to work with other Christians in unity and harmony.

As Christ was here on the earth, He kept all of those that the Father had given Him. The only one that left Christ of the twelve was Judas. We have seen several times in the book of John that Judas had not truly followed Christ. He had only pretended to follow Christ. His real concern was to please himself. We see that he was able to deceive the other disciples but Christ knew His heart. Christ also knew that he would complete a promise in the Old Testament.

19. Read John 17:9-19 and what Christ wants fulfilled in our lives.
20. Explain how the joy of Christ can be fulfilled in our lives.
21. Explain why you want the things that you say and do to bring joy to Christ.

Here again we see the concern of Christ for each Christian. His desire for us is that we

will be filled with joy. Christ prayed that we would have this joy even though He knew that we would be hated by the world. Here we see that the hate of the world should not cause us to lose the joy that Christ has given us. The joy that Christ has given us is a joy that lasts no matter what happens around us. If you do not have the joy of Christ when men are doing evil things to you, then you are depending on yourself and that is sin. As Christians we are able to be full of joy at all times if we are depending on Christ instead of ourselves.

22. Read John 17:9-19 and write what Christ prays that the Father will not do.

23. Explain why Christ did not want the Father to take the disciples out of the world.

24. Explain what you think is the purpose that Christ has left you in the world.

Here we learn a beautiful lesson as we study the prayer of Christ. Although we are not a part of the world and its sins, we are to be in the world witnessing for Christ. Today many churches seem to be trying to disobey what Christ says here. Many churches try to keep the people so busy that the Christians do not have time to go and share the Gospel with the world around them. As a result, most of the people of the world do not know that Christ died for their sins. Here Christ prays that God will use us in the world and also keep us from the evil one.

25. Read John 17:9-19 and write where Christ says that He has sent His disciples.

26. Explain how a church can encourage the Christians to go out into the world and take the Gospel of Christ to the people of the world.

27. Explain what you are personally doing to take the message of forgiveness of sins to people who do not yet know Christ.

As Christians we are no longer people who follow the ways of the world. Instead we are to be people who are holy. We are to be people whose only desire is to serve Christ. We also see how we become people who desire only to serve Christ. The Word of God is truth. As we study the Word of God and apply it to our own lives, our lives become more like Christ. The Bible is a book that teaches us how to live our lives each day. As we study the Word of God each day, we need to ask ourselves the question, How is what I have learned today going to help me live my life for Christ today?

28. Read John 17:9-19 and write where Christ sends us.

29. Explain what we are to do as Christians as Christ sends us into the world.

30. Explain how your life will impact the lives of others as you are obedient to Christ.

As Christians, we are sent into the world to take the Gospel to the world. This is the reason that Christ left us in the world. If we are not taking the Gospel to others, then we are failing to do what Christ commanded us to do. God has given every Christian the greatest job in the entire world. That job is to take the Gospel to every person that is not a Christian. That job also includes helping new Christians become strong Christians so that they can help in the job of taking the Gospel to those who are not yet following Christ.

31. Read John 17:20-26 and write who Christ prays for in these verses.

32. Explain why you think Christ took time to pray for those who had not yet believed in Him.

33. Explain what you learn from this prayer about the way that you should pray for others.

Here we see that Christ is praying for all Christians who would follow Him later. That prayer of Christ that night before He died includes all Christians living today. On the night before Christ died, He was praying for you instead of praying for Himself. He also prayed for everyone who will believe as a result of our witness. We learn an important lesson from the prayer of Christ. We need to be praying for others instead of

only praying for our own needs.

34. Read John 17:20-26 and write what Christ has given us to us.

35. Explain what the glory of Christ in our lives will cause to happen in our relationships with each other.

36. Explain why you personally want the glory of Christ to be seen in your life.

Christ prays again that the Christians may be one as Christ and the Father are one. Then Christ tells why it is possible for us to be one as Christians. It is possible because Christ is living in our lives. If we let Christ have complete control of our life, then we will have a real love for other Christians. Today there are many Christians who do not have the kind of love that Christ wants us to have. The reason for this lack of love is the fact that many Christians are now allowing Christ to have control of their lives.

37. Read John 17:20-26 and write where Christ prayed that all believers would be.

38. Explain why it is important for Christians to learn to yield their lives to Christ so that He can work through their lives.

39. Explain why it is important to you to personally let Christ have control of your life.

As Christ finished His prayer for us, He prays that we will be with Him where He is. This is the wonderful future for every Christian. We will be with Christ where He is forever. We will never be separated from Christ. Christ also helps us to know the Father. Christ spoke of the Father many times. Christ also says that the love that the Father has for Christ is the love that the Father has for each one of us.

40. Read John 17:20-26 and write who these verses say lives in each Christian.

41. Explain why Christ prayed that the love that was between He and the Father would also be present between Christians.

42. Explain why you personally want to continue to grow in the love of Christ so that you will be able to share that love with others.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. We have just had the privilege to study the prayer of Christ the night before He was crucified. This prayer has shown us that the focus of Christ was to finish the work that the Father had given Him to do. This prayer also shows the concern that Christ had both for the disciples and also for all who would later place their trust in Him. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to show the love of Christ to at least two struggling Christians by praying each day for them and by personally taking the time to encourage them.

We have given a brief summary of John 17:1-26. Now reread John 17:1-26 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter today.

Gospel of John
Lesson 17
John 18:1-40

Today we will be studying the events of the arrest and trial of Christ. The events of the arrest and trial of Christ are recorded in each of the Gospels. However, John mentions several things that are not mentioned in any of the other Gospels. We see that John knew the high priest. As a result, John also knew the name of the servant of the high priest whose ear Peter cut off. We also see that Pilate is a man who was searching to know the real meaning of truth. This is also the thing for which many people are searching today.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Tell about the arrest of Christ.
- Explain what Peter said about Christ.
- Tell what Pilate said to the Jews.
- Tell what Pilate said to Christ.

