

## 2024 Week 1: New Year... New Hopes Psalm 1

1. The first word of the book of Psalms is \_\_\_\_\_. List some of the ways you are blessed or made happy in your relationship with God.
  
2. What 3 actions should Christians avoid if they want to know God's blessing? (1)
  
3. What 2 actions should Christians do if they want to know God's blessings? (2)
  
4. What are persons who delight themselves in the Lord compared to? (3) \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Why is water important to trees? (3) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The "trees" are fed by "streams of water?" Who or what is the "water?" (3)
  
  - c. Read John 4:10, 13-14. How do you understand Jesus to be our "living water?"
  
5. Read John 15:4. What does JC say is the key to being fruitful?
  
6. Back to Ps 1. What 3 blessings come to those who are daily fed by God? (3)

7. In contrast to the Christian are the “wicked.” (4)

a. Who are the “wicked?” \_\_\_\_\_

b. What are the “wicked” compared to? \_\_\_\_\_

c. What is meant when the wicked are like “chaff that the wind blows away?”

8. What is the future fate of the wicked? (5)

9. The Psalmist ends with a 2-way promise. What are these two promises? (6)

a. For the righteous:

b. For the wicked:

c. How does John 3:16 reflect the promises given in Psalm 1:6?

10. Do you think there is any significance as to why this psalm was put 1<sup>st</sup> of the 150 psalms? Why?

## Week 2 The Quality of Mercy Psalm 11

*Psalm 11 was written by King David. The psalm shows David's deep faith in God in whom he takes refuge even when the foundations of his life are being undermined.*

1. Write down the first sentence in Psalm 11:1. (1) What does this say about David's faith?
2. From what you know about David, list some of the crisis he faced? (You may want to refer to I Samuel 16 through II Samuel 24)
3. God was David's refuge. What do we learn from some other Bible passages about God as our refuge?

Psalm 46:1 \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 14:32 \_\_\_\_\_

4. God as our "refuge" is a common way to refer to God in the Old Testament. All 98 uses of the word "refuge" are in the OT. In what ways is Jesus Christ our refuge?
5. Why did David believe the advice to "flee to the mountains" was unwise? (1)

6. What foundations of Israel were being destroyed? (3) *An example was when the Israelites rejected God as their king and demanded a human king like all the other nations.*

7. Many Americans believe the foundations of Democracy are being undermined today. Many Christians believe the foundations of Christian theology are being undermined today. What do you think?

8. David takes refuge in God and attempts to see things from God's perspective. How do the following verses shed light on...

a. Where God is? (4) \_\_\_\_\_

b. What God is observing? (4) \_\_\_\_\_

c. What God is examining? (5) \_\_\_\_\_

d. How God will judge? (6) \_\_\_\_\_

10. How was David encouraged by seeing things from God's perspective? (4-6)

11. What 3 things does David declare about his understanding about God? (7)

## Week 3 Matthew 5 Jesus' Sermon (part 1)

1. Why do you think Jesus used the word "Blessed" (or "Happy" from some translations) to start His sermon? (3)
2. Which of the 8 beatitudes do you like the best? Why? (3-12)
3. Which of the 8 beatitudes do you like the least? Why? (3-12)
4. How does the promise in v.12 apply to all of the beatitudes? (12)
5. How are Christians to be the "salt of the earth" (13) and the "light of the world?" (14-16)
6. Jesus came not to destroy God's laws but to \_\_\_\_\_ them. (17) Read v.20 and v.48. Does God expect perfect obedience? Why?
7. Fear not! Read II Corinthians 5:21. Who is our righteousness? \_\_\_\_\_  
(This is called Double Imputation. I'll let you know what that means in the class.)
8. Back to Matthew 5. According to Jesus, how many of us are murderers? \_\_\_\_\_  
(21-22) How many of us are adulterers? \_\_\_\_\_ (27-28)

10. Does God allow divorce? (31) \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - a. Read Deuteronomy 24:1-4. On what condition(s) does God allow divorce?
  
  
  
  
  - b. How does Jesus reframe the qualifications for divorce for His people? (Mt 5:32)
  
  
  
  
  - c. Read Malachi 2:16. What is God's attitude toward divorce?
  
  
  
  
11. Back to Matthew 5. When someone offends us, how should we react? (38-42)
  - a. Matthew 5:23-24.
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Matthew 5:38-42.
  
  
  
  
12. Consider Jesus' life. How did Jesus exhibit for us His teaching in v.43-45?
  
  
  
  
  
13. If we truly understand God's love, mercy and grace in Jesus Christ, in what ways does Jesus want us to live above the norm of society? (43-48)

## Week 4 Matthew 6-7 Jesus' Sermon (part 2)

1. Write down Matthew 5:44. If you would do these things, would they be considered "acts of righteousness?" (Matthew 6:1)
2. Why do you think it is so important to do our Christian service anonymously? (6:1-4)
3. The same is true for prayer. Why is it so important to pray anonymously? (6:5-6)
4. In your opinion, how many minutes should you pray per day? \_\_\_\_\_  
What kind of guidance does Jesus give? (6:7-8) What is Jesus' rationale?
5. How many words are in the Lord's Prayer? (6:9-13) \_\_\_\_\_  
Do you think this gives guidance on how long we should pray? Why?
6. Which phrase or petition in the Lord's Prayer means the most to you? (6:9-13)
7. Which phrase or petition in the Lord's Prayer did Jesus bring special emphasis to? (6:9-13) HINT: Read 6:14-15.

8. What glorious promise does Jesus give to those who pray? (Matthew 7:7-8)
  
9. What "treasure" is Jesus talking about? (6:19-21) \_\_\_\_\_
10. In your opinion, how can money become our idol? (6:21,24)
  
11. Jesus: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (6:21) If we make our Lord the treasure of our hearts, what will we not do? (6:25-32) Why is this so?
  
