

## 2025 -- Week 1: Second Sunday after Christmas **Isaiah 42**

1. What do you think will happen when Jesus comes again?
2. What does God tell His people about the coming Messiah? (1)
3. Read Isaiah 11:1-3. What will the Spirit of the Lord provide for God's servant?
4. Read Matthew 12:15-21. How does Jesus apply Isaiah 42:1-4 to His ministry?
5. What do we learn about God's Identity, goals and purposes in the following verses?

v.5 IDENTITY \_\_\_\_\_

v.6 GOALS \_\_\_\_\_

v.7 PURPOSES \_\_\_\_\_

6. How should people respond who put their hope in this sovereign, creator, covenant-keeping God? (10-12)

7. All the Old Testament prophets were sent to a people (Israel) who had rebelled against God and His laws. In light of this, how do you understand God's silence? (14)

8. Yet, God never forgot His people. In time, He always acted on their behalf. How was this pictured in 42:16?

9. Who will NOT benefit from God's intervention? (17) \_\_\_\_\_

10. Who are the deaf and the blind? (18) \_\_\_\_\_

11. Who else is referred to as being blind? (19) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you think this reference to "servant" (19) is about the coming Messiah? Why?

*(Pastor's Note: This is a confusing verse in light of the rest of Isaiah 42. One thing to remember is that Isaiah uses the word "servant" to refer sometimes to the Messiah to come and sometimes to Israel as a nation and sometimes to other people. )*

12. What individuals or groups are considered God's servants in the following verses:

a. Isaiah 20:3 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Isaiah 37:35 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Isaiah 41:8-10 \_\_\_\_\_

d. Isaiah 65:13-14 \_\_\_\_\_

## 2025 Week 2: BAPTISM of the LORD **Isaiah 43**

1. In your opinion, when people sin, does God ever turn away from them?
2. Read Isaiah 42:23-25. Why was God's judgment warranted on Israel?
3. Isaiah 43 is one of the most encouraging chapters in the Bible. Even amidst our sin, God shows Himself to be merciful. How is this seen in 43:1-3?

v.1 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

4. How does God feel about His people? (4)
5. Even when God's people experience God's punishment, what should they never doubt? (5)
6. Isaiah 43:10 is another verse about the "servant" Messiah who is to come. What will God's servant do for God's people?

7. In your opinion, how are we God's witnesses about this servant being our Savior?  
And what is the content of our message? (10-13)

8. God identified Himself to His people as our "Redeemer, the holy One" (14) and "I am the Lord, your Holy One, Israel's Creator, your King." (15) Why was it important for Israel to know God in these ways?

Why is it important for us?

9. Isaiah 43:22-25 can loosely be seen as a summary of the entire Bible: Humanity sins, even God's own people dishonor God and sin, and yet God is merciful to forgive. How do these verses reflect the gospel of Jesus Christ?

10. Read John 1:29-42 and answer the following questions:

a. How did John refer to Jesus? (29, 36) \_\_\_\_\_

b. What event was referred to in v.32-33? \_\_\_\_\_

c. Who else did John recognize Jesus to be? (34) \_\_\_\_\_

d. Who did Andrew believe Jesus was? (41) \_\_\_\_\_



7. Whether we are slave or free, how should we do our work? (7-8) Why is this important?

8. Who is our struggle with in this life? (12) \_\_\_\_\_  
How do you understand this spiritual battle as you live each day?

9. What piece of clothing are we to wear? (11, 13) \_\_\_\_\_  
Why? (10-11, 13)

10. Fill in the blanks of 6:13-17 Stand firm then, with the \_\_\_\_\_ buckled around your waist, with the \_\_\_\_\_ in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the \_\_\_\_\_. In addition to all this, take up the \_\_\_\_\_, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_, which is the word of God.

11. What is the place of prayer? (18-20) And why is prayer so important?

## 2025 Week 4: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany Galatians 1:1-12; 3:1-11

1. What is the gospel of Jesus Christ and why is it good news?
2. What was Jesus' role in Paul becoming an apostle? (1:1) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What 2 words does Paul use to greet this church? (1:3) \_\_\_\_\_  
Why do you think Paul used these two words, instead of something like, "Joy and happiness to you from God the Father..."
4. How did Jesus accomplish His purpose? (1:4)
5. How does Jesus' saving work on the cross for sinners deepen our understanding of Paul's words of greeting, "Grace and peace to you...?"
6. Paul confronted this church's sin. (1:6-7) What was it? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Name ways the gospel may have been perverted back then, and is today.
8. What can people expect to obtain from God if they don't receive Christ in faith and rest alone in Jesus' saving work on the cross for their salvation? (1:8-9)

9. How did Paul receive the gospel? (1:11-12) \_\_\_\_\_
10. How do you understand that the gospel "is not of human origin?" (1:11)
11. Do people still receive the gospel as "revelation from Jesus Christ?" (1:12) Why?
12. Why did Paul call the Galatian Christians "foolish?" (3:1-3)
13. After coming to know Jesus as Savior and Lord by means of the Holy Spirit, why do some folks think obedience to God's laws is most important to salvation? (3:3-4)
14. Does God give us His Spirit and work in our lives because of our obedience to His laws or by our believing the gospel? (3:5) Why?
15. Why do you think Paul used Abraham as an example of saving faith? (3:6-9)
16. What can we expect from God for trying to obey the law for salvation? (3:10) \_\_\_\_\_
17. In contrast, how can we be justified before God? (3:11)



## **Week 5: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany I Timothy 1:1-2, 12-17**

1. Of these 20 prominent persons in the Bible. Circle 5 that you think showed the most humility. (Hint: There are no wrong answers.)

Adam & Eve, Abraham, Moses, Joseph, Saul, Elijah, David, Solomon, Ruth, Job, Isaiah, Daniel, Esther, John, Judas, Peter, Paul & Mary, and, of course, Jesus.

2. How does Paul understand his call to the ministry? (1) \_\_\_\_\_

3. What word does Paul add to his greeting to Timothy, as compared to his greeting to the Galatian church? (1:2 with Galatians 1:3)

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is God's mercy? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Why was Paul grateful to Jesus? (I Timothy 1:12)

6. How do verses 13-14 serve as a great illustration for God's mercy in Paul's life?

7. Is v.15 a good summary of the gospel? Why?

8. Why do you think Paul labeled himself the "worst of sinners?" (15)

9. Does God's mercy have a limit? (16) Yes or No (circle 1) Why?

10. In your opinion, should God's mercy have a limit? (16) Yes or No (circle 1) Why?

11. Why do you think Paul ends this section with an exclamation of praise? (17)

12. Look up the following verses and share what is learned about God's mercy. (Note: some translations use different words for mercy like, "loving kindness.")

Psalm 28:2, 6-7 \_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 51:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 5:7 \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 12:1 \_\_\_\_\_

Romans 12:6-8 \_\_\_\_\_

## **Week 6: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany | Timothy 3:14 -- 4:16**

1. What are the greatest mysteries you would like answered? (ie, Cure for Alzheimer's?)
2. What is the purpose of this section of Paul's letter to Timothy? (3:15)
3. Given the entire Bible, do you think there are still mysteries of the faith? Yes or No. (circle 1) If so, write down some of those mysteries.