As we begin this chapter, we read about the arrest of Christ. We see that Christ was praying in a place where He often prayed. It was a place where Judas had been many times with Christ. We also see that the religious leaders sent a large group of men to capture Christ. These men came with all kinds of weapons as though Christ was a very dangerous man. As the men came toward the place where Christ was, we read that Christ went forward to meet them.

1. Read John 18:1-14 and write the question that Christ asked the men.
2. Explain why Christ went to meet the men coming to arrest Him instead of trying to escape.
3. Explain why you think Christ often came to this particular place to pray.

These men were looking for Christ. Here we see that Christ came to meet them instead of running from them, as most men would have done. When the men said that they were looking for Jesus, Christ told them that He was Jesus. The men were very surprised that Christ would come boldly to meet them. They stepped backward and fell to the ground. Here we see that Christ was not afraid to die. He had come to die. He was eager to complete the purpose for which He had come to the earth.

4. Read John 18:1-14 and write what Christ said about the disciples.
5. Explain why Christ was filled with boldness even though He knew that He was facing death.
6. Explain how the life of Christ shows you that life will have great purpose if we are working to carry out the purpose that God has for our lives.

As the men came to capture Christ, Peter suddenly became very excited. He realized that the men were going to arrest Christ. Peter decided to take action. He took his sword and cut off the ear of Malchus, a man who was the servant of the high priest. The other Gospels show us that Peter was depending on his own strength to protect Christ. Christ told Peter to put the sword away. Christ was ready to do the will of the Father and die for the sins of men.

7. Now read John 18:1-14 and write who tried Christ first.
8. Explain what Christ meant when He said He was ready to drink the cup that the Father had given Him.
9. Explain how the actions of Peter show that when you depend on your own strength that you may destroy rather than help others.

Caiaphas was the high priest at the time of the trial and death of Christ. Caiaphas was married to the daughter of Annas who had been the high priest before Caiaphas. The Romans did not like Annas because he would not help the Roman government as much as they wanted him to help. As a result, the Romans said that Annas could not be the leader of the Jewish religion. The Romans put Caiaphas in charge instead of Annas. The Jews still considered Annas the real leader and so Annas was the first to have a trial for Christ.

10. Read John 18:1-14 and write what counsel Caiaphas had given the Jews.
11. Explain why you think the Jewish religious leaders did not obey the Roman government.
12. Explain why you think the Romans made a right or wrong decision when they appointed Caiaphas as the leader of the Jewish religion.

As Christ was brought before Annas for trial, Peter and John came to the court of the high priest. John knew the high priest and so he walked right into the court. However, Peter stayed outside. Then John spoke to the person at the door and brought Peter into the court. Remember that earlier that night Peter had said that he would never deny Christ. However, that bold promise made in his own strength would soon change. As Peter walked in the door, the girl at the door asked Peter if he was also one of the disciples of Christ.

13. Read John 18:15-27 and write what Peter answered the girl.
14. Explain what happened when Peter depended on his own strength that night.
15. Explain why you think Peter was afraid and denied Christ when it was just a servant girl at the door asking him if he was a disciples of Christ.

It was a cold night and there was no roof over the court. The men who had arrested Christ had become cold and built a fire in the court so that they could get warm. As Peter stood in the court, he also became cold and moved over close to the fire. Peter stood by the fire for quite a while as Christ was being tried. Then one of those near the fire asked Peter if he was one of the disciples of Christ.

16. Read John 18:15-27 and write what Peter answered.
17. Explain why many Christians become like Peter when they are around people who do not believe in Christ.
18. Explain why you think it is easy for a person to deny Christ when he chooses to follow Christ afar off and then stand with the enemies of Christ.

As Peter was warming himself by the fire, the religious leaders were trying Christ. The high priest asked Christ about the things He had taught and about His disciples. As the priest asked Christ those questions, Christ said that He had done His teaching in the temple where everyone could hear. He had not tried to hide His teaching. If the high priest wanted to know what Christ taught, then he should ask the people who had heard Christ teach.

19. Read John 18:15-27 and write what one of the officers did when Christ answered.
20. Explain why the religious leaders were questioning Christ about His teaching instead of asking the people who had heard Christ teach.
21. Explain why you think the religious leaders were only trying to create some kind of an excuse to condemn Christ.

Here we see the attitude of the religious leaders toward Christ. They hit Christ because He told the truth. They did not want to hear the truth because the truth condemned them. It was against the Jewish law to hit a man that was on trial and had not yet been condemned. However, the religious leaders were not concerned about obeying their own law. Their only concern was to show their hate for Christ. If they had to break the

law to show their hate for Christ, they were willing to break the law.

22. Read John 18:15-27 and write what happened when Peter denied Christ a third time.
23. Explain why the Jewish religious leaders broke the law that they were supposed to enforce.
24. Explain why you think Peter denied Christ three times even though He has said He was willing to die for Christ.

As Christ was sent from Annas to Caiaphas Peter was still in the court. Then someone recognized Peter. The one who recognized Peter was a relative of the man whose ear Peter had cut off. The man asked Peter if he had been in the garden with Christ when Christ was arrested. The man said that he thought that he had seen Peter with Christ in the garden. As Peter denied that He was a follower of Christ, He was probably filled with fear. Then Peter heard the rooster crow.

25. Read John 18:28-40 and write where the Jewish religious leaders took Christ.
26. Explain why the religious leaders tried Christ before they took Him to Pilate.
27. Explain how you think a Christian should deal with the inner fear that he or she might have when that person has the opportunity to speak for Christ.

