



That You May
HAVE LIFE

A STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

women's
BIBLE STUDY



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LESSON *Eleven*

The Way, The Truth, The Life



Still in the upper room, having washed the disciples' feet, Jesus wanted to explain some of the hard events about to unfold. First, Peter would reject Jesus. Then, their beloved Messiah would die for the sins of the world. However, He told them not to be troubled. While Jesus would no longer walk among the disciples, God was going to give them the Holy Spirit to help and comfort them. They would never be alone again.

BIBLE STUDY TIP

Choose three colored pens. Then underline each mention of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit in a different color. This helps you to quickly identify each member of the Trinity in this passage.

GLORIFY

Now that Judas has left, Jesus' time has finally come. Verse 31 notes this change as Jesus says His time to be glorified is "now."⁵⁵

ISAIAH 49:3

In this section, Jesus uses language from the Old Testament: "And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'" Read Isaiah 42-53 to look at more predictions about the coming Messiah, all of which found their fulfillment in Jesus.

SON OF MAN

Son of Man was Jesus' favorite title for Himself. Taken from Daniel 7:9-14, the Son of Man is given authority, glory, and sovereign power over all things. His dominion is everlasting, and His Kingdom will never be destroyed.

Read John 13:31-14:31 before answering the following questions.

1. In this passage, the different roles of the Trinity (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit) are clearly seen. In the chart below, briefly mention what you observe about each.

<i>Father</i>	
<i>Son</i>	
<i>Spirit</i>	

As best you can, briefly describe the relationship between the members of the Godhead:

Read John 13:31-38.

2. How does Jesus address His disciples in verses 31-35? Describe the qualities of a loving parent you see in Jesus as He interacts with them.

3. Read verse 35 and the Appendix definition of love, taking notes in the space below. What does it mean to love someone as Jesus has loved you?

Consider the interactions you have had over the last week with friends, family, and even strangers. Would people know you are a follower of Jesus based on your love for them? Does love define you? Write any reflections below:

Read John 14:1-14.

4. Look at verses 1-4. When Jesus left His disciples, what was He going to do and what promise did He make? (For help, read 2 Corinthians 5:1-5.)
5. Put yourself in the disciples' shoes. Even with these promises, what thoughts might have been running through the disciples' mind as they consider Jesus' departure? Of what might they be afraid?
6. Thomas feared not being able to find the way to God. Write John 14:6 in the space below:

In what ways is Jesus:

The Way (John 10:9, Acts 4:12):

The Truth (Matthew 5:17, John 1:17):

The Life (John 3:16, 10:10, 14:19):

COMFORT

Jesus told the disciples they could not follow Him to where He was going. Though this was hard for them to hear, Jesus gave them comfort in the next chapter.

PETER

Peter made a great confession of faith in verse 37. Yet, Jesus knew Peter's faith was going to require some testing in order to be made strong.

TROUBLED HEARTS

The disciples had plenty of reasons to be troubled. Jesus had just spoken of one of the disciples betraying Him and predicted His own death. "To men who have left everything for their Leader to be told that he is about to leave them is shattering."⁵⁶

KNOW

"To know the Son is to know the Father; to see the Son is to see in him the otherwise invisible God."⁵⁷

GREATER WORKS

Though there are multiple theories on the meaning of verse 12, when Jesus says those who believe will do greater works than He, He likely means that due to the indwelling of the Spirit, that the good works of Christ will be greatly multiplied.

HOLY SPIRIT

This mention of the Holy Spirit will be first of many in the next few chapters. Take note of when His works and roles are revealed.

GOD'S WORD

One of the best ways to “keep God’s commandments” is to learn them through the study of His Word. The more you know God’s Word the more you understand God’s heart and the way He wants you to live. James 4:17 says, “So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.” However, remember, believers have God’s Spirit to help you obey. You cannot do it without Him!

“Without the way there is no going; without the truth there is no knowing; without the life there is no living. I am the way which thou must follow; the truth which thou must believe; the life for which thou must hope. I am the inviolable way; the infallible truth; the never-ending life. I am the straightest way; the sovereign truth; true life, life blessed, life uncreated.”

– *Thomas à Kempis*⁵⁸

7. Many people today believe all roads lead to heaven. However, Jesus says something different. Based on His claims, what would you say to someone with this belief?

8. Over and over again Jesus described how He represented the Father. For example, verse 9 says, “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.” How has your understanding of God the Father been impacted by what you have learned about Jesus in the Gospel of John?

Read John 14:15-31.

9. Fill in the blank from John 14:15:

If you _____ me, you will _____.

Read Romans 7:15-20 and reflect: If this expectation of Jesus is true, then why do believers still struggle to keep God’s commandments even after trusting in Christ? Can you love God and still disobey Him?

10. Explain what Jesus told His disciples in John 14:16-17. Is this true for all believers or only the 11 disciples?

11. God, in His kindness, never leaves His people alone. When Jesus left, God sent the Spirit whom He calls “another Helper.” From the passages below, what is the role of the Holy Spirit?

John 14:16-17, 26

Romans 8:26

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Galatians 5:16-23

Ephesians 1:13-14

Now, briefly summarize why the Holy Spirit is given to believers:

12. If you are a believer in Christ, you have the Holy Spirit empowering you to fight against sin. He will never leave you. Where have you fallen into sin this week? Considering what you have learned in this lesson, what are some practical ways the Holy Spirit helps you in your fight? (See Appendix: Sin)

HELPER

The Greek word for “Helper” (ESV, verses 16 and 26) is *parakletos*. It means “to call alongside,” “to encourage,” and “advocate.”⁵⁹

HOLY SPIRIT

For a better understanding of the Spirit, listen to Watermark’s sermon “Holy Spirit” on 1 Corinthians 14 in the Series “The 7.” To find this sermon, visit watermark.org and search “Holy Spirit.”

VERSE 30

Verse 30 says the “ruler of the world is coming.” Similar to John 13:2, Jesus is referencing Satan who was especially at work throughout Jesus’ rejection and crucifixion.

13. Twice Jesus told His disciples to not fear or be troubled when He leaves (John 14:1, 27). What comforts did He give them throughout the passage? How are these still a comfort to you today?

BIG IDEA

What is your biggest takeaway from this week’s lesson?

Review: Jesus' Seven I Am Statements

I am the _____ of _____. (John 6:35, 48)

I am the _____ of the _____. (John 8:12)

I am the _____ of the _____. (John 10:7)

I am the _____. (John 10:11, 14)

I am the _____ and the _____. (John 11:25)

I am the _____, the _____, and the _____. (John 14:6)

Notes