Example-- One of Rev. Jay's questions: Since God will create a new heaven and new earth at the end of time, what is the purpose of a new earth?

4. What mystery does Paul address in 3:16? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Paul's answer to this mystery is the person of Jesus. What does Paul write about this mystery of godliness in Jesus Christ? (3:16)
6. What is taught concerning other mysteries that are addressed in Scripture:
  - John 3:3-9
  - Ephesians 3:2-6
  - Colossians 1:25-27

7. What kinds of false teachings must the church guard against in these latter times?  
(I Timothy 4:1-2.)

8. What specifically is Paul talking about? (4:3) \_\_\_\_\_

What is Paul's rationale for these things? (4:4-5)

9. Paul instructed Timothy: "Train yourself to be godly." (7) Since that is a call for all Christians, what do you think is specifically involved in this training?

10. Paul instructs Timothy to be a faithful preacher. What does Paul emphasize?

• 4:4-6 \_\_\_\_\_

• 4:7-8 \_\_\_\_\_

• 4:9-11 \_\_\_\_\_

• 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_

• 4:13 \_\_\_\_\_

• 4:14-16 \_\_\_\_\_

## **Week 7: Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany I Corinthians 3**

1. How would you describe a church that has become "worldly?"
2. Why did Paul call the Corinthian Christians "worldly, mere infants?" (1-3)
3. Read Matthew 16:21-23. When Peter argued with Jesus about His future suffering, death and resurrection, why did Jesus call Peter "Satan?"
4. Back to I Corinthians 3. What was causing the Corinthian church to be worldly? (3-4)
5. How did Paul want the Corinthians to view both Apollos and himself? Why? (5-6)
6. How did John the Baptizer understand this relationship? Read John 3:30.
7. Ultimately, who is responsible for our spiritual growth? (7) \_\_\_\_\_
8. How are all church leaders "co-workers in God's service" in Christ's churches? (8-9)

9. What is the "foundation" of every Christian church? (10-11) \_\_\_\_\_
10. What does Paul teach about our accountability to Christ concerning our work in His church? (10-15)
11. What important fact had the Corinthian Christians failed to appreciate? (16-17)
12. In your opinion, is the reference to the temple applied more to the Christian church or more to each individual Christian? (16-17) Why?
13. Paul returns to his teaching on worldliness. Why do you think Paul views worldly "standards and wisdom" as foolishness? (18-20)
14. Why was this church instructed to stop boasting about individual leaders? (21-23)
15. As church members, where is our identity found? (23) \_\_\_\_\_
16. Read Titus 2:11-14. What should Christians do and remember when tempted with worldliness in themselves or see it spreading in their churches?

## Week 8: 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany **Deuteronomy 6**

1. What tips might you give to someone that they may enjoy a long life?
2. How did Moses direct the Israelites that they may enjoy long life? (1-2)
3. What were the Israelites exhorted to obey? (3) Hint: Refer to Deuteronomy 5:1-20.
4. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 is called the "Shema." It is considered the Jewish confession of faith. It is recited daily by faithful Jews and every Sunday in synagogue worship (much like many churches recite the Apostle's Creed.) Summarize what is taught therein:

v.4-5 \_\_\_\_\_

v.6-7 \_\_\_\_\_

v.8-9 \_\_\_\_\_

5. Read Mark 12:28-34 and answer the following questions:
  - a. Who asked Jesus a question and what did he ask? (Mark 12:28)
  - b. What verses in Deuteronomy 6 did Jesus quote in response? (Mark 12:29-31)

c. Does it surprise you that Jesus did not choose one of the 10 commandments of Deuteronomy 5:1-21 as the most important? Why or why not?

d. Why did Jesus think the man's response was so profound? (Mark 12:32-34)

6. Back to Deuteronomy 6. What temptation would the Israelites face after they received God's blessing of the Promised Land? (10-12)

7. Summarize how the Israelites were to pass down the faith to future generations:

a. 13-16 \_\_\_\_\_

b. 17-19 \_\_\_\_\_

c. 20-23 \_\_\_\_\_

d. 24-25 \_\_\_\_\_



## Week 9: Transfiguration of our Lord **Matthew 17:1-13**

1. To set the stage for Jesus' Transfiguration, summarize what occurred in Matthew 16:

a. Mt 16:13-16, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Mt 16:21-23 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Let's deal with a difficulty in Mt 16:27-28. What event is Jesus referring to when He says He "is going to come in His Father's glory?" [(27) circle 1]

The Transfiguration      The Resurrection      Pentecost,

His Kingly Rule in the church      His Second Coming and the final Judgment

d. What event is Jesus referring to when He "comes in His kingdom?" [(28) circle 1]

The Transfiguration      The Resurrection      Pentecost,

His Kingly Rule in the church      His Second Coming and the final Judgment

2. On to Matthew 17. How much time passed? (1) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Who went with Jesus? (1) \_\_\_\_\_

Read Acts 2:9. Why may Jesus have taken these 3 disciples? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Back to Mt 17. What happened to Jesus? (2) \_\_\_\_\_

In your opinion, why was this important? (HINT: Refer to verses from question 1.)

5. Who else showed up? (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (Hurry on to Q.6!)

6. Of all the people in the Old Testament, why do you think it was Moses and Elijah who came? What may they have signified to Peter, James and John? (Hint: Read the last three verses of the Old Testament, Malachi 4:4-6.)

Moses represented \_\_\_\_\_

Elijah represented \_\_\_\_\_

7. What did God the Father have to say about the proceedings? (5) Why?

8. When else did the Father give this affirmation? (Mt 3:16-17) \_\_\_\_\_

9. How did the 3 disciples react to the voice? (Mt 17:6) \_\_\_\_\_

10. What did Jesus then do? (17:7) \_\_\_\_\_

11. The Bible doesn't say, but why do you think Elijah's and Moses' visitation with Jesus was so brief?

12. How did Jesus instruct these three disciples to respond to the Transfiguration? (9)

13. When did He tell them to talk about it? (9) \_\_\_\_\_

14. How was John the Baptist's coming related to the Transfiguration? (10-13)

## **Week 10: First Sunday in Lent Romans 1:1-7, 16-32**

1. Who called Paul to the ministry? (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Why? (1,5)
2. What is the basic content of the gospel? (2-4)
3. In your opinion, has society changed for the better since Jesus lived? Why?
4. In Romans 1:18-32, Paul taught that the root cause for all the ills of society is because of sin in individuals, nations and cultures. Would you agree? Why?
5. What should sinful humanity expect from God? (18) \_\_\_\_\_
6. What do people suppress when they sin? (18) \_\_\_\_\_
7. What are some things you see in nature that confirm to you that God exists? (19-20)
8. What characterizes people who reject God? (21) In contrast, what should characterize people who know and love God? (21)

9. Write down FIVE evidences of unbelief in the following verses:

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

v.25 \_\_\_\_\_

v.25 \_\_\_\_\_

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

v.32 \_\_\_\_\_

10. Sexual sin is a chief behavior for those who reject God. Summarize Paul's teaching in v.26-27. Is Paul a prude? Intolerant? Old-fashioned?

