



*That You May*  
**HAVE LIFE**

A STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

*women's*  
BIBLE STUDY



women's | BIBLE STUDY

LESSON *Eighteen*

That You May Have Life

In chapter 11 Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life.” Now, He has proven it. Three days after His crucifixion and burial, Jesus was raised from the dead. In this one act, hopelessness was turned into hope, sorrow was turned into joy, and death was turned into life. He appeared to many, proving the truth of His resurrection, and then gave His disciples some final commands. John wrote this gospel that you may believe and have new life. What is your response?

**Pause for a moment and reflect:** How do you view Jesus in both the good and bad moments? How does He see you? Where are you still struggling to trust Him? Where have you seen growth in your relationship with Him over the last year?

## FULFILLMENT

Jesus' resurrection is a fulfillment of His claims in John 12:23-28 and 14:28-31.

## VINDICATED

“Their Master was not in God’s eyes a condemned criminal; the resurrection proved that he was vindicated by God, and therefore none less than the Messiah, the Son of God he claimed to be.”<sup>98</sup>

**Read John 20-21 before answering the following questions.**

1. The author emphasizes the theme of believing and seeing. Where do you see this theme in John 20-21? What does Jesus say about those who believe without seeing? (See also 1 Peter 1:6-9)

**Read John 20.**

2. After seeing the empty tomb, Mary proclaimed that Jesus' body was taken. Upon arriving, what did Peter and the beloved disciple find?

3. Distraught from grief, Mary was found weeping for her lost Savior, unsure of His whereabouts. Jesus then calls her by name (John 10:3-4, 20:16). What happened next? What were the purposes of His post resurrection appearances?

4. What do you learn about the significance of the resurrection from the below passages?

*Romans 8:11, 8:34-39*

*1 Corinthians 15:3-8, 15:15-22*

*1 Peter 1:3-5*

The entire Christian faith hinges on the truth of the resurrection. Why? What in your life is different because the resurrection is true? (See Appendix: Resurrection)

“If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn’t rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead.”

– Timothy Keller<sup>100</sup>

## EYEWITNESSES

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The first person to see the empty tomb was a woman. This is significant because a woman’s testimony was not admissible in court during this time. The only way this testimony would have been kept in these writings was if it were true.

## GRAVE CLOTHES

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While Lazarus walked out of the grave still wrapped in his burial clothes (John 11), it is evident from John 20 that Jesus no longer had a need for them. They remained in the tomb while His body was gone.<sup>99</sup>

## MARY MAGDALENE

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Learn more about Mary Magdalene in Mark 15:40-41 and Luke 8:2. She is mentioned in all four Gospels as the first witness to the empty tomb.

## ANGELS

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In Scripture, angels are evidence that God is truly at work. In this case, they are simply more evidence for the truth of the resurrection.

## FEAR OF THE JEWS

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The Jews had just executed Jesus. It was not far-fetched to think that the disciples were also at risk for such trouble.

## SCRIPTURE MEMORY

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Don't forget the Scripture memory cards in the back of the curriculum. Challenge yourself this week to memorize John 20:30-31.

## EPILOGUE

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Chapter 21 is considered an Epilogue to the book of John. It ties up loose ends and explains the disciple's purpose now that the resurrection has taken place.

## THREE

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Just as Peter denied Jesus three times, Jesus is confirming His love for Peter just as many times over.

5. Explain Jesus' command and commission in verses 21-22. What exactly was Jesus sending the disciples to do? (For help, see Matthew 28:16-20 and Acts 1:8)

6. Consider Thomas' response to Jesus in verses 24-29. When have you doubted God's power and plan? How has Jesus met you in your doubt?

7. John explains the purpose of his Gospel in verses 30-31. Underline what stands out to you:

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

Thinking back to all that Jesus has taught, what does it mean to have life in Jesus' name? How can you experience more of this life in your relationship with God?

### Read John 21.

8. The account in verses 1-14 takes the disciples back to the time in Luke 5:1-11 when Jesus first called them as disciples. What did Jesus teach and remind the disciples of in this passage?

9. It is possible that Peter's denial of Jesus was still weighing on him heavily as Jesus spoke to him in this chapter. Considering their interaction in verses 15-19, how was Jesus restoring and reconciling with Peter?

10. To wrap up His call to Peter, in John 21:19, Jesus says, “Follow Me.” According to what you have learned throughout the Gospel of John, what is the cost of following Jesus? What do you gain? (Include Scripture to support your answer.)

“God is not darkness; in him, there is no darkness.  
God is not death; he is the one who conquers death once and for all. God is not hate; he is the God who calls us to love all people, even our enemies.  
God is not flesh; instead, he humbled himself and took on flesh for our redemption. God is not many; he’s the one true genuine God....Let us love him with all our heart, with all our soul, and with all our strength.”

– Ben Witherington III<sup>101</sup>

11. Jesus impresses on Peter that if he loves Jesus, he will feed His sheep. Consider how Jesus’ final charge to Peter applies to you too:

*Who are the “sheep” God has placed in your life today?*

*What are you feeding them?*

*How has the study of John better equipped you to feed His sheep?*

12. In verse 25, John tells us that there are many other things Jesus did. And the truth is, because of the resurrection, Jesus is still alive and at work today. If John were to record the things that Jesus has done in your life, what would he include? How have you found new life in Christ because of what Christ has done for you on the cross?

## VERSE 25

“With this delightful hyperbole, [the author] lets us see that there is much more about Jesus than we know. It is fitting for us to bring our story of the Gospel to a close with the reminder of the limitations of our knowledge.”<sup>102</sup>



BIG IDEA

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

Notes



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. If a friend told you, “I am thinking about studying the book of John,” what would you say the book is about? What are some of your biggest take-aways from studying John?
2. Using the chart below, what did you learn in John about God the Father? God the Son? God the Holy Spirit?

GOD THE FATHER	GOD THE SON	GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

Now, what did you learn about yourself?

3. Now that you have studied the entire book of John, how would you share the good news of Jesus with someone who had never heard it before? (Include Scripture references from John.)

4. Consider yourself at the beginning of this study. Where have you grown in your understanding of Jesus? Where have you grown in your relationship with God? In what ways would you like to continue to grow?
  
5. How have you seen God at work in your life over the last year? What about in the lives of the women in your small group? (Be sure to share this with your group members!)
  
6. Over the course of this study did you memorize any new Scripture from John? If not, what verses can you commit to memorize now?
  
7. Jesus came so that you may have life. What have you learned throughout John about life in Christ? Who can you share this with this week?
  
8. Now that this study is over, what is your plan for staying in God's word?