The hall of judgment was the building where the Roman governor judged the cases that were brought to him. Although the religious leaders brought Christ to the hall of judgment, the leaders refused to go inside the hall of judgment. If they went inside, they would have been considered unclean. They did not want to be unclean because it was the day of the Passover. They could not eat the Passover if they were unclean. One interesting thing is that Christ died the very hour that they were to kill the lamb for the Passover.

28. Read John 18:28-40 and write the name of the Roman governor.
29. Explain why it was very important to the Jews to be able to eat the Passover.
30. Explain why you think the religious leaders showed that they were hypocrites when they were trying to condemn an innocent person while at the same time refusing to defile themselves by going into the judgment hall.

Since the religious leaders would not go into the hall of judgment, Pilate went out in front of the hall of judgment and asked the leaders what crimes they were accusing Christ of committing. Instead of giving a reason for bringing Christ to be judged, the leaders said that they would not have brought Christ unless He was a very bad man. Pilate told them to judge Christ by their own law then. However, they replied that they could not put a man to death. When Pilate saw that the leaders wanted to put Christ to death, Pilate went in and asked Christ a question.

31. Read John 18:28-40 and write the question that Pilate asked Christ.
32. Explain why the religious leaders just accused Christ of being a very evil man and did not list any crimes of which they were accusing Christ.
33. Explain what you learn about the hatred of the religious leaders by the fact that they were willing to put an innocent person to death.

Pilate had heard the religious leaders say that Christ claimed to be a king. Pilate knew that the religious leaders were only looking for an excuse to kill Christ. Then we see that Pilate even asked Christ what He had done wrong. Christ agreed that He was a king but not a king here on this earth or else His servants would have fought to protect Him. Christ said that He came into the world to tell about the truth. All those who had the truth in their lives would listen to Christ.

34. Now read John 18:28-40 and write the question that Pilate asked next.
35. Explain what Christ meant when He said that He was a king.
36. Explain how you would help a person understand the kind of king that Christ is.

The question of Pilate is a question that many people are asking today. People are searching to find the meaning of truth. They do not know what is true and what to believe. Today there are many false teachers who are teaching things that are not true. As a result, people are confused. They do not know on whom they can depend. They are wandering around like sheep that are lost. Christ said that they are like sheep without a shepherd.

37. Read John 18:28-40 and write what Pilate then told the religious leaders about Christ.
38. Explain what the question of Pilate shows about the understanding of many people today.
39. Explain how you would answer the question "What is truth?" if someone were to ask you today.

After Pilate asked Christ about the meaning of truth, Pilate went out and told the religious leaders that he found no fault in Christ. Pilate recognized that Christ was innocent. However, at the same time Pilate was very concerned to please the religious leaders. Instead of letting Christ go free, Pilate asked the people whom they wanted him to free. Here we see again that Pilate was only concerned about keeping the people happy. He did not care about doing what was right. Instead he was willing to let the people who hated Christ decide what to do with Him.

40. Read John 18:28-40 and write who the name of the person that the Jewish religious leaders wanted Pilate to free.
41. Explain why the religious leaders would choose to have Pilate free a criminal rather than free Christ.
42. Explain what you learn about the nature of sinful man from the choice of the people to free Barabbas rather than Christ.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. We have seen that Judas chose to betray Christ to benefit himself. We see that Peter chose to deny Christ because he was acting out of fear. We see that the religious leaders condemned Christ to maintain their power. In contrast, Christ chose to show love to all. In Matthew 26:50 we see that Christ said to Judas, "Friend, why are you come." In Luke 22:51 we see that Christ gave Peter a look of love even though Peter had just denied him. In Luke 23:34 we see that Christ said, "Father, forgive them for they do not know what they do" This week pray that Christ will give you His strength to reach out in love to two people who have rejected you in the past by their words or their actions.

We have given a brief summary of John 18:1-40. Now reread John 18:1-40 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter.

Gospel of John
Lesson 18
John 19:1-42

Today we will be studying about the final part of the trial of Christ by Pilate. Pilate knew that Christ was innocent. In the last part of chapter 18 we saw that Pilate said that He found no fault in Christ. We read that Pilate said the same thing twice more in this chapter. However, Pilate did not do what he knew was right. Instead, he allowed Christ to die on the cross. As we look at the death of Christ, we will see again His concern for others even though He was suffering and in great pain.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what caused Pilate to be afraid.
- Tell what the soldiers did as Christ hung on the cross.
- Tell what we learn about the concern of Christ for His mother.
- Explain what happened after the death of Christ.

As we begin this chapter, we should remember that in our study of chapter eighteen that we saw that Pilate said that Christ was innocent. Then he asked the people whom they wanted him to free. The leaders chose to have Barabbas freed. As we begin this chapter we see that Pilate ordered Christ to be beaten. The Roman soldiers beat Christ across the back with whips. Then they made a crown of thorns and put it on His head. They also put a purple robe on Christ. Then they pretended to worship Christ and then hit him with their hands.

1. Read John 19:1-15 and write what Pilate did with Christ next.
2. Explain what would cause Pilate to beat a man that he had just said was innocent.
3. Explain why you think that people will often do things that are directly contrary to what their conscience is telling them.

Again Pilate told the people that he found Christ innocent. As the people saw Christ with the crown of thorns and the purple robe, they said, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" For a third time Pilate said that Christ was innocent. Then the Jews said that their law commanded that Christ should be put to death because He said that He was the Son of God. When Pilate heard their words, he was suddenly filled with great fear. Then Pilate tried to find out where Christ came from but he received no answer. As a result, Pilate told Christ that he had the power to free Christ or the power to put Him to death.

4. Read John 19:1-15 and write what Christ told Pilate about his power.
5. Explain why Pilate was filled with great fear when he heard that Christ was the Son of God.
6. Explain what it means to you in your own life to know that Christ is the Son of God.