11. How does Romans 1:16-17 give all sinners hope?

## Week 11: Second Sunday in Lent **Romans 2**

1. In Romans 1:18-32, Paul detailed the depth of humanity's sinfulness. Why does Paul encourage his readers not to pass judgment on others? (1-3)

2. What does Jesus teach in Matthew 7:1-2? \_\_\_\_\_

3. How do you understand that God's judgment is based on truth? (2)

4. Isn't it only natural for Christians to judge other people when they turn away from God? Why does Paul discourage our judging others? (1-3)

5. List the 3 attributes of God's character that sinners should be grateful for? (4)

6. What does God's kindness lead to? (4) \_\_\_\_\_

7. Underline what you think are the key words in the Westminster Shorter Catechism's answer to "What is repentance unto life."

*Westminster Shorter Catechism Q.87 **Answer:** Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and a true understanding of the mercy of God in Christ, does, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience."*

8. Unrepentant hearts and lives can expect to experience God's \_\_\_\_\_. (5)

9. By what standards will God judge people at the Final Judgment? (6-13, 16)

10. How do you reconcile these standards with the overarching theme of Romans--we are justified by grace through faith in what Jesus has done, not ourselves?

**Hint:** Read these verses in the context of Romans 1:1 to 3:20. The Jews believed fully in works righteousness. Paul taught that if you had to obey the whole law of God in order to be reconciled with God, then you would be judged by that same law.

11. What is Paul's conclusion on the matter of personal righteousness? See Romans 3:9-11, 20.

12. In your own words, define hypocrisy? \_\_\_\_\_

13. Back to Romans 2. How were the Jews hypocrites? (17-24)

14. The Old Testament sign of the covenant was circumcision. What point is Paul making with regard to physical circumcision and obedience to God's law? (25-28)

15. How do you understand "circumcision" of the heart? (29)

## Week 12: Third Sunday in Lent **Jeremiah 5**

1. In your opinion, how has the church today turned away from God?
2. Who is Jeremiah's chief audience? (1) \_\_\_\_\_
3. What were the Jews chief sins? (1-3)
4. Is anyone exempt from these sins of Israel? (4-5, 30-31) Yes or No. (*circle 1*)
5. How is God's judgment pictured? (6)
6. Compare verses 1 and 6. What does God look for from His people and what does He find?
7. In your own words, answer God's question to His people: "Why should I forgive you?" (7)
8. In what ways have the Israelites rebelled against God? (7) How does this apply to today?
9. In your own words, answer God's questions to His people? (9,29)

10. What was God's verdict of the Israelite nation? (10) Why? (11)

11. Many people say today, "If God is a God of love, He will not judge anyone and send them to hell." How is this same attitude reflected in v.12-13?

12. How is God's word like fire in our mouths? (14)

13. The chief fear of the Israelites was that they'd be defeated and decimated in battle and lose their freedom as a nation. How did God describe the fearsome nation of Babylon who would be God's instrument of judgment? (15-17)

14. What does Scripture teach about the judgment to come in the following verses:

Matthew 11:20-22 \_\_\_\_\_

Matthew 12:31-32 \_\_\_\_\_

II Corinthians 5:9-10 \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 17:29-31 \_\_\_\_\_



## Week 13: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent **Ephesians 4:29 -- 5:1-20**

1. What three character traits should all Christians exhibit? Why? (4:32)
2. Whose example are we to follow? (5:1) \_\_\_\_\_ From what you know of the Bible, give an example of how God loves. Hint: John 3:16 may give us a clue.
3. How has Jesus Christ shown us to walk in love? (5:2)
4. What three sins are God's people to avoid at all costs? (5:3) Why?
5. What sin is a close fourth to the above three? (5:4) \_\_\_\_\_  
Instead, what should come out of our mouths? (5:4 with 4:29)
6. What did James teach about the use of words? Read James 3:7-10.
7. Compare and contrast the use of words from Proverbs 16:21, 24 and 27-28.



## **Week 14: Fifth Sunday in Lent Romans 8:17-40**

1. What kinds of things encourage you when you suffer?
2. As a Christian, what will be Paul's (and ours too) inheritance in Christ? (17-18)
3. What is the creation waiting eagerly for? (19-21)
4. How does Isaiah 65:17 and Revelation 21:1 shed light on the creation's longings?
5. What two things are Christians waiting patiently for? (23)
6. The word "hope" in the Bible refers to something certain we shall receive by God's promise. (ie, the hope of heaven) "Hope" in the Bible is not used in the sense of wishful thinking. ("I hope I'll look 10 years younger next year.")  
  
How does Paul express this understanding of "hope?" (24-25)
7. How does the Holy Spirit help us when we feel weak or hopeless? (26-27)

8. What can we know for certain about God and His care for us? (28)

9. Do you think v.28 means that all things work together for our good in this life? Why?

10. Hebrews 11 is called the roll call of faith. Read Hebrews 11:35-40. How do you think these godly persons thought of God as working all things out for good?

11. What five things did God work out for our good in bringing us to salvation? (29-30)

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12. Romans 8:28-39 is one of the New Testament's most beloved passages because of the absolute assurance it gives Christians of God's allegiance to them. How would you answer two of Paul's questions?

12:31 "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

12:35 "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?"

13. Christians are more than \_\_\_\_\_ through Him who \_\_\_\_\_ us. (37)

14. What is Paul convinced of? (38-39)



6. Fill in the blanks about how the disciples praised God about Jesus as He rode from the Mt of Olives toward Jerusalem? (NIV -- 37-38)

“Blessed is the \_\_\_\_\_ who comes in the name of the Lord! \_\_\_\_\_

in heaven and \_\_\_\_\_ in the highest!”

7. Read carefully verse 37. What motivated the disciples and the crowds to praise God for this person, Jesus?

8. How does Zechariah 9:9-10 confirm that Jesus was the Messiah as He enters triumphantly into Jerusalem?

9. Back to Luke 19. Not everybody was happy. Who wasn't? Why?

10. Why do you think Jesus wept over Jerusalem? (40-41, 44)

11. Since many people did not believe Jesus was the Messiah, what did Jesus say would occur? (42-44a)

12. In your opinion, was Jesus' Triumphal Entry really triumphal?

## Week 16: Easter John 20:1-18

1. Who came to the tomb and what did she see? (1) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Read Mark 16:1; Matthew 28:1. According to these gospels, who came with her?

3. Describe the reaction of the women to seeing the angels from the following verses:

Matthew 28:8 \_\_\_\_\_

Mark 16:5-8 \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 24:5 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Back to John 20. What is it that Mary did not understand? (2,13)

5. Why do you think Mary stayed at the tomb when Peter and John left? (10-11)

6. Describe what Peter and John saw in the tomb. (3-7) In what way does this indicate Jesus was alive again, rather than the body being moved by other people?

