

- 4a. Looking back at how Jesus brought glory to the Father, how should we understand His statement that His disciples had also glorified Him?
- b. In what practical ways can you live in a way that glorifies Jesus?
- 5a. In John 17:9, Jesus says He is praying for His disciples. What exactly does He ask for them in verses 10-19?
- b. Which of Jesus' requests for His disciples resonates with you most, and what makes it meaningful to you?
- 6a. In verses 15-17, Jesus expresses His concern for His disciples as they navigate life in the world without becoming shaped by it. According to verse 17, what does Jesus identify as the means by which they can live in the world yet remain distinct from it?
- b. In your own words, explain how God's Word plays a role in our sanctification, as we grow to be more like Jesus. Consider 2 Timothy 3:16-17 for insight.

Read John 17:20-26

7. Jesus ends His prayer by interceding for all those who will come to faith through the message first entrusted to His disciples. If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior, you are included in this portion of Jesus' prayer. What does it mean to you knowing that, in the hours leading up to His death on the cross, Jesus was praying for you?

8. Beyond praying for the unity of His followers, Jesus also prayed that we would share eternal life with Him. Based on John 17:3 and John 10:10, when does Scripture say eternal life begins?

9a. To overhear this sacred exchange between God the Son and God the Father is to stand on holy ground. What thoughts come to mind knowing you have been invited to listen in on this divine conversation?

b. As you reflect on your own prayer life, what aspect of Jesus' prayer most encouraged you or challenged you?

What does this passage reveal about God's character?

Summarize this week's passage.

Personal Prayer Request

Group Prayer Requests

REDEMPTION REVEALED

MARCH 12 | WEEK 9 | JOHN 18

Prayerfully read John 18.

Read John 18:1-11

- 1a. After leaving the upper room, where does Jesus go and why does He go there? Also read Luke 22:39-42.

- b. John tells us that Judas was familiar with this place. Knowing that Judas would betray Him, why do you think Jesus still chose to go to the garden? Read John 10:17-18 and 15:13.

- c. Who accompanies Judas to the garden, and what do they bring with them?

- 2a. John 18:4 says that Jesus, “knowing all that would happen to Him,” went out to meet them. What does this phrase reveal about Jesus? Read Acts 2:22-24 for further insight.

- b. Look up the definition of “sovereignty.” Which definition best describes God’s sovereignty?

- 3a. What is significant about the words Jesus uses to answer the soldiers in verses 5-6? Also read Exodus 3:14 and John 8:58.

- b. Contrast Peter’s actions in verse 10 with Jesus’ response in verse 11. What does each man’s response reveal about his understanding of God’s plan?

Read John 18:12-14 and 19-24

- 4a. What two things was Jesus questioned about in verse 19?

- b. Summarize Jesus' response to those questions in verses 20-21.

- c. Why does Jesus tell the high priest to talk with His followers? Also read Deuteronomy 17:6-7, 19:15-20.

- d. How do the guard and high priest respond to Jesus' answers?

Read John 18:15-18 and 25-27

- 5a. In light of all that Peter had witnessed that night, what emotions and thoughts do you imagine he is experiencing?

- b. Like Peter, we all are tempted to prioritize self-preservation over our faithfulness in Christ. What is one thing you have learned from this study that you can use to stand firm the next time you are tempted in this way?

Read John 18:28-32

- 6a. When Jesus is brought to Pilate, what charges do the Jewish leaders bring against Him? Also read Matthew 26:62-66 and Luke 23:3.

- b. Pilate at first questions why he needs to try Jesus. What reason does the Jewish leadership give in verse 31?

Read John 18:33-40

- 7a. What is the main question Pilate asks Jesus during their exchange?

 - b. What does Jesus mean when He says His kingdom is “not of this world?”
8. Barabbas was guilty yet freed, while Jesus was innocent yet sent to be crucified. How does this contrast reveal God’s sovereign plan at work, and how does it highlight Jesus’ willing choice to go to the cross?
9. How does Jesus’ example of willing obedience encourage you to trust in God’s sovereignty?

What does this passage reveal about God’s character?

Summarize this week’s passage.

Personal Prayer Request

Group Prayer Requests

REDEMPTION REVEALED

MARCH 26 | WEEK 10 | JOHN 19:1-27

Prayerfully read John 19:1-27.