Here Christ shows the fact that all human rulers cannot rule unless God allows them to rule. God is the One who has all power. Only as He allows men to do things are they able to do them. When Pilate realized that Christ came from God, he tried to release Christ. The religious leaders now began demanding that Pilate crucify Christ. They said that the Roman ruler, Caesar, was their only king and they did not want Christ to be their king. Then Pilate agreed to put Christ to death. Here we see that God even allowed evil rulers to kill Christ.

7. Read John 19:1-15 and write what the people said about anyone who would make himself a king.
8. Explain why God allows sinful rulers to hurt and even kill Christians.
9. Explain what you learn about the sinful nature of man from what happened to Christ

in these verses.

When Pilate agreed to kill Christ, he commanded the soldiers to take Christ and crucify Him. The soldiers had probably killed many men by putting them on crosses. It was a part of their work and they were not concerned about Christ. Instead they saw it as an opportunity to gain a little extra money for themselves. The only desire of the soldiers was to get the clothes of Christ so that they could sell them and earn a little extra money. We see that the soldiers divided the clothes into four parts and each soldier took one part.

10. Read John 19:15-24 and write how they decided who would receive the coat of Christ.
11. Explain why these soldiers show by their attitude that they had little interest in what happened to Christ.
12. Explain how you show by your own attitude how you feel about Christ.

When the soldiers nailed Christ to the cross, they also nailed a sign over the head of Christ. The Romans would normally put a sign over the head of a person giving the crimes for which he was being put to death. Of course Christ had committed no crimes. As a result, the sign over the head of Christ said, “**JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS.**” Pilate had ordered that this sign be placed on the cross of Christ. The sign was written in three different languages so that all of the people could read it.

13. Read John 19:16-24 and write the three languages in which the sign was written.
14. Explain what this sign tells us that Pilate had recognized about Christ even though he still chose to crucify Christ.
15. Explain how what Pilate did in spite of what he knew helps you to understand how people will act when they are controlled by fear.

Almost everyone who stood near the cross would have been able to read the sign in one of the languages. Latin was the language of the Roman government so all of the Roman officials could read the sign in Latin. Greek was the language that traders and other men spoke who traveled from place to place. Hebrew was the language in which the Old Testament was written so all of the Jews would be able to read the Hebrew part of the sign and many of them would also have been able to read the Greek since the Old Testament had been translated into Greek. The Jewish religious leaders did not like what the sign said and so they tried to get Pilate to change the sign or take it down. However, Pilate refused to change or remove the sign.

16. Read John 19:16-24 and tell what Pilate said to the Jews who wanted him to change the sign.
17. Explain why you think the Jews did not want the sign to say what it said.
18. Explain what the words of the sign mean to you in your own life.

As Christ hung on the cross, His mother was standing nearby. Here we see the love and concern of Christ for His mother. As the oldest son, Christ was responsible to take care of Mary. Now Christ was dying and would soon be returning to heaven. However, Christ did not forget the responsibility of a son for his mother. Even though Christ was in great pain, He made the necessary arrangements for the care of His mother.

19. Read John 19:25-30 and write who Christ asked to take care of His mother.
20. Explain how the example of Christ gives us a picture of the concern that adults should have for people who are elderly.
21. Explain some of the ways that you can follow the example of John and show your concern for elderly adults who are not directly related to you.

Here we see that Christ teaches us an important lesson about our responsibility to our parents. As Christians, we need to be concerned about our parents. We need to help them feel that they are needed and are an important part of the family. As we have children, those children need grandparents who have a love and concern for them. One of the reasons for the rise in crime among children and young people is a failure of the parents to show love and respect for the grandparents. As a result, the children lose respect for their own parents. The final result is a loss of respect for all those in authority.

22. Read John 19:25-30 and write what John did immediately.

23. Explain what Christ teaches us about love and concern for our parents from these verses.

24. Explain some of the ways that the Lord has made it possible for you to minister to your parents and other older adults.

John took the mother of Christ to his home that same hour. Here we see two things. John had a home in Jerusalem as well as in Galilee. We also see that John took Mary to his home right away so that she did not have to see all of the suffering of Christ on the cross. After Mary was gone, Christ said, "I thirst." Some of those standing near the cross took the branch of a little bush called a hyssop bush and dipped in it some vinegar and put it to the mouth of Christ.

25. Read John 19:25-30 and write what Christ said after He had received the vinegar.

26. Explain what Christ meant when He said, "It is finished."

27. Explain the effect that the death of Christ has had on your personal life.

Christ had completed the work that the Father had sent Him to do and so He willingly gave up His life. We also read that it was the day before the Sabbath day and so the Jews wanted the bodies of Christ and the two thieves taken off the cross. Pilate agreed to have the soldiers break the legs of the men on the crosses so that they would die immediately. The soldiers broke the legs of the two thieves and then they came to Christ. When the soldiers came to Christ, they found that He was dead already.

28. Read John 19:31-42 and write what the soldiers did to Christ instead of breaking His legs.

29. Explain why Christ willingly chose to give up His life.

30. Explain how you can help a person that is not a Christian to understand that Christ willingly gave up His life.

As soon as the soldiers threw the spear into the side of Christ, blood and water came out. This was proof of the fact that Christ was already dead. Although the soldiers did not realize it, they completed two promises in the Old Testament by throwing the spear into the side of Christ instead of breaking His legs. One promise said that they would not break a single bone in the body of Christ. The other promise said that they would look on Him after they had pierced Him.

31. Read John 19:31-42 and write why John says that He wrote about seeing blood and water come from the body of Christ after the spear was thrown into His body.

32. Explain why it is important that all of the promises made about Christ in the Old Testament were fulfilled.

33. Explain what you personally learn about the power of God to work through evil men by the fact that God led them to fulfill the Old Testament promises.