7. Verse 8 says John “saw and believed.” What do you think it was that he believed?

8. How does v.9 help or hinder your understanding of what John "believed?"
  
9. Detail what happened to Mary after Peter and John went home. (11-17)
  
10. Notice that Jesus and the angels asked Mary the same question. (13, 15) Why that question?
  
11. What was Jesus wanting from Mary when He asked, "Who is it you are looking for?" (15)
  
12. Who did she think it was? (15) Why might she not have recognized Jesus?
  
13. How did hearing her name spoken awaken Mary to recognize Jesus? (16)
  
14. What mission did Jesus tell Mary to complete? (17)
  
15. Mary did as Jesus asked and went and told the disciples. How do you think the disciples responded to Mary's testimony, "I have seen the Lord!" (18)



## Week 17: Second Sunday of Easter **John 20:19-31**

1. Set the stage: What happened the evening of Jesus' resurrection? (19)
2. Why do you think the disciples were fearful of the Jews? (19)
3. What did Jesus say to calm their fears? (19) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How did Jesus prove that it was truly Him? (20) \_\_\_\_\_
5. What commission did Jesus give to the disciples? (21-23)
6. Do you think the disciples received from Jesus the Holy Spirit at that time, or later at Pentecost? (Acts 1:8) Support your answer.
7. The Roman Catholic Church refers to John 20:22-23 as proof priests have the power to directly forgive people's sins. Read and summarize the following verses:

Mark 2:7 \_\_\_\_\_

I John 2:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_

8. Back to John 20. Who was not present when Jesus first appeared to the disciples?

(24) \_\_\_\_\_

- Why do you think he would so readily dismiss the disciples' testimony: "We have seen the Lord!" (25)

- What did he say? (25) \_\_\_\_\_

9. What is it in the human constitution that requires proof before we believe almost anything?

10. Jesus told His disciples at least 9 times (*Matt 16:21; 17:22; 20:17-19; Mark 8:31; 9:9, 31-32; 10:33-34; Luke 9:22; 18:31-34*) that He would rise from the dead. Since they believed that Jesus was the Messiah, the Son of God, why do you think it was so hard for them to believe that He was going to be raised from death into life?

11. How long passed before Jesus' next resurrection appearance? (26) \_\_\_\_\_

12. How were the disciples (who had actually seen Jesus) just like Thomas who had not? Compare 20:20 with 20:27-28.

13. Summarize what Jesus told Thomas. Why is this important for all Christians? (27,29)

14. How did Thomas respond to Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_ (28)

## Week 18: Third Sunday of Easter John 21:1-14

1. Who was present in Jesus' next recorded resurrection appearance? (1-2)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How long did they fish and how successful were they? (3) \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. When did Jesus appear to them? (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
Why may they have not been able to recognize Him? (4)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What advice did Jesus give them? (6) \_\_\_\_\_ Did  
these disciples follow His advice? Y or N Then what happened? (5-6)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Who first recognized Jesus and what did he say? (7) \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. What did Peter do? (7)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. What does this say about Peter?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. Why do you think the other disciple(s) stayed in the boat? And why did it take the remaining disciples in the boat longer to get to land? (8)

6. When they got to shore, what had Jesus done? (9) \_\_\_\_\_
7. What had Jesus made them for breakfast? (9) \_\_\_\_\_
8. Even though Jesus was already grilling fish while the disciples were still far from shore in the boat, can you think of any reason why Jesus asked them to give Him some of the fish they had just caught? (10) *(Rev. Jay's kindness: If you can't come up with an answer... go to the next question!)*
9. Who went to get the fish from the boat? (11) \_\_\_\_\_  
Can you think of any reason why it was this disciple who got the fish? *(Rev. Jay's kindness #2, if no answer comes, keep on pluggin' to the next question!)*
10. Describe the contents and condition of the net. (11) \_\_\_\_\_
11. Why do you think the disciples may not have recognized Jesus? (12)
12. What transpired in v.12-14 make allusions to other events or practices in the Bible. Summarize similarities to the following two events:
- a. John 6:10-14 when Jesus fed the 5000.
  - b. I Corinthians 11:23-26 -- The words of Institution for the Lord's Supper.

## Week 19: Fourth Sunday of Easter **John 21:15-25**

1. What question did Jesus ask Peter? (15) \_\_\_\_\_
2. How did Peter answer? (15) \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many times was this exchange repeated? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What was the purpose for JC' exchange with Peter? Was JC taking revenge on Peter for Peter's thrice denial? Was JC condemning Peter or exalting him or restoring him to service? Or something else? Give reasons for your answer:
5. One of the peculiarities of this text is that John used two different Greek words that translated as "love." In v.15-16, the Greek word "philo" means "friendship love." In v.17, the Greek word "agape" means "sacrificial love." How does this help with the interpretation of what Jesus was asking of Peter?
6. Another interesting tidbit about this passage is that all three of Peter's responses use the stronger word for love ("agape") or "sacrificial love." What do you think Peter was attempting to communicate to Jesus by answering with "You know that I (agape) love You?"
7. What was Jesus wanting Peter to know when He commanded of Peter: "Feed my lambs! (15) Feed my sheep. (16) Feed my sheep? (17)"

8. Read Matthew 16:15-18 How does "Feed my sheep" relate to Jesus having told Peter of Peter himself, "...upon this Rock I will build my church?" (Mt 16:18)
  
9. Back to John 21. What prediction did Jesus make regarding Peter's future? (19-20)
  
10. What new command did Jesus give Peter? \_\_\_\_\_ (19)
  
11. In addition to "Feed my sheep," what more did Jesus want Peter to know about Christian leadership by telling Him to "Follow me?"
  
12. A second disciple followed Peter and Jesus at a distance. What did Jesus want Peter to know about this second disciple (and presumably all other Christians) that would also follow Jesus? (20-23)
  
13. How does the author of this gospel identify himself and what was his reason for writing? (24-25)
  
14. One way of interpreting this exchange was that Jesus was speaking TO Peter, but also THROUGH Peter to every disciple and every Christian who has ever lived. What does Jesus want us to learn from this dialogue?

## **Week 20:** Fifth Sunday of Easter **Acts 6:8-7:60**

1. In Acts 6:5, Stephen was chosen as one of the church's first deacons. In Acts 6:8, Stephen was a man described as "a man full of God's grace and power." What does that tell you about Stephen's character?
  
2. Read Acts 6:10. Why could Stephen stand strong against fierce opposition?
  
3. Read Acts 6:15. What might it mean that Stephen had a "face like an angel?"
  
4. Stephen was accused by false witnesses before the Sanhedrin. (6:13-14) Read Matthew 26:61. Compare how Jesus and Stephen were accused.
  
