



That You May
HAVE LIFE

A STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

women's
BIBLE STUDY



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LESSON *Nine*

The Resurrection and the Life

Jesus' beloved friend, Lazarus, was deathly ill. After journeying to Bethany, Jesus performed His final and most astounding sign yet and raised a dead man back to life. After this, Jesus's ministry began to shift to focus on His smaller circle of followers. He prepared for His upcoming death, explained His impending resurrection to His disciples, and continued to proclaim a message of salvation for all who believe.

CULMINATION

These chapters represent the culmination of Jesus' earthly ministry.

Read John 11-12 before answering the following questions.

1. The theme of this study is "That you may have life." Where do you see this theme in John 11-12?

Read John 11.

2. Using the timeline below to help, plot the major events from chapter 11:



3. Notice how Jesus' love for Lazarus and his sisters is repeated and yet He delayed in going to see them. Did His delay demonstrate a lack of care or love for them? Explain. What principle do you learn regarding your timing versus God's timing?

4. Jesus had Mary and Martha wait. Describe some seasons of waiting you have been through. Are you able to look back and see how God might have used these seasons for your good and His glory? Or are you still struggling to see their purpose? Explain.

5. Right before raising Lazarus from the dead, His seventh sign, Jesus declared, "I am the resurrection and the life." Read the following passage and record what you observe about a future resurrection for all who believe in Jesus:

Romans 6:5-6.

1 Corinthians 15:3-5, 35-49

2 Corinthians 4:14

Does the truth of Jesus as the resurrection and life have any effect on your daily life? Explain.

LAZARUS' DEATH

Given the timeline offered in this chapter, it is probable that Lazarus died right after the messengers left to find Jesus.⁴³

DO YOU BELIEVE?

"When Jesus asks Martha, 'Do you believe this?', he is not asking if she believes that he is about to raise her brother from the dead, but if her faith can go beyond quiet confidence that her brother will be resurrected at the last day to personal trust in Jesus as the resurrection and the life..."⁴⁴

“The same Christ who wept at the tomb of Lazarus weeps with us in our lonely despair. The same one who reached out and touched lepers puts his arm around us today when we feel misunderstood and sidelined. The Jesus who reached out and cleansed messy sinners reaches into our souls and answers our half-hearted plea for mercy with the mighty invincible cleansing of one who cannot bear to do otherwise.”

– Dane Ortlund⁴⁵

JESUS WEeping

It is likely Jesus was not only stirred by Mary and Martha's sadness, but was emotionally distressed over the destruction that sin and death brought into the world. Remember, when you hurt, Jesus hurts. When you suffer, He feels it too. He loves you and hates the impact of sin, suffering, and death in your life.

MARY AND MARTHA

The picture painted in John 12:1-8 of Mary and Martha is similar to Luke's account of this family in Luke 10:38-42. Read this story to learn more about these women.⁴⁶

JUDAS

Notice how John is already warning the reader about Judas. He is not one to be trusted as you will later discover.

6. Verses 33-35 say that Jesus was deeply moved in His spirit and wept. When was the last time you wept of sadness, disappointment, or pain? Do you believe that in those moments Jesus was feeling the pain with you, or did He feel absent? How does this passage help you better understand the compassion of Christ in moments of great hardship?
7. Read verses 45-54 and explain the Jews' biggest fear about Jesus. In this final public rejection, how does Jesus respond?

Read John 12.

8. How does Mary demonstrate devotion by anointing Jesus' feet with perfume? What did her action signify?
9. Read verses 9-11. Write a brief testimony, describing the events, as if you were Lazarus. Why did the Jews want him dead?

10. Because of Lazarus' story, unbelievers were coming to faith in Jesus. Where has seeing God's powerful work in someone else's life impacted your faith? How might another person's faith be impacted by seeing God's work in your life?

Take a minute to praise God for His work in your life.

11. In verses 12-19 about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, compare the reaction of the crowds to Jesus from that of the Pharisees.

REACTION OF THE CROWDS	REACTION OF THE PHARISEES

Are you surprised by the crowds' reaction? Why or why not?

PALM BRANCHES

During this time, palm branches had become a national symbol. In this case, it could symbolize hope for a messiah who would come and liberate their oppressed nation.⁴⁷

HOSANNA

Hosanna means "give salvation now" or "give victory now."⁴⁸

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

See the other accounts of Jesus' triumphal entry in Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, and Luke 19:29-38.

DONKEY

The choice of a donkey over a war horse might be a subtle sign that Jesus was coming to bring peace, not overthrow the current government.⁴⁹

VERSES 36-43

In verses 36-43, Jesus references Isaiah 6 and 53. Read these passages for better context on John 12.

HARDENED HEARTS

While verses 39-40 are hard to understand, God's hardening of hearts is said to be a "holy condemnation of a guilty people who are condemned to do and be what they themselves have chosen."⁵⁰

PLEASING MAN

"For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ." Galatians 1:10

AUTHORITY

Jesus continued to emphasize God's authority over His ministry. Take note when He mentions the relationship between God the Father and God the Son.

12. Verse 25 says, "Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life." From what you have learned so far in John, how would you explain to someone who does not believe in Jesus what this means? If Jesus came to offer you life, why is He asking you to lose it? Include verses to support your answer. (See Appendix: Discipleship)

13. Read verses 42-43. When recently have you loved the praise or glory of man more than God? How might you guard against this temptation in the future? (See Appendix: Temptation)

"I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness."

— *John 12:46*

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)

Jesus' Seven Signs

Take a minute to consider how Jesus' miracles were actually a way to not only prove He was God, but a picture of God's perfect restoration of His creation. Jesus performed miracles to reveal exactly who He was to those He came to save.

SIGN	WHAT DO THESE SIGNS REVEAL ABOUT JESUS?
Turning Water into Wine	
Healing the Official's Son	
Healing the Invalid	
Feeding the 5,000	
Walking on Water	
Healing the Blind Man	
Raising Lazarus from the Dead	

OPTIONAL REVIEW LESSON

Since the moment sin entered the world, humanity was separated from God and in need of a Savior. Throughout the book of John you see that this Savior, Jesus, had finally come. In John 1-12, Jesus demonstrated God’s character through His compassion, love, patience, and justice. He proved God’s power through miracles. He preached God’s message. He was tender with despised women, cared for the crippled and outcast, and even raised the dead back to life. And now, after years of ministry, He will begin to look to the cross. His time has come. This is why He came: to die so that you may have life.

JOHN			
<i>Date</i>	A.D. 80-95		
<i>Author</i>	The Apostle John		
<i>Theme</i>	“That You May Have Life”		
<i>Chapters</i>	Chapter 1: Prologue	Chapters 2-12: Book of Signs	Chapters 13-21: Book of Glory
<i>Key Verse</i>	John 20:30-31		

Review John 1-12 before answering the following questions.

1. After studying John 1-12, describe Jesus. In one sentence, what did He come to earth to do?

2. Jesus made five “I Am” Statements in John 1-12. What were they? (Try to do this from memory if you can!)

3. John 2-12 is known as the “Book of Signs.” List the signs, or miracles, that Jesus performed. What did they reveal about Him?

Notes