We have seen throughout the book of John that John says that he wrote so that we would believe. This was also the reason why Christ told the disciples many things before those things happened. The purpose of the entire Bible is to help us believe Christ and let Him become the Master of our lives. After Christ died we read that a man who believed

in Christ asked for permission to bury the body of Christ. We also see that He is called a secret disciple of Christ.

34. Read John 19:31-42 and write the name of the one that is called a secret disciple of Christ.
35. Explain why some people try to be secret disciples of Christ instead of speaking boldly for Christ.
36. Explain how the study of the book of John has strengthened your own understanding and belief in Christ.

Although Joseph of Arimathaea had previously been a secret disciple of Christ, he now was willing to speak boldly to Pilate and ask for the necessary permission to bury the body of Christ. Instead of fear, he now was depending on God for his strength. In the same way, when we depend on the Holy Spirit to give us the strength to witness for Christ, the result will be that we will be able to speak boldly for Christ instead of being filled with fear. This is a wonderful picture of the difference between our strength and the strength that we receive from the Holy Spirit.

37. Read John 19:31-42 and write the name of the person who helped Joseph bury Christ.
38. Explain what difference it makes in their lives when people depend on the Holy Spirit for strength instead of depending on their own strength.
39. Explain how learning to yield to the Holy Spirit has given you boldness to tell others about Christ.

As you remember from our study of the third chapter of John, Nicodemus was the Pharisee who came to Christ one night. He also had been a secret follower of Christ. Here we see that he too was ready to be included among the followers of Christ. He was ready to be hated by the other Pharisees. He no longer cared if they threw him out of their group and would no longer talk to him. He had decided to follow Christ. Christ also wants us to be willing to speak for Him even if it means suffering or persecution.

40. Read John 19:31-42 and write what kind of a sepulcher or grave it was where they laid Christ.
41. Explain how you have seen the faith of Nicodemus grow as we have studied the book of John.
42. Explain how dependence on Christ has taken away some of your own fears and replace them with boldness.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. We have seen that Pilate chose to put Christ to death even after he had said three times that he found no fault in Christ. We have seen that the Jews chose to condemn Christ and ask Pilate to crucify Him even though He had not sinned. In contrast, we see the care and concern of Christ for His mother. We also see the love and concern that Christ showed for us by dying in our place for our sin. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to share with at least two people what the death and resurrection of Christ means to you in your own life.

We have given a brief summary of John 19:1-42. Now reread John 19:1-42 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter.

Gospel of John
Lesson 19
John 20:1-31

Today we will be studying about the resurrection of Christ and also about some of the things that happened after Christ rose from the dead. On the day that Christ rose from the dead, He appeared to Mary Magdalene as she stood and cried near the empty grave where Christ had been buried. We see that Mary Magdalene was very sad because she thought that someone had stolen the body of Christ. In this chapter we see that Christ appeared to the disciples the same night that He appeared to Mary Magdalene. Thomas was not with the disciples that night and so we read that he did not see Christ until a week later.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Explain what happened when Peter and John came to the empty tomb.
- Tell what happened when Mary Magdalene saw Christ.
- Explain what Christ said to the disciples when He appeared to them.
- Explain what Christ said to Thomas when He appeared to him.

Early on the morning that Christ rose from the dead, Mary Magdalene and another Mary came to the sepulcher (grave) where Christ had been buried. When they came to the grave, they found that the stone at the entrance to the grave had been rolled away. Mary Magdalene saw that the stone had been moved and ran quickly to tell the disciples. Two of the disciples ran to the grave to see what had happened.

1. Read John 20:1-10 and write the names of the two disciples that ran to the grave.
2. Explain how the empty tomb affected Mary.
3. Explain why you think that Mary and the disciples did not believe that Christ had risen from the dead.

Since John was younger than Peter and could run faster, he arrived at the grave first. When John came to the grave, he looked into the cave but did not go into it. Peter soon arrived and went right into the cave. Then John followed Peter inside. As they were inside they saw the graveclothes in which Christ had been buried. The cloth that had been wrapped around the head of Christ had been folded and placed to one side. Here we see that Christ had even stopped to fold the piece of cloth that had been wrapped around His head.

4. Read John 20:1-10 and write what John did after he saw that Christ had been raised from the dead.
5. Explain how the lives of Peter and John were changed that morning as they saw the empty tomb.
6. Explain why you think that the cloth that had been wrapped around the head of Christ and had been folded and laid to one side had such an impact on John that he remembered and wrote about it nearly sixty years later.

Christ had said many times that He was going to die and be raised from the dead. However, the disciples had failed to understand Christ. We see in these verses that they also failed to understand what the Old Testament said about the resurrection of Christ. However, we see that when John saw that Christ was alive from the dead, he believed. Today there are also many people who do not understand what the Bible says about the resurrection of Christ. Until they do understand about the resurrection of Christ, it is hard for them to understand how to have eternal life.

7. Read John 20:1-10 and write what the disciples did when they left the grave.

8. Explain when the disciples did not understand the Scriptures even though Christ had told them many times He would rise the third day.
9. Explain how you would explain about the resurrection of Christ to someone else.

After Mary Magdalene had told the disciples that the stone had been rolled away, she returned to the grave. She was crying because she thought that someone had stolen the body of Christ. When Mary looked into the grave, she saw two angels sitting next to the place where the body of Christ had been. Mary was probably very surprised when she saw the angels in the tomb. Then one of the angels spoke to Mary and asked her why she was crying.

10. Read John 20:11-18 and write the answer of Mary.
11. Explain what the sorrow of Mary shows about her love for Christ.
12. Explain how the death of someone you loved very much affected you personally.