5. The rest of the questions will be from Acts 7.  
What question was Stephen asked? (1) \_\_\_\_\_
  
6. Stephen's response is 52 verses long, around 8 minutes if spoken. Stephen's response was to summarize Israel's history. What did he say about:
  - a. Abraham (2-9)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Jacob and Joseph (10-19)

c. Moses (21-44)

d. Joshua, David and Solomon (45-50)

7. Why do you think Stephen reviewed Jewish history with the Sanhedrin?

8. What charges did Stephen bring against the Sanhedrin (or all Jews in general?) (51-53)

9. Did the Sanhedrin respond with humility? Yes or No. (54) What further enraged them? (55-56)

10. What did they do to Stephen? (57-58) STONED HIM

11. Before Stephen died, he said almost the same words as Jesus did on the cross. What did he most urgently want from God? (59-60)

12. What other important person was there? (58) \_\_\_\_\_



**Week 21: Sixth Sunday of Easter James 4:14-5:20**

1. What did James compare our lives to? (4:14) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why is it important to consider God's will when we make our plans? (4:13-15)

3. What do the following verses teach with regard to our plans and God's will?

Proverbs 16:3 \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 16:9 \_\_\_\_\_

Proverbs 19:21 \_\_\_\_\_

4. Back to James 4. If we neglect to do good when we have the opportunity, what is our inaction called? Why? (4:18)

5. What issues does James have with the rich and powerful? (5:1-6)

6. How long should we be patient in this world of struggle? (5:7) \_\_\_\_\_

7. What occupations or persons are given as examples for patience? Why?

5:7 \_\_\_\_\_

5:10 \_\_\_\_\_

5:11 \_\_\_\_\_

8. Why is it not a good idea to swear? (5:12)

9. As many of the New Testament letters of Paul and Peter end with something to do with prayer, so does James. Finish these sentences from James 5:

5:13 "Is any one of you in trouble? He should \_\_\_\_\_."

5:13 "Is anyone happy? Let him \_\_\_\_\_."

5:14 "Is any one of you sick? He should \_\_\_\_\_."

5:16 "The prayer of a righteous person is \_\_\_\_\_."

5:11 "The Lord is full of \_\_\_\_\_."

10. What must we exhibit if we expect God to answer? (5:15) \_\_\_\_\_

11. Who is given as an example of faithful prayer? (5:17-18)  
(This story is in I Kings 17-18). \_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you agree with James that it is a good idea to confess our sins to each other?  
(5:16)

13. What is our responsibility to a Christian who has turned away from the faith?  
(5:19-20)

## **Week 22: Seventh Sunday of Easter Acts 1**

1. What does the "former book" refer to? (1) Refer also to Luke 1:1-4.
2. How much of Jesus' life is understood from "began both to do and teach?" (1)
3. What event does "taken up" mean in reference to Jesus? (2,9) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How does Jesus view the ministry of the Holy Spirit? (2,4-5)
5. What kinds of "convincing proofs" are given with regard to Jesus' resurrection? (3)  
Also, read I Corinthians 15:3-8.
6. How long was Jesus seen after His resurrection? (3) \_\_\_\_\_
7. What mistaken idea did the disciples have? (6,7)
8. What will be the disciples and the church's ongoing mission? (8)
9. What were the two basic commands that Jesus gave in this chapter? (4,8)

10. What event is referred to in v.11? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Who gathered in the upper room besides the apostles? (13-14)

12. How many Christians were there at this time? (15) \_\_\_\_\_

13. What was the primary consideration of the disciples when they nominated men to take Judas' place as the 12<sup>th</sup> disciple? (21-22)

14. Which two men were considered to replace Judas? (23-26) \_\_\_\_\_

15. What 2 steps were involved in determining who was to become the 12<sup>th</sup> disciple?

v.24-25 "They \_\_\_\_\_."

v.26 "They \_\_\_\_\_."

16. Do you think Peter acted prematurely in selecting someone to replace Judas? (20)  
Why?

17. Immediately after Jesus' resurrection, many disciples had doubts about Jesus being truly alive. But now, on the eve of the Holy Spirit's coming, do you think they were united in their faith and convinced JC was alive? Or do you think they still had a few doubts? Give reasons for your answer.

## **Week 23: Pentecost Sunday Acts 2:1-13, 42-47**

*To the Jews, the Festival of Pentecost, also called the Feast of Weeks, was the day the Jews remembered when God gave Moses the 10 commandments.*

1. For Christians, what does Pentecost mean?
2. On the day of Pentecost, who was present? (1) Do you think the word "they" refers to all the disciples? Or all 120 Christians? or others?
3. What two impressive phenomena occurred when the Holy Spirit was given? (2-3)
4. Upon whom did the "tongues of fire" land? (3) \_\_\_\_\_  
Then what happened? (4)
5. Verse 4 ends with, "as the Spirit enabled them." What does this mean?
6. From where did the observers come? (5, 9-11) Why is this significant?
7. Why were there so many people in Jerusalem at this time? Read Leviticus 23:15-22.

8. Back to Acts 2. What reactions did the observers have? (6-7, 11-13)

9. What 2 questions were asked by the people? (7-8)

10. How many people believed in Jesus for salvation? (41) \_\_\_\_\_

11. What four activities did these new converts devote themselves to? (42)

12. Where and how often did the believers meet? (46) \_\_\_\_\_

13. What other activities did these new Christians participate in? (44-46)

14. What were the 3 glorious outcomes of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit? (47)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

15. In what ways is today's church's ministry similar to or different from what those first Christians did? (42-47)

## Week 24: Trinity Sunday **Matthew 28:16-20**

1. As best you can, describe the Trinity.

2. What was given to Jesus? (18) \_\_\_\_\_

By whom? (18) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Write down the four commands Jesus gave His disciples. (19-20)

4. Of these 4 commands, which one was to be done in the names of the three persons of the Trinity? (19-20) Why do you think Jesus taught it was important to do so?

5. In light of the three persons of the Trinity, who would be with the disciples when Jesus said, "And surely I am with you always..." (20) CIRCLE 1.

Father                  Jesus                  Holy Spirit                  All 3

6. How does 2 Corinthians 13:14 shed light on the matter of God's presence with us?

7. Do you think that all three members of the Trinity are with us at all times? Share your thoughts.

8. What do the following Bible verses teach us about the Trinity:

a. Deuteronomy 6:4 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Matthew 3:16-17 \_\_\_\_\_

c. Luke 4:14-19 \_\_\_\_\_

d. Genesis 1:26; Isaiah 6:8 \_\_\_\_\_

e. John 14:16-17 \_\_\_\_\_

f. I Peter 1:1-2 \_\_\_\_\_

FYI: There have been many attempts to develop illustrations to describe the Trinity.

1. **An EGG** has 3 essential parts--shell, white and yolk—all key components to one egg; just like the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all 3 essential parts of the one God.

ISSUE: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are not simply parts of God; each member of the trinity is fully God.

2. **WATER** as liquid, vapor and ice are all different forms of the one substance of water. The same is true of the one God in the three forms of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

ISSUE: The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are not forms of God, each of them is fully God.

3. A **WOMAN** can be mother, daughter and wife all at the same time, just as God is revealed as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, each with different roles, but the same God.

ISSUE: Father, Son and Holy Spirit are not simply roles of God (ie, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer), but distinct persons of the 1 God.