12. What guidance does Jesus give to help us ward off anxiety? (33-34)
  
13. Why should we refrain from judging others? (7:1-6)
  
14. What is Jesus talking about in 7:13-14? \_\_\_\_\_  
How does Jesus illustrate this teaching? (7:15-23)
  
15. How can it be determined if one is a wise or foolish builder of the faith? (7:24-27)



## Week 5: The Joys of Being Healed

### Matthew 8:1-17; 9:1-8, 18-34

*As Christians, when dealing with illness, we have two choices:*

*Either we seek healing from our Lord or we don't.*

1. In your opinion, name 2 diseases or conditions you dread? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Fill out the chart below

Scripture	Person's Disease, Condition, Need	Person's Request of Jesus	Result
Matthew 8:1-4 <b>(example)</b>	Leprosy	Leper: "Lord, if You are willing you can make me clean." (2)	JC, "I am willing! Be clean!" (3) Man healed of leprosy.
Matthew 8:5-13			
Matthew 8:14-15			
Matthew 9:1-8			
Matthew 9:18-19, 23-26			
Matthew 9:20-22			
Matthew 9:27-31			

3. Read Hebrews 11:6. Why is faith important when seeking healing from God?

4. In your opinion, which of the persons (from the chart above) showed the greatest faith in Jesus' healing power? Support your answer.

5. Read the following verses from the Psalms. What kinds of healing were the people seeking from God?

a. Psalm 30:2-3 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Psalm 41:3 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Psalm 41:4 \_\_\_\_\_

d. Psalm 41:8-10 \_\_\_\_\_

e. Psalm 147:3 \_\_\_\_\_

## **Week 6: Evangelism for the Faint of Heart**

### **Matthew 9:35-38; 10:1-42**

1. In your opinion, why do most Christians find telling others about Jesus so hard?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Read Matthew 9:35-38.
  - a. In what ways did Jesus fulfill His ministry? (35)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. When Jesus saw the people, how did He react? (36) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. What was Jesus concerned about? (37-38)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Matthew 10 is essentially Jesus' response to His concern stated in Matthew 9:37-38.
  - a. Why do you think Jesus gave authority to His disciples to "drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness?" (1)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Write down the names of the disciples you know nothing about. (2-4)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. To whom were the disciples to go to? (5-7) \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Why do you think Jesus told them to avoid going to Gentiles and Samaritans? (5)

- e. What were the duties of the disciples as they went out in Jesus' name? (7-8)
  
  - f. Should the disciples expect to be received well wherever they go? (16) Y or N.  
What kinds of trials would they face for doing Christ's work? (17-18, 22)
  
  - g. What assurances does Jesus give His disciples should these things happen?  
(19-20)
  
  - h. Why should Christians not be afraid of those who persecute them? (26, 28-31)
  
  - i. What warning does Jesus give His disciples? (32-33)
  
  - j. How do you understand Jesus' words that He did not come to bring peace? (34)
  
  - k. Jesus did not just want people to believe in Him but to love Him with all their heart, mind, soul and strength. How is this expressed in v.37-39?
4. In a few words, summarize what Jesus teaches us about evangelism.

## **Week 7: Big John's Struggles Matthew 11:1-19**

1. Write down what you know about John the Baptist.
  
2. From the following passages, what do we learn about John's primary ministry?
  - a. Luke 3:1-3
  
  - b. Luke 3:4-6
  
  - c. John 1:29-34
  
3. Returning to Matthew 11, where was John? (2) \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. John asked his disciples to go to Jesus. (2-3) Write down the question John wanted answered by Jesus? (3)
  
5. What kinds of doubts do you think John had about Jesus?
  
6. How did Jesus respond to John's question? (4-5)

7. Why do you think Jesus answered John this way? (4-5)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. In what ways can people stumble in their spiritual journeys because of Jesus, John or other Christians? (6, 18-19)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. What do the following passages say about doubt and its effects?
  - a. James 1:5-7 \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. John 20:24-31 \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. How did Jesus characterize John and his ministry? (7-11)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
11. According to Old Testament prophecy concerning the Messiah's coming, what role did John fulfill? (13-14)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. Do you think John's doubts were assuaged when John's disciples relayed Jesus' answer?

## Week 8: Standing Up To Bullies Matthew 12:1-24

1. In your opinion, how can Christians or Christian churches be bullies?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What did Jesus and His disciples do that was so offensive? (1) \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What group of people was offended? (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Why? (2)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Read Exodus 20:10. Do you think God prohibited all work on the Sabbath? \_\_\_\_\_  
Who gets to decide what kinds of work are forbidden?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Read John 6:28-29. Are these “works” prohibited by God on the Sabbath? Why or why not?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Summarize how Jesus answered these bully Pharisees? (3-8)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. Eating on the Sabbath was one thing the Pharisees frowned upon, but actually doing work on the Sabbath was far worse. From 12:9-14, answer these questions:
  - a. Where did Jesus then go? (9) \_\_\_\_\_

b. Whom did Jesus find there? (10) \_\_\_\_\_

c. What was the intent behind the question the Pharisees asked Jesus? (10)

d. How did Jesus answer these bully Pharisees? (11-13)

e. Did the Pharisees host a party for Jesus because He healed the man with the shriveled hand? YES or NO.

How did these bully Pharisees react to Jesus' healing on the Sabbath? (14) Why?

8. Jesus withdrew from the confrontation. What did He do for those who followed Him at this time? (15)

9. What was the man's condition who was brought to Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

What did Jesus do for the man? (22) \_\_\_\_\_

10. What were the reactions of those who witnessed this healing?

a. The people (23) \_\_\_\_\_

b. The Pharisees (24) \_\_\_\_\_



## **Week 9: “I am the Light of the World.”** *(John 8:12; 9:5)*

### **John 8:1-12; 9:1-7**

In the New Testament, the word “light” appears 89 times. In the gospel of John, he uses the word “light” 21 times, more than any other New Testament book.