Mary Magdalene had understood Christ when He said that He was going to die and she had anointed Him with precious ointment. However, she had not understood Christ when He said that He was going to rise from the dead. Now she was crying because she thought someone had stolen the body of Christ. Then someone else spoke to Mary and asked her why she was crying. She thought that it was the gardener. She asked if he had removed the body of Christ. Then Christ called Mary by name and she recognized that it was Christ talking to her.

13. Read John 20:11-18 and write why Christ told Mary not to touch Him.
14. Explain what Christ meant when He said He had not yet ascended to His Father.
15. Explain how you think Mary felt when she recognized that it was Christ talking to her.

Later that same day we read that a group of women held Christ by the feet. From this we see that Christ went to heaven and returned to the earth the day He rose from the dead. This is explained in Ephesians 4:8-10 where we are told that Christ led captivity captive when He went up to heaven. We learn in Luke 16:19-31 and Luke 23:39-43 that before the resurrection of Christ those who had believed in the Old Testament did not go directly to heaven. Before this time they went to a place called Abraham's bosom or Paradise. Paradise was a wonderful place but it was not heaven. Now that Christ had paid the penalty for sin, it was possible for those believers to go to heaven. Christ led all of the people in Paradise from there to heaven on the morning that He rose from the dead. From that time, all those who have followed Christ have gone to heaven immediately.

16. Read John 20:11-18 and write what Mary was told to do after she saw Christ.
17. Explain verse 17 in your own words.
18. Explain why you think that the people who were believers in the Old Testament could not go directly to heaven.

We see that the resurrection of Christ gives us an important responsibility. The first thing that Christ told Mary to do was to go and tell the disciples that He was alive. Today that is the same message that we are to be telling other people. We are told to share the good news that Christ is alive with others. Today there are many religions in the world. These religions were all started by men and if those religions are old enough the founder died. In fact many religions even have a grave where their founder is buried. However, our belief is not just a religion. Instead we worship a person who is alive and had victory over death.

19. Read John 20:11-18 and write what Mary did after she saw Christ.
20. Explain why the resurrection of Christ makes Him totally different than the founder of any other religion.

21. Explain what the resurrection of Christ means to you in your own life.

That night Christ appeared to the disciples. The disciples were afraid of the Jews and so they were meeting together with the door locked so that no one could enter the room. Suddenly Christ was standing in the middle of the room. Christ had a body like we will have when He raises us from the dead. It was a body that can go through walls and doors. We will see in the book of Acts that it was also a body that could travel through space.

22. Read John 20:19-23 and write the first thing that Christ said after He appeared in the room.

23. Explain how these verse show that the body that we will have when Christ raises us from the dead will be different than our present body.

24. Explain why you think that Christ knew that the disciples needed to be told to experience peace.

The disciples had been filled with fear because they were afraid that the Jews might try to kill them also. Suddenly Christ appeared and brought with Him a message of peace. This is a message that the world needs today because the people of the world are filled with fear. Christ also told the disciples to receive the Holy Spirit. Then Christ repeated something that He had said to the disciples the first time He had mentioned the church to them as we see in the book of Matthew. Here we see that when we share the Gospel with people, those who ask Christ to forgive their sins will have their sins forgiven. Those who fail to ask Christ to forgive their sins will not have their sins forgiven.

25. Read John 20:19-23 and write what Christ says about the way that He has sent us.

26. Explain why those who ask Christ to forgive their sins can know that their sins will be forgiven.

27. Explain what caused you to really understand that your sins were forgiven and that you did not need to be controlled by them any longer.

Just as the Father sent Christ into the world to bring the message of peace, Christ now sends each Christian into the world to share that message of peace with others. We have learned as we have studied the book of John that Christ was eager to bring the message of salvation to the world. We too, should be eager to share the good news that Christ died and rose from the dead to give us new life.

28. Read John 20:19-23 and write what Christ told the disciples to receive.

29. Explain why Christ chose to use ordinary people to spread the good news of forgiveness and eternal life.

30. Explain what it means to you to know that Christ personally chose you to share the message of His death and resurrection with others.

Thomas was not with the disciples when Christ appeared to them. When Thomas returned, the other disciples told him how they had seen the Lord. Thomas said that he would not believe that Christ was alive until he put his fingers in the holes that the nails made in the hands of Christ. He would not believe until he put his hand in the hole made by the spear in the side of Christ. Here we see the attitude of many people today. They say that they will not believe the Bible until they see it proved. Then they fail to study the Bible so that the Bible can prove itself true.

31. Read John 20:24-31 and write how many days it was before Thomas saw Christ.

32. Explain how you think Thomas must have felt that week when the other disciples were excited about the resurrection of Christ and he did not believe that Christ had risen.

33. Explain how it has affected you personally when you experienced times of doubt in your own life.

For eight days Thomas was filled with doubt because he failed to believe what the other disciples had said. For eight days Thomas lived with doubts controlling his life instead of having a life full of joy and peace. Doubts will always cause a person to be unhappy instead of being full of joy. However, Christ did not leave Thomas alone with his doubts. Instead Christ appeared to Him and gave him the same message of peace that He had given the disciples one week before. Then Christ told Thomas to feel the holes in His hand and His side. Thomas suddenly realized that Christ was alive. Instead of feeling the holes in the hands and side of Christ, Thomas said something.

34. Read John 20:24-31 and write what Thomas said to Christ.

35. Explain how Thomas had his doubts transformed by Christ.

36. Explain how Christ will change your doubts if you have times of doubt in the future.

All of the doubts in the mind of Thomas were taken away when he saw Christ. He knew that Christ was the one who was standing there with him. Christ used the doubts of Thomas to teach us a very important lesson. Thomas believed because he saw Christ. Here we see that those who believe the promises of Christ even before they see the answer are promised blessings. Christ wants us and expects us to believe His promises. This is the meaning of faith.