## Week 25: Second Sunday after Pentecost Deuteronomy 31

1. Write down what you know about Moses.
2. What was Moses' age? (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Why would Moses not be leading Israel into the Promised Land? Was it his age or something else? Read Numbers 20:1-13.
3. Back to Deuteronomy 31. The entire nation of Israel held Moses in high esteem. What did the Israelites need to remember about Israel's ultimate leadership? (3-4)
4. When the Israelites would enter the Promised Land to do battle with the nations, how were they to act? (6) Fill in the blanks.  
  
Be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Do not be \_\_\_\_\_  
  
or \_\_\_\_\_ because of them.
5. Write down the two reasons the Israelites could have such confidence? (5-6)
6. If we Christians truly believed these promises from God (5-6), what could we do?
7. Moses turned his attention to Joshua. Write down what you know about Joshua, son of Nun.

8. Moses' challenge to Joshua (7-8) was very similar to that given to the nation. (3-6)  
What was unique in what was said to Joshua? (7-8)

9. Where was the "law" (ie, the 10 commandments) put? (9,26) \_\_\_\_\_

How often was it to be read? (9-11) \_\_\_\_\_ Why? (12-13)

10. What did the Lord ask of Moses? (14) \_\_\_\_\_

11. From v.14 to the end of the chapter, God's conversation with Moses and Joshua feels like an ordination service for a minister or elder.

a. Where did they meet together? (14) \_\_\_\_\_

b. How was God's presence known? (15) \_\_\_\_\_

c. What does God tell Joshua through Moses about future challenges? (16-18)

d. God gave Moses a song (Deut 32). What was the purpose of the song? (19-22)

e. Back to Deuteronomy 31. God gave Joshua his ordination charge. (23) The content was sim to previous encouragements. (3,7-8) Can you determine one thing that is diff? (23) Hint: It has to do with leadership.

12. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century Christian church, what challenges do we face that we need to be strong and courageous (6,7,23), to not be afraid or discouraged (8) by trusting God to be with us and go before us? (6,8,23)

## Week 26: Third Sunday after Pentecost Acts 2:14-41

1. Who did God choose to preach on the day of Pentecost? (14) \_\_\_\_\_  
Why may have God chosen this disciple?
2. Who was Peter's sermon addressed to? (14) \_\_\_\_\_  
Does this surprise you in light of who else was there? (Refer to 2:9-11)
3. What time of day did the outpouring occur? (15) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Pentecost was a fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel 2:28-32 and is quoted in v.16-20.  
In your opinion, is this prophecy to be interpreted literally or is it more symbolic in nature?
5. Some scholars believe v.16-18 have to do with the Holy Spirit's coming while v.19-20 have to do with the 2<sup>nd</sup> coming of Christ. In your opinion, does this prophecy refer only to the Holy Spirit's coming? Only to Jesus' coming? Or both? Explain.
6. What things did Peter say about Jesus in his message? (22-24)  
  
v.22 \_\_\_\_\_  
  
v.23 \_\_\_\_\_  
  
v.24 \_\_\_\_\_

7. Peter quoted Psalm 16:8-11 in v.25-28. In the following verses (29-32), how does Peter explain that Jesus is a fulfillment of Psalm 16?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. How does Peter explain the necessity of Jesus' ascension for what happened on the day of Pentecost? (33)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. Peter concluded his message in v.36. What was he hoping to accomplish?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. What 2 questions did the hearers ask? (12,37)  
  
v.12 \_\_\_\_\_  
  
v.37 \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
11. How were the listeners affected by Peter's sermon? (37)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. How did Peter reply to the question, "What shall we do?" (38-39)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
13. Acts 2:21 promises: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." How does this verse relate to what Peter told the people to do in v.38-39?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
14. How can you tell Peter was passionate about his message? (40)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
15. How many were added to the church after Peter spoke? (41) \_\_\_\_\_

## Week 27: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Acts 5:1-42

1. Who are we introduced to? (1) \_\_\_\_\_
2. What did they have in mind to do for the church? (2) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who led them astray? (3) \_\_\_\_\_
4. Did they have the right to hold back money from the sale for themselves? (4) Y or N
5. From Peter's perspective, what was the primary issue? (4,9)
  
6. What happened to the man? (5,6) What happened to the woman? (7-10)
  
7. Rev. Vance Havner: *"If God dealt with church members today as He did in the days of Ananias and Sapphira, every church would need a morgue in the basement."*
  - a. What was Havner's point?
  
  
  - b. How are Christians today like Ananias and Sapphira?
  
8. How did the church react when they heard about this incident? (11) \_\_\_\_\_
9. What signs and wonders did Peter do? (16)
  
10. What did the Sadducees do as a result of these miracles? (17-18)

11. Who broke the apostles out of prison? (19) \_\_\_\_\_  
What were the apostles told to do? (20)
  
12. After the apostles were recaptured, what did the high priest accuse them of? (27-28)
  
13. What was Peter's response to being told not to teach in Jesus' name? (29)
  
14. How did God the Father thwart the plans of the Sadducees? (30-32) *Notice that all 3 persons of the Trinity--Father, Son, Holy Spirit--are mentioned in v.30-32.*
  
15. Do you think the Sanhedrin then turned in faith to the Lord? Yes or No. (33)
  
16. Who interceded with calm rationality? (34) \_\_\_\_\_  
What did this respected Pharisee recommend?
  
17. After receiving Gamaliel's advice what did the council do to the apostles? (40)
  
18. What was the attitude of the apostles regarding persecution? (41)
  
19. Did the apostles abide by the Sanhedrin's order to stop preaching about Jesus? (42)  
What did they do?

## Week 28: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Acts 8:1-25

1. What tragic event occurred in Acts 7:54-8:1? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What broke out against the church? (8:1) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who was leading this persecution? (3) \_\_\_\_\_ What was his intent? (3)
4. Who left Jerusalem and who did not?(1) \_\_\_\_\_
5. What did the Christians do when they fled for their lives? (4)
6. Name a Christian that fled? (5) \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Where did this Christian go and what did he do? (5-7)
  - b. In what two ways did the Samaritan's react to his message and miracles? (6,8)
7. Who was Simon? (9-11) \_\_\_\_\_  
What did the people call Simon? (10)
8. What happened to Simon and those following him? (11-13)

9. What happened when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God ? (14)
  
10. Why do you think the apostles were concerned about believers in Samaria? Hint: It may have something to with race.
  
11. How do you understand it that these believers had not yet received the Holy Spirit? (15-17)
  
12. For what did Simon offer money? Why? (18-19)
  
13. How did Peter reply to this request? (20-23)
  
14. In reading v.19, Simon's motives don't appear to be impure. Why do you think Peter's denunciation of Simon was so strong?
  