1. In your opinion, who most needs the light of Jesus Christ? Why?
  
2. In John 8:12, Jesus declared to the people, “I am the light of the world.” What do you think Jesus wanted the people to understand about Him?
  
3. What stipulation does Jesus say is necessary for people to walk in His light? (Jn 8:12)
  
4. Read John 8:1-11, what confrontation occurred just prior to Jesus’ declaration that He was the light?
  - a. How did the Pharisees need to see Jesus as the light? (8:3-9)
  
  - b. How did the adulterous woman need to see Jesus as the light? (8:10-11)
  
  - c. How do you think the people in the temple needed to see Jesus as the light? (8:2)

4. Read John 9:1-5.

a. Whom did Jesus and His disciples come across? \_\_\_\_\_

b. What were the disciples most concerned about regarding this blind man? (2)

**Circle 1:** That he was blind and needed help? Or That he was a sinner? Why?

c. For what reason did Jesus say this blindness happened to this man? (3)

d. Was Jesus concerned only about the blind man's physical healing or his spiritual healing, too? (4-5) Why?

e. Notice this conversation appeared to leave the blind man out, as Jesus was talking just with His disciples. What do you think Jesus wanted them to know when He told them, "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world?" (5)

f. Jesus' attention turned to the blind man. What did Jesus do to the man and what did Jesus ask the man to do? (6-7)

g. John often used symbolic elements to make spiritual points. In the NIV, John 9:7 ends, "So the man went, washed, and came home seeing." What did he see?

The beauty of the world? OR The beauty of His Savior? OR BOTH

## **Weeks 10, 12 "I am the Gate. I am the Good Shepherd." John 10:1-18**

1. Do you like being one of Jesus' sheep? Why or why not? (Note: The word "sheep" is used at least 15 times in v.1-16.)

2. To whom was Jesus speaking? (Refer to John 9:39-41) \_\_\_\_\_

3. This beautiful text uses picturesque language. Who was/were identified as...

- The Gate (7) \_\_\_\_\_

- The Good Shepherd (11,14) \_\_\_\_\_

- The Sheep (1-16) \_\_\_\_\_

- The Watchman (3) \_\_\_\_\_

- The Thieves and Robbers (1,8,10) \_\_\_\_\_

- The Wolf (12) \_\_\_\_\_

- The Hired Hand (12-13) \_\_\_\_\_

- Sheep not of this sheep pen (16) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Describe the intimate relationship between shepherd and sheep? (2-4)

5. Why do you think the Pharisees had a hard time understanding Jesus? (6)
6. Imagine this situation: You believe God has called you to be a teacher of God's word. You do your best to know the Bible and instruct the people. Then, a man shows up who criticizes you and calls you a "hired hand" and worse, a "thief and a robber." (8, 10, 12-13) How would you respond?
7. In contrast to the Pharisees, how did Jesus describe His ministry as the Gate? (7-10)
8. In contrast to the Pharisees, how did Jesus describe His ministry as the Good Shepherd? (11, 14-15)
9. Read Psalm 23. Did the mighty warrior and faithful King David enjoy being one of God's sheep? Why?
10. As a child of God through faith in Jesus Christ, and as a sheep of His flock, which verse in John 10:1-18 resonates with you the most? Why?

## Week 11 "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." John 14:1-31

*In John 14-16, Jesus is beginning the process to prepare His disciples for His death and resurrection. He gives assurances and tells them of the coming Holy Spirit.*

1. In John 13:38, Jesus predicted Peter's thrice denial. Then, Jesus said to all the disciples, *"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me."* (14:1)

If you were Peter who had just heard Jesus' prediction that he would deny Him, how would you respond to these words by Jesus? (14:1)

2. Where was Jesus going? (2) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Jesus is not promising all Christians a mansion in heaven for believing in Jesus on earth. If this wasn't so, what comfort was He trying to convey to the disciples? (2-4)

4. What was Thomas not understanding? (5)

5. Define each term Jesus used for Himself in v.6 and explain in what sense the word describes Him accurately. Jesus said, "I am the..."

- Way \_\_\_\_\_

- Truth \_\_\_\_\_

- Life \_\_\_\_\_

6. What did Jesus mean when He added, "No one comes to the Father except through Me." (6)
  
7. How does Acts 4:12 express the same thing?
  
8. Back to John 14. What request did Philip make? (8)
  
9. Jesus claimed to be one with God the Father. What evidence did He ask His disciples to consider about the truth of this claim? (9-11)
  
10. What is the relationship between our love for Jesus and our obedience to Jesus? (15, 21, 23-24)
  
11. How does Jesus refer to the Holy Spirit? (16, 17, 26) \_\_\_\_\_  
What is the Holy Spirit's ministry to God's people?
  
12. Why should the disciples not allow their hearts to be troubled? (1, 27)
  
13. Why did Jesus explain these things before they happened? (29)

## **Week 13: "I am the Resurrection and the Life."** *(John 11:25)*

### **John 11:1-44**

1. What do we learn of Bethany from the following verses?

- John 11:18 \_\_\_\_\_

- Luke 24:50-51 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why was the ultimate purpose of Lazarus' sickness? (4)

3. What do we learn about Lazarus, Mary and Martha? (1-5)

4. When Jesus heard about Lazarus' illness, what did He do? (6) \_\_\_\_\_

5. When Jesus suggested going to Judea, why did His disciples object? (7-8)

6. Summarize the misunderstanding between Jesus and His disciples. (11-15.)

7. What did Thomas say the disciples should do? (16) What attitude did this reveal?

8. How long had Lazarus been dead when Jesus arrived? (17) \_\_\_\_\_

9. What did Martha (20-22) and later Mary (32) say to Jesus? Did they show belief?
  
10. What did Jesus tell Martha? (23) How did Martha understand Jesus? (24)
  
11. What did Jesus want Mary and Martha to know when He said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die?" (25-26)
  