37. Read John 20:24-31 and write what people the Lord says are blessed.

38. Explain what Thomas teaches us through his belief once he saw that Christ was risen and was right there with them.

39. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from Thomas in these verses.

The last two verses of this chapter tell us why the book of John was written. It also tells us why more miracles were not recorded in the book of John. John wrote about the particular miracles that are mentioned in this book so that we would believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Here we see that only a few miracles are mentioned in the book of John because that is all that we need to believe that Christ is the Son of God. If a person will not believe the miracles that are mentioned, that person would not believe if many more miracles were mentioned.

40. Read John 20:24-31 and write what we have through Christ when we believe in Him.

41. Explain what it means to believe that Jesus is the Christ.

42. Explain how the study of this book has strengthened your own belief in Christ.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. We have seen that Christ rose from the dead and that He appeared to a number of witnesses who saw Him after the resurrection. The appearances of Christ changed His followers from people who were filled with fear to people who knew that Christ was alive and that He would take away their fear. We also see that Christ has sent us to share the news about the death and resurrection of Christ just as His Father sent Him into the world. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to share with at least two people why you know that Christ is alive and can give life to them.

We have given a brief summary of John 20:1-31. Now reread John 20:1-31 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter.

Gospel of John
Lesson 20
John 21:1-25

Today we are beginning our final chapter in our study of the book of John. We read that seven of the disciples decided to go fishing. They fished all night and did not catch a single fish. The next morning Christ appeared on the shore of the lake and called to the disciples. When they obeyed His instructions, they caught many fish. Then they came to the shore where Christ had breakfast waiting for them. After they had eaten, Christ gave Peter and the other disciples some more instructions. If we will follow these instructions, we will also see the Lord do great things through our lives.

As you study this chapter, you should use the following objectives to guide you in your study. By the time you complete this lesson, you should be able to:

- Tell what happened when the disciples depended on their own strength.
- Explain what Christ tells us to do.
- Tell what Christ said to Peter.

One day after Christ rose from the dead, several of the disciples were talking together. Peter said that he wanted to go fishing. The Sea of Galilee is more than 60 miles north of Jerusalem so this shows that they had returned from Jerusalem to Galilee. Six of the other disciples also decided to go with him. That night they worked hard trying to catch fish but they did not catch a single fish. Fishing is hard work and it must have been very discouraging when they did not catch a single fish. As it began to get light early the next morning, the disciples saw someone standing on the shore.

1. Read John 21:1-11 and write what the person standing on the shore said.
2. Explain what these men had to learn through experience since Christ had called them to become fishers of men and now they had returned to fishing.
3. Explain why you think Peter decided to go back to fishing.

Since the disciples had not caught a single fish, their answer probably showed that they were discouraged. Then Christ told them to let down their net on the right side of the boat. When they obeyed, they suddenly found that their net was full of fish. Here we see the difference between doing things the way we want to do them and doing them the way Christ tells us to do them. When we do things our way, we accomplish nothing. When we do things the way the Lord tells us to do them, there will be great results.

4. Now read John 21:1-11 and write what John said to Peter when their net was filled with fish.
5. Explain what the disciples were learning about depending on themselves instead of depending on Christ.
6. Explain some of the things that the Lord has used in your life to help you learn to depend on Him instead of yourself.

When Peter heard that it was Christ, he put on his coat and swam to shore instead of waiting for the boat. Here we see that Peter was eager to see Christ. He did not want to wait for the boat because it was too slow. The other disciples also came as fast as they could row the boat to the shore. When they reached the shore of the lake, we see that Christ had already prepared breakfast for them. Then Christ told the disciples to count the fish and see how many they had caught. Peter pulled the net to the land and started counting the fish.

7. Read John 21:1-11 and write how many fish they had caught.
8. Explain what the disciples had just learned about what the Lord could do through their lives as they were obedient to Him.

9. Explain some of the ways that the Lord has taught you the benefits of being obedient to Him.

That was a very large number of fish for them to catch. Here we learn a real lesson about obedience to Christ. When the disciples were obedient to Christ, their net was filled with fish. As we obey the commands of Christ, we will also see the Lord do many things through our lives. We will see people become Christians and grow in their spiritual lives. We have also seen in John that the Lord keeps and protects all those who come to Him. Christ illustrated His protection to the disciples that day.

10. Read John 21:1-11 and write what happened to the net.
11. Explain what the book of John has taught about the fact that Christ keeps and protects all those who place their trust in Him.
12. Explain how you know that the Lord will use you to bring glory to God as you serve Him in the strength that He provides.

We also learn another important lesson in these verses. The disciples had really failed when they decided to go back to fishing. However, Christ did not even speak to the disciples about their failure. Instead he encouraged the disciples by giving them a wonderful catch of fish. The disciples knew that they had failed as soon as they saw Christ. Now Christ wanted to use the time to teach them new lessons instead of telling them how wrong they were to have such a weak faith that they decided to go back to fishing.

13. Read John 21:1-11 and write what the disciples saw on the fire.
14. Explain how it is easy for Christians to go back to their former actions when they depend on themselves.
15. Explain why you think Christ did not scold the disciples for going back to fishing.

After the disciples had finished counting the fish, Christ told them to come and eat. We read that Christ fed the disciples bread and fish. The disciples had fished all night and were tired and hungry. Here we see that Christ supplied their need. Christ is always ready to meet the need of each person if we will come to Him and accept His help. He will always listen when we tell Him our needs. In fact, Christ even knows our needs before we do. He shows that He is very concerned about each of us.

16. Read John 21:12-17 and write what Christ asked Peter after they had finished eating.
17. Explain why Christ asked Peter if Peter loved Him more than He loved the fish.
18. Explain how Christ has shown you that it is more important to love Him than to love things.