- 1a. Chapter 19 begins in the middle of Jesus' legal trials. We will review the trials up to this point. After His arrest, Jesus was taken to Annas for His first meeting, followed by a second hearing before the Jewish high priest Caiaphas. Read Mark 14:55-65. What conclusion did Caiaphas reach about Jesus?

- b. Read Matthew 27:1. After Jesus' third trial, what decision did the group of Jewish chief priests and elders, known as the Sanhedrin, reach?

- c. After the Jewish leaders declare Jesus' guilt, Jesus was brought before the Roman governor Pilate for a fourth trial. Pilate declared Jesus innocent and sent Him to Herod for a fifth trial. Read Luke 23:6-15. What was Herod's response to the accusations against Jesus?

- d. Read John 18:29-31, 38 which reference Jesus' sixth and final trial. What assessment did Pilate repeatedly make about Jesus?

Read John 19:1-6

- 2a. Even after Pilate ordered Jesus flogged, what did Pilate continue to communicate about Jesus' character?

- b. Why is Jesus' innocence so important?

- 3a. Read John 18:39-40. What did Pilate suggest?

- b. Read Luke 23:18-19. How was Barabbas described?

- c. Just as the innocent Jesus took the place of the guilty Barabbas, Jesus took the place of sinners on the cross. Read Romans 5:6-8 and 2 Corinthians 5:21. What do these verses teach about Jesus as our substitute and about what He accomplished through His death?

Read John 19:8-11

- 4a. Why might Pilate have been afraid? Also consider Matthew 27:18-19.

- b. How did Pilate's and Jesus' views of authority differ?

- c. How do you see God's authority and purpose at work throughout Jesus' arrest and trials?

Read John 19:12-16

- 5a. What arguments did the Jews use to pressure Pilate into crucifying Jesus?

- b. What irony do you see in the Jews' claim of loyalty to Caesar and in Pilate's response? Consider 1 Samuel 8:7, Psalm 47:2, and Matthew 2:2.

Read John 19:17-27

- 6a. Jesus' kingship was a repeated theme throughout His trials and crucifixion. In the following verses, over what or whom does Jesus have authority and kingship?

Matthew 28:18

Ephesians 1:20-21

Revelation 19:16

- b. Consider what Jesus experienced during His trials and crucifixion in John 19 and Matthew 27:26-30. In your own words, describe His suffering.

- c. Contrast the way Jesus was treated with how He deserves to be treated as King.
 - d. According to Romans 5:9, what did Jesus experience so Christians would not have to?
- 7a. Read John 19:25-27. What did the women by the cross see and experience?
- b. What did Jesus do for His mother? What did this demonstrate about Him?
- 8a. How does what you've learned from this passage shape how you think, feel, and act in response?
- b. Take some time to speak directly to Jesus in prayer. After this week's study, what would you like to say to Him?

What does this passage reveal about God's character?

Summarize this week's passage.

Personal Prayer Request

Group Prayer Requests

REDEMPTION REVEALED

APRIL 2 | WEEK 11 | JOHN 19:28-42

Prayerfully read John 19:28-42.

Read John 19:28

1. John begins verse 28 with the phrase “After this”. Read John 19:16-27. What does John mean by “after this”?

- 2a. John consistently emphasizes Jesus’ deity throughout his gospel. What in this verse points to Jesus’ divine nature?

- b. Jesus is also fully human. What in this verse points to Jesus’ humanity?

Read John 19:29-30

- 3a. What details in verse 30 indicate that Jesus willfully and purposefully gave His life as a payment for sin?

- b. What do these details reveal about Jesus, even in His death?

- 4a. What did Jesus say just before He died?

- b. Read the following passages. Explain what each teaches us about what was accomplished when Jesus said, "It is finished."

Isaiah 53:4-12

Romans 3:23-26

Colossians 2:13-15

1 Peter 2:24

- c. In light of these great truths, write a short prayer of awe, gratitude or remembrance.

Read John 19:31-37

5. Why did the Jewish leaders request that the deaths of Jesus and the others crucified be sped up before the end of the day? Also read Deuteronomy 21:22-23.
- 6a. In verse 35, John refers to himself as an eyewitness. What does John say is his purpose for recording what he saw?
- b. In your own words, list the truths John's readers are meant to believe through his eyewitness testimony.
- 7a. Old Testament prophecy was fulfilled when Jesus' legs were not broken and His side was pierced on the cross. When your faith feels shaken or uncertain, how might fulfilled prophecy serve as an anchor for trust in God's promises?