12. Jesus asked Martha: "Do you believe this?" (26) What did Martha believe? (27)
  
13. Why do you think Jesus wept? (35-37)
  
14. What did Martha say when Jesus asked the tomb to be opened? (38-39)
  
15. If we take God at His word, what will we see? (40) \_\_\_\_\_
16. What happened after Jesus cried out, "Lazarus, come out!" (43-44)
  
17. Do you think that Lazarus was not only raised but healed of his sickness? (44)



## Week 14 Meet the Risen Christ Luke 24

1. What were the women who went to the tomb planning to do for Jesus? (1)
2. What did they find instead? (2-3) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who appeared to them? (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Summarize their message. (5-7)
4. The group of women reported to the disciples their findings. Why do you think the disciples did not believe their testimony? (9-11)
5. Do you think Peter showed faith in running to the tomb and checking it out? (12)
6. Meanwhile, on a dusty road 7 miles outside Jerusalem that went to the town of Emmaus, two disciples (probably not of the 12 disciples -- see v.33) were strolling along. What do you think was the content of their conversation? (14)
7. Jesus joined them, though He was not recognized. What did these men tell Jesus about what they believed about Jesus and what happened to Him? (19-24)
8. Why did Jesus chastise these men? (25-26) \_\_\_\_\_  
Then, what did Jesus do for them? (27)

9. Night came and Jesus agreed to stay with them. When was Jesus recognized? (30)

10. How were the men enabled to see Jesus for who He was -- the risen Christ? (30-32)  
Asked another way, do you see the work of the Holy Spirit in these men?

11. These two men returned to Jerusalem and met with the disciples. What was the content of their testimony? (33-35) Do you think the disciples were persuaded?

12. The risen Christ finally appeared in their midst. What were His initial words? (36)

13. How does Jesus prove to them He was the one who was crucified but is now alive?

v.39-40 \_\_\_\_\_

v.41--43 \_\_\_\_\_

v.44-49 \_\_\_\_\_

v.50-53 \_\_\_\_\_

## Week 15 Accept Your Mission Psalm 76

1. In your opinion, in what ways is God known to you and others?
2. God was renowned in Israel and Judah. (1-2) Thinking back to the Old Testament, what events come to your mind wherein the God of Israel became well known?

Examples: Creation, the call of Abraham

3. "Light" is used often as a description of God and His work. Write down v.4.

Summarize what is taught about this light in the following passages:

a. Isaiah 60:1-3

b. John 1:1-4

4. Back to Psalm 76. Should all people fear God? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? (3, 5-7)

5. How does Proverbs 1:7 enlighten us about the fear of the Lord?

6. Back to Psalm 76. When God judges, should all mankind be filled with fear? (8-9)  
Explain your answer.
  
7. In your opinion, in what ways does God's wrath bring Him praise? (10)
  
8. The Bible describes both God the Father and Jesus Christ as the King of kings and Lord of lords. How is this reflected in Psalm 78:11-12?
  
9. What do the following verses tell us about our great King and Lord?
  - a. Deuteronomy 10:17-22
  
  - b. Daniel 2:46-49
  
  - c. I Timothy 6:13-16
  
  - d. Revelation 19:11-16

## Week 16 Bear Good Fruit Luke 6:12-49

1. What did Jesus do before choosing His 12 disciples? \_\_\_\_\_  
What should we learn from this?
2. Describe the fruitful works of Jesus? (18)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Jesus' 2-part ministry: 1. He healed and helped. (18) 2. He taught God's word and proclaimed God's will. (17-49) Should this influence how we do church? Why?
4. Do you want to be blessed in the ways Jesus describes? (20-23) Why?
5. Who should not expect to be blessed? (24-26) \_\_\_\_\_  
Why do you think this is so?
6. List the 4 ways we should respond to people who seek our harm. (27-28)
7. In the following verses, what is Jesus' rationale for acting this way? (31)

v.31 \_\_\_\_\_

v.35 \_\_\_\_\_

8. Name a time wherein you felt misjudged by someone? OR Name a time when you misjudged someone? (A basket prize if you do both!)
9. In your opinion, why is it important for every Christian not to judge, condemn or refuse to forgive? (37-38)
10. In your opinion, why are we so blind to our own "planks" and so clear seeing about the "speck of sawdust" in another's eye? (41)
11. What does Jesus suggest us to do instead? (42)
12. What kinds of "fruit" does Jesus have in mind? (43-45) \_\_\_\_\_
13. Encouragement for seniors: Read Psalm 92:12-15. Does producing fruit have an age limit?
14. How is the adage, "Practice what you preach," taught by Jesus? (46-49)

## Week 17 Tell Me the Stories of Jesus Luke 18:1-14

1. Other than the Bible, write down a book or a story that you've enjoyed or that influenced you. Why?
2. In v.1-8, Jesus told a parable. What was to be the story's message? (1)
3. Write down some situations where folks may stop praying because they do not see God's answer or even any progress towards an answer.
4. Who were the main characters in this parable and what do we learn about them?

v.2 \_\_\_\_\_

v.3 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why did the judge eventually grant justice to the woman? (4-5)
6. What does God want us to learn from this parable? (6-7)

7. Jesus ended this parable with a question. By Jesus' question, what was He concerned about? (8)

8. In v.9-14, Jesus told another parable. What was to be this story's message? (9)

9. In your opinion of yourself, are you confident of your righteousness before God? Why?

10. Who were the main characters in this parable and what do we learn about them?

v.10-12 \_\_\_\_\_

v.10,13 \_\_\_\_\_

11. Why did that sinful, tax collector go home justified, and not the Pharisee? (14)

12. What does God want us to learn from this parable? (14)



## Week 18 The First Disciples John 1:35-50

1. In your opinion, what characterizes a faithful Christian?
2. In your opinion, what character traits was Jesus looking for when He called men to be His disciples?
3. What did John call Jesus when he saw Him? (29,36) \_\_\_\_\_  
Why did John call Jesus this? (29)
4. What was John's conviction of who Jesus was? (34) \_\_\_\_\_
5. Who was with John? (35) \_\_\_\_\_ What did these two men do when they heard John's testimony? (36-39)
6. What were the names of these two men? (40) \_\_\_\_\_
7. What was the first thing Andrew did after meeting with Jesus? (41-42)
8. At their first encounter, what did Jesus do with Peter? (42) Does this surprise you?