As you remember, Peter had denied Christ three times the night when Jesus on trial before the religious leaders. Three times Peter said that he did not know Christ. Christ is now going to speak three times to show him that he still has a ministry. We also see that it was Peter who had decided to go back to fishing. Now Christ is asking Peter if he loved Christ more than he loved fish. Peter answered that he really liked Christ. Then Christ told Peter to do something.

19. Read John 21:12-17 and write what Christ told Peter to do.
20. Explain why Christ chose to speak to Peter three times to restore him to ministry.
21. Explain why you think Peter used a weaker word than Christ had used when He asked Peter if Peter loved Him more than the fish.

The lambs of Christ are those who are new Christians. A new Christian often knows very little about the Bible. He or she does not understand very much about prayer. The new Christian has probably heard very little about the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of each Christian. He or she may not realize the importance of telling others about

Christ. He may not even know that it is important to gather together with other Christians for Bible study and Christian fellowship. These things and many other things need to be learned by every new Christian. It is for this reason that Christ told Peter to feed the new Christians.

22. Read John 21:12-17 and write what Christ asked Peter a second time.

23. Explain what Christ meant when He made the statement to Peter, "Feed my lambs".

24. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life about helping new Christians from the statement of Christ.

Christ asked Peter a second time if Peter loved Him. The word that Christ used for love is the word Christ used when He spoke of the love of the Father for Him and His love for the Father. It is also the kind of love that Christ says we should have for each other in John 14:21. This is the kind of love that makes it possible to love those who hate us. When Peter answered Christ, he used the word that means, I like you as a friend instead of using the word that Christ used for love.

25. Read John 21:12-17 and write what Christ told Peter to do the second time.

26. Explain what caused Peter to use a different word to answer Christ than Christ had used when He asked Peter if Peter loved Him.

27. Explain what makes it possible for you to love others as Christ has loved you.

Here we see our responsibility to teach, help and encourage those who have been Christians for several years. Every Christian has the responsibility to help other Christians grow and become stronger. A Christian should continue to grow from the time he becomes a Christian until he dies. Pastors and missionaries often learn new lessons about the word of God from people who know very little about the Bible. From this we see that every Christian should be sharing the Word of God with others even though he feels that he does not know very much about the Bible. As one person explains some verses to another person, the first person also understands the verses better.

28. Read John 21:12-17 and write how Peter felt the third time that Christ asked Peter if he loved Him.

29. Explain why you think Peter was grieved when Christ asked him the same question three times.

30. Explain how it would affect you if Christ were to ask you three times if you loved Him.

Instead of using the word for love that He used the first two times, Christ used the same word for love that Peter used in his first two answers. Christ actually asked Peter if Peter really liked Him as a friend. This time Peter really thought about his answer before he answered. Peter said that Christ knew all things and knew that he loved Christ. Peter realized that he had failed and denied Christ when he depended on his own strength. Now he knew that he must depend on Christ for strength instead of depending on himself. We see that Peter knew that he would fail if he depended on himself. That was why he was afraid to use the word that showed the greatest love.

31. Read John 21:12-17 and write how Peter answered Christ the third time.

32. Explain why Christ told Peter for a third time that he could still effectively serve the Lord and feed His sheep.

33. Explain what lessons you learn for your own life from Peter in these verses.

Christ went on to tell Peter what was going to happen to him in the future. When Peter was young, He had always been able to take care of himself and do what he wanted. However, Christ warns Peter that the time will come when others will lead him whether he wants to follow them or not. Here Christ was speaking of the fact that Peter would one day be killed because he followed Christ.

34. Read John 21:18-25 and write what Christ told Peter to do after Christ told him what would happen in the future.
35. Explain why the most important thing for any Christian to do is follow Christ.
36. Explain how it has changed your life since you chose to follow Christ.

As soon as Christ told Peter to follow Him, Peter asked Christ about John. Then Peter received some important instructions from Christ. Christ told Peter it did not matter what happened to John. In fact it would not matter if John did not even die. The important thing for Peter to do was to follow Christ. This is the same thing that is important for each one of us also. We are to follow Christ regardless of what others choose to do. Even if they fail, we are still to follow Christ. The other disciples did not completely understand that Christ was emphasizing the fact that Peter was to follow Christ. Instead they got a wrong idea about John.

37. Read John 21:18-25 and write what idea the other disciples got about John.
38. Explain why Christians are to be concerned about doing what Christ tells them to do instead of wondering what others are supposed to do.
39. Explain how you would explain to another person the importance of following Christ in his or her life.

John explains in these verses that Christ did not say that John would not die. Instead Christ had been emphasizing the fact that we should follow Him. Then John went on to say that Christ had done many other things that are not written in the book of John. He said it would be impossible to write all of the things that Christ did. It would have required the writing of too many books.

40. Read John 21:18-25 and write what could not contain the books if books would have been written that told all of the things that Christ did.
41. Explain why John chose to write about just a few of the key events in the life and ministry of Christ.
42. Explain how the events that John wrote about have caused you to grow in your own understanding of Christ.

Lessons are best learned when we put them into practice. We have seen that seven of the disciples decided to go back to fishing after Christ rose from the dead. We also saw that Christ came to them where they were fishing and showed them what could happen if they would depend on Him. Christ also helped Peter to understand that Christ could still use him to help other Christians grow even though Peter had denied Christ three times. This week pray that the Lord will give you the opportunity to encourage at least two other Christians with the fact that Christ can still give them an effective ministry even if they have failed in the past.

We have given a brief summary of John 21:1-25. Now reread John 21:1-25 and write down the three most important lessons that you have learned from this chapter.

Take time to write a paragraph or two telling how this study of the book of John has changed your life.