Read John 19:38-42

8. What do we learn about Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus as they prepared Jesus' body and buried Him?

9a. In what ways are you still trying to add to or complete what Christ has already finished?

b. "It is finished" declares that the payment for our sin is complete. How will this finished work shape the way you relate to God in the days to come?

What does this passage reveal about God's character?

Summarize this week's passage.

Personal Prayer Request

Group Prayer Requests

REDEMPTION REVEALED

APRIL 9 | WEEK 12 | JOHN 20

Prayerfully read John 20.

Read John 19:38-42

1. How did Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus prepare Jesus' body for burial?

Read John 20:1-2 along with Mark 15:47-16:2

- 2a. Which women gathered early Sunday morning, and why were they going to the tomb?
- b. What does Mary Magdalene observe when she reaches the tomb, and what does she do?
- c. What does Mary believe at first?

Read John 20:3-10

- 3a. Describe what Peter and John (the other disciple) find when they reach the tomb.
- b. What does John now believe? Read also Matthew 16:21; Mark 9:30-32; and Luke 9:20-22.
- c. Why is the resurrection of Jesus Christ the most important truth of the Christian faith? Read Romans 10:9; 1 Corinthians 15:17; and Ephesians 2:4-7.
- d. What does the resurrection of Jesus mean to you personally?

Read John 20:11-18

- 4a. Mary Magdalene returns to the empty tomb. What causes her now to believe Jesus is alive?

- b. By her actions, contrast Mary's emotions in verses 11-15 with her emotions in verses 16-18.
- c. What message does Jesus give Mary to share with the disciples, and why is this message significant?
- d. Prior to His resurrection, Jesus called the disciples His friends. In what way does the word "brothers" change the disciples', and our, relationship with Jesus?

Read John 20:19-20

- 5a. Picture yourself in the room with the disciples and Jesus' followers. List all the emotions they may have been feeling.
- b. What word in verse 19 describes the overriding emotion in the room?
- c. What does Jesus offer them? Consider for a moment the deeper meaning of this greeting. Read also John 16:33.
- d. Share a time you were in a fearful or difficult situation and the peace from walking with the living Jesus made a difference.
- e. What causes the disciples to believe Jesus is alive, and what is their response?

Read John 20:21-23

- 6a. What task does Jesus give to the disciples? Also read Matthew 28:19-20.

- b. By whose authority and by what power will they spread the gospel message?

Read John 20:24-29

- 7a. Describe Thomas' reaction to the disciples' news about Jesus.
- b. What qualities of Jesus do you see in His interaction with Thomas, and what lessons can we learn?
- c. As a believer, what encouragement does Jesus' statement in verse 29 have for you?

Read John 20:30-31

- 8. How will truly believing that Jesus rose from the grave and is alive make a difference in your walk with Him this week?

What does this passage reveal about God's character?

Summarize this week's passage.

Personal Prayer Request

Group Prayer Requests

REDEMPTION REVEALED

APRIL 16 | WEEK 13 | JOHN 21

Prayerfully read John 21.

1. Chapter 21 constitutes the epilogue of John's gospel. There were questions hanging in the air since Jesus' resurrection, and these questions are answered in this chapter. Write a brief answer to each of these questions in your own words.

Will Jesus continue to provide for His disciples?

What will happen to Peter after his denial of knowing Jesus?

What does the future hold for the disciples without Jesus' physical presence? Also read John 21:19 and Matthew 4:19.

Read John 21:1-3

2. Christ had appeared to the disciples twice in Jerusalem. Now John shares the story of Jesus' third visit to them on the Sea of Tiberius, which is the Sea of Galilee. Read Matthew 28:5-10 and explain why the disciples are in Galilee.

Read John 21:4-8

- 3a. What are some spiritual truths Jesus is teaching His discouraged disciples in this fishing expedition?
- b. Why is this fishing story good news for us when we are spiritually weary and discouraged?
- c. Read John 21:7-8 again and compare John and Peter's behavior in this story with their behavior at the empty tomb earlier in John 20:1-9.

- d. What inspires you about John and Peter's love for the Lord?

Read John 21:9-14

- 4a. Envision the sights, sounds and smells of this scene. Share a time the loving presence of Christ encouraged your heart.