9. What do we learn about Andrew from John 1:35-42 AND 6:8-9?

10. What do we learn about Philip from John 1:43-45 AND John 6:5-7?

11. What do we learn about Nathanael from John 1:45-49 AND 21:1-4?

12. Write down the testimonies about Jesus by the different persons in John 1.

John (29, 34) \_\_\_\_\_

Andrew (41) \_\_\_\_\_

Philip (45) \_\_\_\_\_

Nathanael (49) \_\_\_\_\_

13. How was Jesus' response to Nathanael's lack of faith (1:50-51) similar to Jesus' response to Thomas' own lack of faith in John 20:29?

## Week 19 Signs and Portents John 2

1. From the weddings you have been to, what are your best and worst memories?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Write down what you know about Jewish weddings in Jesus' day.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What terrible thing happened at the wedding at Cana? (2:3) \_\_\_\_\_
  
4. Jesus' mother was there. What role does she play? Why do you think Mary only said to Jesus, "They have no more wine?" (1-3)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What might Jesus have meant when he asked his mother, "Dear woman, why do you involve me? My time has not yet come." (4)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. In addition to John 2:4, read the following passages which show that Jesus had a sense of when His "hour" or "time" would come to fulfill His life's purpose.
  - **John 7:30:** At this they tried to seize Him, but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come.
  - **John 8:20:** Jesus spoke these words while teaching in the temple courts... Yet no one seized Him, because His hour had not yet come.
  - **John 12:23** Jesus:, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified."
  - **John 13:1; 17:1** It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for Him to leave this world and go to the Father..." Jesus prayed: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son may glorify You."

What was to be Jesus' finest hour? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Even though Jesus had reservations about performing this miracle of changing water to wine, why do you think Jesus acted anyway? (7-10)

- How much water was poured into the 6 stone containers? (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- How much time passed before Jesus told the servants who had filled the jars to "draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet?" (8) \_\_\_\_\_
- What is distinctive about this miraculous wine? (10) \_\_\_\_\_

8. What were the 2 results of this water-to-wine miracle of Jesus? (11)

9. Who else was with Mary and Jesus at the wedding? (12)

10. Why did Jesus clear the temple? (14-16)

11. What was Jesus referring to when He declared to the Jews, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in 3 days?" (19)

12. What was the primary reason some people believed in Jesus? (23) \_\_\_\_\_  
Does your faith need some sort of proof from God -- like healing your illness--before you believe? Or does knowing Jesus and taking Him at His word enough for you? Why?

## Week 20 Awakening Faith John 4:43-5:15

### John 4:43-54

1. Where did Jesus go? (43) \_\_\_\_\_ How was He received? Why? (45)
2. Jesus returned to Cana. Who sought out Jesus and what was his need? (46-47)
3. Do you think Jesus' response was harsh? (48) \_\_\_\_\_. Why?
4. What may Jesus have been seeking from the man? (48) Why was this important?
5. Do you think the man showed faith in his response to Jesus? (49) Why?
6. How did Jesus challenge the man? (50) \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you think the man showed more faith in his response to Jesus this time? (50) Why?
8. How did the royal official know that the healing was actually done by Jesus? (51-53)
9. What effect did this second miracle of Jesus have on the man and his family? (53)

## John 5:1-15

1. In what city did these events occur? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What kinds of people had gathered at the pool in Bethesda? (3,5) Why? (7)

NOTE: There is no v.4 in the NIV text. The reason: the earliest transcripts of the Bible do not have that verse in them. Thus, it was believed that this verse was added later by one who copied it as an explanation of how people were healed.

3. Describe the difficulty confronting the man Jesus met there. (3,7)

4. Why do think Jesus asked the invalid man if he wanted to get well? (6)

5. From the invalid man's response (7), what did he not understand about Jesus?

6. Describe what Jesus declared and what the man did. (8-9)

7. Why did the Jews object to the healing? (10) \_\_\_\_\_

8. Jesus' second encounter with the healed man is somewhat of a head scratcher. In light of v.10-13, what might Jesus have meant in v.14?

## Week 21 Dig Deeper John 6:25-71

1. What kinds of things were the crowds seeking from Jesus?

v.26 \_\_\_\_\_

v.28 \_\_\_\_\_

v.30-31 \_\_\_\_\_

2. What does Jesus keep offering instead?

v.27 \_\_\_\_\_

v.29 \_\_\_\_\_

v.32-33, 35 \_\_\_\_\_

3. If someone asked you the following question, how would you answer it: "What must I do to do the works God requires?" (28)

4. Why do you think Jesus' answer was unsatisfactory to the crowds? (29-30)

5. Notice how quickly their question changed from "What must WE do?" (28) to "What will YOU do, Jesus?" (30) What do you think the crowds were seeking?

6. Based on John 6, which statement is more correct: The crowds TRUSTED Jesus?  
OR The crowds DOUBTED Jesus?

7. From the following verses, how would you characterize the attitudes of the crowds toward Jesus?

v.25, 28 They were \_\_\_\_\_ . (asking honest questions.)

v.30-31,34 They were \_\_\_\_\_ .

v.41-42 They were \_\_\_\_\_ .

v.52 They were \_\_\_\_\_ .

v.60, 66 They were \_\_\_\_\_ .