15. What did Simon not understand about salvation in Christ? The Holy Spirit?
  
16. Do you think Simon's response was true repentance? (24) Why?



## Week 29: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Acts 10

1. What was Cornelius' occupation? (1) \_\_\_\_\_
2. How do we know Cornelius had a godly character? (2)
3. What did Cornelius see and hear? (3-6)
4. How did Cornelius respond? (7-8)
5. Meanwhile, what was Peter doing? (9-10) \_\_\_\_\_
6. What vision was Peter given? (11-12) And what was he told to do? (13)
7. Why do you think Peter objected so strongly? (14) Refer to Leviticus 11.
8. Acts 10:15 is the theme of this chapter. What do you think we all need to learn about to whom the gospel of Jesus Christ is for?
9. How many times did Peter see this vision? (16) \_\_\_\_\_

10. When Cornelius' men arrived, why did Peter decide to go with them? (19-22)

11. Who did Cornelius gather to hear Peter? (24) \_\_\_\_\_

12. What shows the receptivity of Cornelius and his guests to God's word? (33,44)

13. What did Peter learn from his vision that he now applied to Cornelius?

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

v.34-38 \_\_\_\_\_

v.39-43 \_\_\_\_\_

14. What astonishing thing happened in their midst? (45-46)

15. Read Acts 11:12. Who was with Peter at this time? \_\_\_\_\_  
How were they described in Acts 10:45?

16. How do we know Cornelius and his guests actually received Jesus Christ for salvation? (Acts 10:47-48)

## Week 30: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost I Samuel 12

1. Write down what you know of Samuel:
2. List at least two ways people turn away from God.
3. Do you think Samuel was near retirement? Yes or No. (*circle 1*) Why? (1-2)
4. Refer to I Samuel 16:1-13. What was Samuel's last, and possibly greatest, act of leadership for Israel?
5. Back to I Samuel 12. Why do you think it was important for Samuel to establish his personal integrity as he led Israel these many years? (3-5)
6. Samuel reminded the people of God's faithfulness to Israel. What specifically did he want them to remember about the Lord?

v.6 \_\_\_\_\_

v.8 \_\_\_\_\_

v.9-11 \_\_\_\_\_

7. Samuel reminded the people of their sinful ways. What specific sins did Samuel ask them to remember?

v.9 \_\_\_\_\_

v.10 \_\_\_\_\_

v.12, 19 \_\_\_\_\_

8. Saul had already been anointed as Israel's first human king. What stipulations did Samuel expect of both king and people to receive God's continued care? (14-15)

9. How did God confirm Samuel's declaration? (16-18) \_\_\_\_\_  
How did the people respond? (20)

10. Samuel told the people, "Do not be afraid." (20) How did Samuel direct the people to be faithful to the Lord? (20-21)

11. What final declarations did Samuel make about God, himself and the nation?

God (22) \_\_\_\_\_

Samuel himself (23) \_\_\_\_\_

The people and the king (24-25) \_\_\_\_\_

## Week 31: Eighth Sunday after Pentecost **Matthew 13:1-23**

1. If you've ever had a garden, what was the most productive vegetable or plant you've grown? What was the least productive you've grown?

2. What was a parable? (3) \_\_\_\_\_

Why did Jesus speak to the people in parables? (10-13)

3. What warning did Jesus give to people about His teachings? (14-15)

4. Why were some of His followers blessed? (16-17)

5. Who was Jesus speaking to? (2) \_\_\_\_\_

6. In this parable, who represented the farmer? \_\_\_\_\_

What did the seed represent? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Fill in the table below concerning Jesus' parable:

<b>Mt 13</b>	<b>Soil Type</b>	<b>What happened?</b>
<b>v.4</b>	The Path	

<b>v.5-6</b>		
<b>v.7</b>		
<b>v.8-9</b>		

8. Fill in the table below concerning Jesus' interpretation of the parable?

<b>Mt 13</b>	<b>Soil Type</b>	<b>Jesus' Interpretation:</b>
<b>v.19</b>		
<b>v.20-21</b>		
<b>v.22</b>		
<b>v.23</b>		

9. What do you think was Jesus' main point? What most did Jesus want the people to understand?

10. Do you think this parable is still applicable for today? If so, how?

## **Week 32: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Acts 15:1-35**

1. What is the value of church government? Or for Presbyterians, what is the value of the Book of Order?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. One value of strong church leadership is to deal with conflicts that arise. What was the conflict that the church in Antioch was facing? (1)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What two church leaders strongly objected? (2) \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What did the church in Antioch decide to do to answer this question? (2-3)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. The meeting to deal with the question took place at the church in Jerusalem. Let's break down what occurred at this meeting wherein a decision was recommended.
  - a. How was the delegation from the church in Antioch received by the church in Jerusalem? (4)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. What did Paul and Barnabas report to the leaders of the Jerusalem church? (3-4)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. Who objected? (5) \_\_\_\_\_ What was their concern? (5)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - d. What group removed themselves from the assembly to consider the question? (6)

e. After discussion, Peter spoke up. What were his main points as to why Gentile believers should be accepted as Christians just as Christian Jews were? (6-11)

f. Apparently, Peter's recommendation was approved and sent to the assembly of believers. Who else testified before the assembly and what did they say?

v.12 \_\_\_\_\_

v.13-21 \_\_\_\_\_

g. Apparently Peter's recommendation passed. Who did the Jerusalem church appoint to go to the Antioch church to convey the decision? (22)

h. Summarize the content of the letter that was to be read to the Gentile believers in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. (23-29)

6. A congregational meeting was called at the church in Antioch. (30) Do you think they were satisfied with the letter's content? Why? (30-32)

7. Do you think this settled the question of what was to be required for anyone interested in church membership? That both Jewish and Gentile believers were to be received by faith alone in the redeeming work of Jesus Christ?

I'll give you the answer: Unfortunately, the answer is NO. The entire book of Galatians was written by the apostle Paul to deal with this very question.





- d. Who was not so pleased by Paul's exorcism? (19) \_\_\_\_\_
- e. What did the women's owners do with Paul and Silas? (19-21)
- f. Paul and Silas were convicted by the magistrates. List their punishments. (22-24)
7. Paul and Silas' suffering was awful. Yet, what were they doing in jail that night? (25)
8. A strong earthquake occurred and all the prisoner's cell doors flew open. (26) What was the jailer prepared to do? (27)
- Why didn't the jailer follow through? (28) \_\_\_\_\_
9. What do you think may have led the jailer to ask Paul and Silas, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" (29-30) Was it...
- a. The earthquake
  - b. That no prisoners escaped
  - c. That God opened his heart to hear the gospel (like Lydia in v.14)
  - d. Was influenced by the songs and prayers of Paul and Silas in their prison cell
10. How did Paul and Silas answer the jailer's question? (31)
11. Write down everything that followed after Paul and Silas' answer. (32-36)



7. How did David characterize the depravity of his enemies? (10-12)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. Compare David's description of his enemies (10-12) with how he described himself (3-5) Where was David's confidence in having God answer his prayers?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
9. How did David want God to deal with the two sides in the conflict? (13-14)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
10. Did David have faith that he will eventually be vindicated? (2,15)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
11. What do we learn about prayer from people in the Bible?