- b. This special meal made an important impression on Peter's heart. Read Peter's words in Acts 10:39-42 as he shares the gospel with Gentiles after Jesus ascended to heaven. How does Peter describe those who were "chosen by God as witnesses" in verse 41?

- c. Why would this event strengthen the disciples' witness of Jesus' resurrection?

Read John 21:15-17

- 5a. Peter had denied knowing Jesus when Jesus was arrested before His crucifixion. Read about Peter's three denials in Matthew 26:30-35 and 26:69-75. What warning do we find in 1 Corinthians 10:12?

- b. Jesus mercifully gives Peter three opportunities to affirm his love for Him. What does Jesus ask Peter to do to prove his love? Also, read Matthew 9:35-36.

- c. Why was it important that the disciples witnessed this interaction between Peter and Jesus?

Read John 21:18-19

- 6a. Even though Peter has declared his love for Jesus, Jesus describes a future for Peter that includes suffering. Regardless of this, what does Jesus command Peter to do for the rest of his life?

- b. Read Peter's later admonition about suffering from his letter in 1 Peter 5:6-11. What does Peter specifically tell us to do to endure suffering and what is the result of our endurance?

- c. Think about Peter's words in 1 Peter 4:19. What new steps will you take to trust God in your suffering now and in the future?

Read John 21:20-23

- 7a. What has distracted Peter from his commissioning by Jesus?

- b. What are some other daily distractions that turn our heads away from our calling to follow Jesus?

Read John 21:24-25

- 8. John ends his gospel with uplifting words for us. What reasons do you find in these verses to continue to follow our resurrected Lord?

What does this passage reveal about God's character?

Summarize this week's passage.

Personal Prayer Request

Group Prayer Requests

REDEMPTION REVEALED

APRIL 23 | WEEK 14 | ACTS 1:1-11

Prayerfully read Acts 1:1-11.

Read Acts 1:1-3

- 1a. Luke wrote his first book, the Gospel of Luke, to a man named Theophilus. According to verse 1, what does Luke say that book was about?

- b. Luke says that Jesus presented Himself alive to His followers over a period of forty days after His resurrection. How did Jesus prove that He was truly alive during those days? Also, read Matthew 28:9-10; Luke 24:13-31, 36-45; and 1 Corinthians 15:5-7.

Read Acts 1:4-5

- 2a. As Jesus spent time with His disciples, what command did He give them?

- b. What promise did Jesus make?

- c. Jesus told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem. When you desire to serve Jesus, what might cause you to rush ahead before the Lord has fully prepared you?

- d. What truths from Scripture help you trust the Lord and wait for His perfect timing?

Read Acts 1:6-8

3. Jesus is about to ascend into heaven. Imagine yourself as one of the disciples. You've watched Jesus be crucified and buried, miraculously return, and now He is leaving again. What thoughts or emotions might you be experiencing in this moment? Why?

- 4a. If you were there and this was your last chance to ask Jesus a question before He left, what do you think you would ask Him?

- b. What question do the disciples ask Jesus in verse 6?
 - c. How does Jesus answer them?
- 5a. According to verse 8, what is Jesus' will and command for the disciples?
- b. What is the role or responsibility of a witness?
 - c. Based on what you know from the rest of the New Testament, how did Jesus' followers live out and fulfill His command to be His witnesses?
 - d. In what ways are you currently being a witness for Jesus to those who do not yet know Him?
 - e. What specific steps do you want to take to continue growing in your ability and willingness to witness for Him?

Read Acts 1:9-11

- 6. List everything the disciples observed happening in these verses.
- 7a. Read the following verses and note what you learn about the cloud of God's glory.
- Exodus 13:21-22
- Exodus 16:10
- Exodus 40:34
- Daniel 7:13-14

- b. In light of these passages, what connections might the disciples have made as they watched Jesus being lifted up into a cloud and as they listened to the angels?
- 8. What hope do Jesus and the angels offer the disciples in this passage? Also see verse 8.
- 9. The angels essentially tell the disciples stop staring at the sky and get to work! What specific steps can you take to get to work for the Lord, who has redeemed you, as you wait for His return?

What is one truth about Jesus from this study that has most impacted you?

Thinking back over the entire study, how has your faith in Jesus grown, and how will this make your life different?

Personal Prayer Request

Group Prayer Requests