8. What is the recurring idea that Jesus taught in v.37, 39, 44 and 65?

9. Jesus said that God's action in salvation and our decision work hand-in-hand. How did Jesus teach this? (39-40)

10. Asked a different way: What was the Father's will for Jesus? And what was the Father's will for those who believed in Him? (39-40)

11. Why did so many of Jesus' disciples leave Him after this teaching? (66)

12. What John 6 boils down to, along with the rest of the NT, is: "Who is Jesus to you?" Who did Peter and the rest of the disciples understand Jesus to be? (68-69)



## Week 22 Is Jesus the Christ? John 7

1. Jesus was a polarizing figure. Many loved Him and many hated Him. Why did Jesus avoid traveling to Judea? (1)
2. Read John 5:16-18. Why did the Jewish leaders have such a low opinion of Jesus?
3. Back to John 7. Who got involved with Jesus at this point? (3) \_\_\_\_\_
4. What advice did they give Jesus? (3) \_\_\_\_\_
5. What was their rationale for Jesus to do this? (3-4)
6. John stated that Jesus' "brothers did not believe in Him." (5) What do you think they did not believe about their big Brother?
7. What was Jesus' reason for not accepting His brother's advice? (6-9) You may want to refer to the Week 19 lesson, questions 5-6, for extra insight.
8. Jesus went anyway. (10) The people were divided about Jesus. What did the people believe about Jesus as shown the following verses?

v.20 \_\_\_\_\_ v.31,41 \_\_\_\_\_

9. In what ways did Jesus tell the people they could determine if His teachings came from God? (16-19)

10. What is Jesus' argument for healing on the Sabbath? (21-24)

11. The last day of the Feast of Tabernacles was the most holy day (like Easter Sunday is the most important day of Holy Week). What invitation did Jesus give? What did He want the people to know and do? (37-39)

12. Read Revelation 22:17. How is this final invitation in the entire Bible similar to or different from the one Jesus gave the Jews in John 7:37-39?

13. Verse 43 may be John 7's theme, "The people were divided because of Jesus."  
Write down the groups of people or individuals who were deciding who Jesus was:

v.5 \_\_\_\_\_ v.11 \_\_\_\_\_ v.12 \_\_\_\_\_

v.32 \_\_\_\_\_ v.45-46 \_\_\_\_\_ v.50 \_\_\_\_\_

## Week 23 Perceiving the Light John 12

1. Why did Mary, Martha and Lazarus invite Jesus to dinner? (1-2)
  
2. Other than enjoying a good meal with friends, what else significant happened? (3)
  
3. What did Jesus say was the purpose this anointing? (7-8)
  
4. Word got out about Jesus' arrival in Bethany.
  - a. Why did the crowds come? (9) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Why did the chief priests plan to add Lazarus to their hit list? (10-11)
  
5. Jesus soon traveled on to Jerusalem. Describe the scene. (12)
  - a. Define "Hosanna." (13) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. What did the people mean by calling Jesus the "King of Israel?" (13)
  
6. The disciples did not understand what was happening. Jesus' glorification is what helped them understand. What does "being glorified" mean? (16)

7. What was the mood of the crowds at this time? (13, 17-18) \_\_\_\_\_
  
8. What was the mood of the Pharisees? (19) \_\_\_\_\_
  
9. What did Jesus declare? (23) \_\_\_\_\_  
What did Jesus mean by this declaration?
  
10. What illustration did Jesus use in v.24 and how did he apply it in v.25-26?
  
11. What request did Jesus **not** make of the Father? Why not? (27)
  
12. How do you think Jesus' glorification would glorify His heavenly Father? (28)
  
13. What is the relationship between faith in Jesus and faith in God the Father? (44-45)
  
14. What was the source of Jesus' teaching and why is this important? (49-50)

## **Week 24    Receiving the Light    John 3:1-21, 36**

1. What do we learn of Nicodemus from the following verses from the Gospel of John?

John 3:1, 10 \_\_\_\_\_

John 7:45-52 \_\_\_\_\_

John 19:38-42 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Back to John 3. For what reasons might Nicodemus have come to Jesus "at night?" (2)

3. How did Nicodemus determine Jesus was "a teacher who has come from God?" (2)

4. What did Jesus say one must do to be with God? (3) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why did Nicodemus not understand Jesus' response? (4)

6. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in the new birth? (5-7)

7. How does II Corinthians 5:17 help with understanding the new birth?

8. How does I Peter 1:23 help with understanding the new birth?

9. Being "born again" is a hot topic in some Christian churches. However, this is the only time Jesus used the phrase. Presbyterians tend to deemphasize the phrase in order to focus on "faith" in Jesus. Do you agree? Why or why not?

10. In John's Gospel, the word "believe" is used 88 times and appears in every chapter except for 15 and 18. Compare the different words Jesus used to bring emphasis of what is involved in saving faith in the following verses:

v.3 \_\_\_\_\_

v.14-15 \_\_\_\_\_

v.16 \_\_\_\_\_

v.17-18 \_\_\_\_\_

v.36 \_\_\_\_\_

11. Why do you think people prefer darkness to light? (19-21)

12. What sets apart those people who have come into Christ's light? (21)

## **Week 25 The Holy Spirit in Us John 15:26-16:33**

1. What do you know about the Holy Spirit?
2. What did Jesus teach about the Holy Spirit in John 15:26?
3. Back to John 16. Why will the disciples be persecuted? (1-3)
4. Jesus told His disciples it was for their good that He was going away? (7) Why?
5. The Holy Spirit will convict the world about sin, righteousness and judgment. (8)  
What does Jesus teach concerning each of those convictions? (8-11)