Hannah in 1 Samuel 1:9-17

Jesus in Luke 11:9-10

Paul in Ephesians 6:18-20

I Peter 3:12



10. The temple was completed in 516 BC. Ezra came 58 years later in 458 BC. What do we learn about Ezra? (7:6,10)

11. Ezra came with authority from the secular King of Persia, Artaxerxes. Notice how God-centered and God-honoring his letter is. Write down all phrases (or highlight them in your Bible) concerning what he said about the God of Israel. (7:12-26)

12. How did Ezra see God's part in how this letter was written? (7:27)

13. How was Ezra himself encouraged by the content of the letter? (7:28)

14. What sin does Ezra confront? (9:1-2) \_\_\_\_\_

15. Why do you think God commanded the Israelites not to marry people of other nations and religions?

16. What do the following texts teach us about this prohibition?

Deuteronomy 7:1-6

I Corinthians 7:39

## **Week 36: 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Hebrews 10:1-16**

1. Old Testament worship was centered around various sacrifices, mostly animals, that foreshadowed the coming of Christ and His sacrifice. How effective to forgive sin were these Old Testament sacrifices? (1-3)
2. Why was it impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sin? (4)
3. How did Jesus' death for sin replace the Old Testament sacrifices? (5-9)
4. What did Jesus' sacrifice on the cross do for believers more than all the Old Testament animal sacrifices combined? (10,14,18)
5. Who else gives testimony about Jesus' once and for all sacrifice? (15) \_\_\_\_\_
6. What was the Holy Spirit's message? (16-17)
7. Why can Christians have confidence that in Christ, we can draw near to God? (19-21)
8. Read Romans 5:1-2. How does Paul instruct us that we have full access to God?

9. Hebrews 10:22-25 is a tossed salad of how to honor God. Christians are exhorted to, based on Jesus' sacrifice for sin and our subsequent reconciliation with God, "Let us..." do some things. What are we to do in the following verses?

v.22 "Let us..." \_\_\_\_\_

v.23 "Let us..." \_\_\_\_\_

v.24-25 "Let us..." \_\_\_\_\_

10. What warning is given about our continuing to sin -- deliberately rejecting God's will and word? (26-31)

11. Can Christians expect to suffer for their faith in JC? YES or NO. (32-33)

12. Why should Christians accept the consequences of their faith? (34-35)

13. How does Hebrews 11:13-16, 39-40 emphasize this same teaching?

14. Our challenge as Christians is to \_\_\_\_\_ (10:36) and to live

by \_\_\_\_\_. (10:38)



## **Week 37:** 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost **Hebrews 12:1-16**

1. What Christian(s) in your life have given you the most encouragement to be a faithful, God-honoring Christian?
2. Who comprised this "great cloud of witnesses?" (1) Hint : Look to Hebrews 11.
3. If we have ever been encouraged and motivated by the faithful people of God, whether the ones in the Bible or in our lives, how should we follow their example?

12:1a \_\_\_\_\_

12:1b \_\_\_\_\_

12:2 \_\_\_\_\_

4. When we struggle in the faith, what kinds of things should we remember about Jesus and the struggles He endured? (3)
5. How do you understand the Lord's discipline of His people? (4-8)

6. Why does God discipline the people He loves? (9-10)

7. What shall be the results of God's discipline in our lives? (11)

8. Read Romans 5:3-5. What value can come from our suffering?

9. Back to Heb 12. What are Christians to do? (14) \_\_\_\_\_

10. Is holiness attainable in our lives? (14) YES or NO or YES & NO. How do you understand personal holiness?

11. Why do you think sexual sins are to be avoided at all costs? (16)

12: What do the following verses say about sexual immorality and personal holiness?

- Romans 13:13-14

- I Corinthians 6:18-20

- Ephesians 5:3-5

## Week 38: 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost **James 3**

1. Write down some of the sins of the tongue?

2. How does James describe the tongue in the following verses:

v.5 \_\_\_\_\_

v.6 \_\_\_\_\_

v.8 \_\_\_\_\_

3. James used multiple illustrations to picture the tongue's power and influence. How do each of these illustrations illuminate the works of the tongue?

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

v.4 \_\_\_\_\_

v.5-6 \_\_\_\_\_

v.7 \_\_\_\_\_



## Week 39: 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Titus 1:1 -- 2:15

1. Paul wrote this letter to Titus. In what two ways does Paul identify himself? (1)

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2. What was Paul's mission? (1) \_\_\_\_\_

3. One goal of Paul's ministry is "for the faith of God's elect." (1) Who are the elect?

4. When did God make His promise concerning the "hope of eternal life?" (2)

5. When did God bring "His word to light"? (3) \_\_\_\_\_

6. How would you describe Paul's relationship with Titus? (4)

7. What two tasks did Paul commission Titus to do for the churches in Crete? (5)

8. Paul listed 14 qualities churches should look for in men and women who desire to be elders. Vs 6-9 are below. Circle 3 or 4 qualities you believe are the most important.

<sup>6</sup>An elder must be blameless, faithful to his wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. <sup>7</sup> Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. <sup>8</sup> Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. <sup>9</sup> He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

9. Paul contrasted true Christians by comparing them to what group of people? (10)

10. How did Paul advise Titus to deal with these false teachers? (13) \_\_\_\_\_

11. What is the primary difference between "pure" and "corrupt" people? (15)

12. In your opinion, is v.16 (*"They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny Him"*) define a hypocrite? YES or NO or MAYBE. Explain your answer.

13. What does Paul think of these people? (16) \_\_\_\_\_

14. **On to Titus 2:** Paul described the expected conduct and character of various Christians. (2:1-10) The basis for these behavioral exhortations is in 2:11-14.

a. What is the role of God's grace in how we live as Christians? (11-12)

b. What do godly Christians wait for? (13) \_\_\_\_\_

c. What three things did Jesus do for us that deserves our allegiance? (14)

15. Paul ends with this exhortation: "Do not let anyone despise you." (15) Why might anyone despise Titus' teachings? Or Bible teachers and preachers today?



c. Holy Spirit (5-6) \_\_\_\_\_

*The work of the Holy Spirit in salvation is described as washing, rebirth and renewal. Spiritual washing is symbolized in baptism. Rebirth is the Holy Spirit's work to change our hearts from sinful to righteous. Renewal expresses the idea of our personal relationship with Jesus Christ where we consciously live for Him who gave Himself for us.*

8. What righteous things do we have to do in order to gain salvation? (5) \_\_\_\_\_

9. What blessings did we receive from God when we were "saved?" (7)

10. Five times Paul used the phrase "trustworthy saying." Summarize the teachings that Paul says are trustworthy and need to be remembered:

a. I Timothy 1:15-16 \_\_\_\_\_

b. I Timothy 3:1 \_\_\_\_\_

c. I Timothy 4:9-10 \_\_\_\_\_

d. II Timothy 2:11-13 \_\_\_\_\_

e. Titus 3:3-8 \_\_\_\_\_

11. Paul ends where he started, "Grace be with you all!" (15) Or as the character Tiny Tim said in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, "God bless us everyone." Until we meet again, may these prayers be upon our lips.