Sin (9) \_\_\_\_\_

Righteousness (10) \_\_\_\_\_

Judgment (11) \_\_\_\_\_

6. How are sin, righteousness, and judgment related?

7. What does Jesus say about the Holy Spirit's work in the following verses:

v.13,15 \_\_\_\_\_

v.14 \_\_\_\_\_

8. What was Jesus referring to when He said, "In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a while, you will see me?" (16)

9. Why do you think the disciples could not understand Jesus? (17-18)

10. What was the turning point for the disciples that made them believe that Jesus came from God? (28-30)

11. How did Jesus respond to the disciples' confession of faith? (31-33)



## Week 26 Abiding in Christ John 15:1-17

1. What do you find most rewarding about planting a garden?
2. How are Jesus the true vine and His Father the Gardener? (1)
3. What did Jesus mean when He said that every branch that bears no fruit will be cut off? And that the Father prunes branches to make them more fruitful? (2)

4. Write down the commands of Jesus to His disciples in the following verses:

v.4,9 \_\_\_\_\_

v.12,17 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why is it important for Christians to maintain a close connection to Jesus? (5-8)

6. What is this fruit Jesus is talking about? (5-8 with Galatians 5:22-25)

7. If there is no such fruit evident in a person's life, should they be concerned? (6)  
Why?

8. What benefit comes to those who keep a close connection with Jesus? (7,16)
  
9. Count the number of times the word "love" appears in v.9-13 \_\_\_\_\_. What is Jesus trying to impress upon us with all this love talk?
  
10. Jesus commanded His disciples to love one another. (12) In your opinion, is it possible to command someone to love? Why?
  
11. Why is sacrifice the best way to show your love for another? (13) Give some examples of how we can lay down our lives for others.
  
12. Read I John 2:3-6. How are love, obedience and the hope of salvation connected?
  
13. Read I John 3:23-24. How is God's life made evident within us?
  
14. In your opinion, can Christ's love really change a person? \_\_\_\_\_  
The apostle John, when initially called by Jesus, was known as a "Son of Thunder" with a volatile personality. At his life's end, he was known as the "apostle of love." What changed him?

## Week 27 Tell Me the Stories of Jesus Matthew 13:24-52

1. What part(s) of a sermon do you get the most from? (Circle the answers that apply.)

The Scripture,    The introduction,    A well-crafted message,    The content,

The stories and quotes used to illustrate the sermon,    The end.

Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the Kingdom of heaven compared to in the following verses of Matthew 13?

v.24 \_\_\_\_\_

v.31 \_\_\_\_\_

v.33 \_\_\_\_\_

v.44 \_\_\_\_\_

v.45 \_\_\_\_\_

v.47 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Summarize the stories from each of the above referenced parables.

v.24-30 \_\_\_\_\_

v.31-32 \_\_\_\_\_

v.33 \_\_\_\_\_

v.44 \_\_\_\_\_

v.45-46 \_\_\_\_\_

v.47-50 \_\_\_\_\_

4. From your point of view, what was Jesus' main teaching from each parable?

v.24-30, 36-43 \_\_\_\_\_

v.31-32 \_\_\_\_\_

v.33 \_\_\_\_\_

v.44 \_\_\_\_\_

v.45-46 \_\_\_\_\_

v.47-50 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why did Jesus speak in parables? (34-35)

6. Do you think all Bible teachers or preachers would be wise to use stories? (52) Why?

## Week 28 "Take Courage. It is I!" Matthew 14:22-36

1. Name some things that cause you fear?
2. What miracle had Jesus just done? (Matthew 14:13-21) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Following this miracle, what three things did Jesus do? (22-23)
4. What were the disciples experiencing in the boat? (24)
5. WHEN did Jesus walk to His disciples in the boat? (25) \_\_\_\_\_  
What was the disciple's response when they saw Jesus? (26) Why?
6. Why may the disciples NOT have believed Jesus when He said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid"? (27)
7. In your opinion, did Peter's response to Jesus show more faith or doubt? (28) Why?
8. Jesus said simply, "\_\_\_\_\_." (29) How did Peter respond to the invitation? (29)

9. In your opinion, did Peter's response to Jesus' invitation show more faith or more doubt? (28) Why?
10. What do you think were Peter's initial thoughts when he actually walked on water? (29) Also, do you think Peter's feet got wet when he walked on the water?
11. Why did Peter begin to sink? (30) \_\_\_\_\_
- What did Peter cry out, "\_\_\_\_\_." (30)
12. What did Jesus do in response to Peter's cry? \_\_\_\_\_ (31)
13. If you were Peter, how would you have heard Jesus' words, "You of little faith. Why did you doubt?" (31) As chastisement, disappointment, instruction or something else?
14. What else happened that challenged the disciple's faith? (32) \_\_\_\_\_
15. What did they conclude about Jesus? (33) \_\_\_\_\_
16. When they landed, word got around that Jesus was there. How did the people of this region respond to Jesus' presence? (35-36)
17. In your opinion, did these people show more, less or about the same faith as did the disciples on the boat? Why? Compare v.35-36 with v.25-33.

## **Week 29 Evidences of Strong Faith Matthew 16**

1. List 1 or 2 persons you have known who would be characterized as having strong faith. What about these persons led you to pick them?

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2. In your opinion, what is the difference between having STRONG or WEAK faith?
3. Did the Pharisees and Sadducees have STRONG or WEAK faith in Jesus? (circle 1) Support your answer. (1)
4. Did Jesus think they showed STRONG or WEAK faith in Him? (circle 1) Support your answer. (2-4)
5. In Jesus' interaction with His disciples, He told them they had WEAK faith when He said, "You of little faith." (8) What did Jesus want them to understand? (5-12)
6. Did the general population show STRONG or WEAK faith (circle 1) when the disciples responded to Jesus' question, "Who do the people say the Son of Man is?" (13-14) Support your answer.

7. Did the disciples, as represented by Peter, show STRONG or WEAK faith (circle 1) when they responded to Jesus' question, "But what about you? Who do you say I am?" (15-16) Support your answer.
  
8. Did Jesus think Peter and the disciples showed STRONG or WEAK faith (circle 1) in how He responded to Peter's declaration? (17-19) Support your answer.
  
9. From that time on, what did Jesus begin teaching His disciples? (21)
  
10. Did Peter show STRONG or WEAK faith (circle 1) when he responded to Jesus' instruction about His future? (22) Support your answer.
  
11. Did Jesus think Peter had shown STRONG or WEAK faith (circle 1) in how Jesus responded to Peter's declaration? (23) Support your answer.
  
12. When it comes to life as a follower of Jesus, why is it important and necessary to have strong faith in Jesus Christ? (24-28)
  
13. What did Jesus mean when He told His disciples: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me"? (24)



## **Week 30 Symptoms of Weak Faith Matthew 16-18** (selected verses)

1. How would you describe someone who has weak faith?
2. How did the Pharisees and Sadducees exhibit weak faith? (Matthew 16:1-4)
3. How did Peter exhibit weak faith? (Matthew 16:21-23)
4. How did the disciples exhibit weak faith? (Matthew 17:14-20)
5. In your opinion, what were the disciples thinking that motivated them to ask Jesus their question in Matthew 18:1?
6. How did Jesus answer the disciples' question? (Matthew 18:2-4)
7. How can our own sins and our influencing others to sin exhibit weak faith? (Matthew 18:6-7)

8. Do you think Jesus literally meant what He said in Matthew 18:8-9? \_\_\_\_\_  
How can Christians apply those verses in a more spiritual way?
9. How does agreement between brothers and sisters in Christ show strong faith?  
(Matthew 18:19-20)
10. How did Peter (again) exhibit weak faith? (Matthew 18:21-22)
11. In your opinion, can a person with weak faith be transformed into one with strong  
faith? \_\_\_\_\_ How?
12. Summarize Moses' weak faith when God spoke to him from a burning bush. Read  
Exodus 3:10-11; 4:10. Yet, Moses became a man of strong faith. How? Exodus 3:12.
13. Summarize Gideon's weak faith when God initially called him. Judges 6:12-15.  
Yet, Gideon became a man of strong faith. How? Judges 6:16, 34.
14. In your opinion, what does the Lord use in our lives to build strong faith in us?

## Week 31 What's Fair is Fair Matthew 19:16 -- 20:16

1. In your opinion, can someone who is incredibly good in his/her character be saved even though faith in Jesus is lacking? \_\_\_\_\_. Support your answer.

2. How did Jesus answer the man's question about how to gain eternal life?  
(Matthew 19:16-17)

3. What may have been behind the question the man asked Jesus, "Which ones?" (18)

4. Fill out the table below. Which of the 10 commandments did Jesus mention and which ones did He not mention? (18-19 with Exodus 20:1-17)

Commandments Jesus Mentioned	Commandments NOT Mentioned

5. Why do you think Jesus did not mention some commandments?

6. How did the man respond to Jesus' clarification? (20) \_\_\_\_\_

7. How did Jesus challenge the man? (21)
  
8. How did the man respond? (22) \_\_\_\_\_
9. How did the disciples respond to Jesus' teaching about wealth & salvation? (23-25)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Read Matthew 20:1-16. Notice that this parable continues Jesus' teaching at the end of the previous chapter. Jesus continued to instruct His disciples.
  - a. Summarize the entire parable. (20:1-16)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Do you believe the ones who worked the longest had an honest gripe? Why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. What does this parable have to say about God's grace?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - d. Write down the last words of Jesus in Matthew 19:30 and the last words of Jesus in this parable. (20:16) What is the moral to the story of Jesus' teachings?



8. How did Jesus apply this parable to the chief priests and elders? (42)
  
9. Who was the stone that was rejected?(42) \_\_\_\_\_
  
10. Who were the builders? (42) \_\_\_\_\_
  
11. What will be taken away from the builders? (43) \_\_\_\_\_
  
12. What kind of fruit does Jesus expect from His people, especially Christian leaders?  
(43)
  
13. What is the meaning of v.44?
  
14. How did the chief priests and elders of the people receive Jesus' message? (45)
  
15. What did they want see happen to Jesus? (46) \_\_\_\_\_
  
16. Why was Jesus not arrested at that time? (46)

## Week 33 Passing Through Gethsemane Matthew 26

1. Summarize Jesus' spiritual struggle in the garden of Gethsemane? (36-46)
2. Describe a time when you faced your own Gethsemane moment. (If you can't think of anything for yourself, imagine a situation when this heart struggle may occur.)
3. Let's look at what preceded and followed Jesus' Gethsemane struggle. First, who was plotting what? (3-5)

v.3-5	v.14-16
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4. Do you think the disciples had any idea that Jesus' death was near? (1-2, 6-13) Why?
5. The disciples gathered with Jesus for the Passover meal. What alarming thing did Jesus predict? (21)
6. How did the disciples respond? (22) \_\_\_\_\_
7. The bread and cups of wine were at every Passover meal. What did Jesus teach anew about these foods as He applied them to Himself? (26-29)

8. Jesus made two more alarming predictions.

What did Jesus say about all the disciples? (31) \_\_\_\_\_

What did He predict about Peter? (34) \_\_\_\_\_

How did Peter and the rest of the disciples respond? (33,35)

9. Then cometh Gethsemane. What happened thereafter to Jesus and the disciples?

v.47-50 Jesus	v.56 The disciples
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10. Summarize the sad state of affairs that led eventually to Jesus being sentenced to crucifixion. (57-68)

11. Matthew 26 ends with the saga of Peter actually betraying Jesus three times. (69-75) Why do you think Peter may have lost his nerve?

12. If you could write a headline for the Jerusalem Herald about any of the events of that day, what would it be?

Example: Disciple Bribed to Betray Messiah. (14-16)