

# The Gospel of John #9

## March 22 (John 19:31-42)

- 1) What did John mean in V31 when saying the next day was a "special" Sabbath? Weren't all Sabbath days special? What was different?
- 2) Is there any significance that blood AND water came out of Jesus' side? (V34) Is 1 Jn 5:6 referring to this event – if so, how? Was this intended to symbolize our being saved by Jesus' blood in the water of baptism?
- 3) What does the Passover have to do with Jesus' death? Why was the Passover chosen as the time for Christ to die?
- 4) What difference did it make who buried the body of Jesus?
  - A. What was significant about Joseph?
  - B. What was significant about Nicodemus?
  - C. What did they have in common?
- 5) Application: (A) Does your fear of others and your love for Jesus sometimes conflict? If so - how?  
(B) How have you overcome those circumstances?

## March 29 (John 20:1-18)

- 1) V9: What does John mean in saying that the disciples did not understand from Scripture about Jesus rising from the dead? See Isaiah 3:10, for example. Should they have understood by now? What is preventing it?
- 2) V10 says that the disciples then returned to their homes. Does that seem like a strange reaction, especially with Mary remaining there at the tomb? V11
- 3) Why was it necessary for the angels to speak to Mary and ask her why she was weeping? V13 What does Mary's answer reveal about her faith?
- 4) Doesn't it seem strange that Mary did not recognize Jesus at first? Why would that occur? What would cause her to ask him if he was the "gardener?"
- 5) Mary says, "tell me where you have put *him*", as though she thought that the "gardener" would know who she was referring to. Why would she do that?
- 6) V17. Jesus says, "I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and to your God." What would be the reason for stating it that way?
- 7) Application: At the death of a loved one, have you ever felt that Jesus "spoke" to you (comforted you) in some way? How so?

## April 5 (John 20:19-31)

- 1) Thomas required physical proof to accept the fact that Jesus was alive, even though his fellow disciples said they had seen Him. Does this make Thomas a "bad guy"? Why or why not?
- 2) Read V27. (Jesus' instructions to Thomas) Jesus' statements are very direct. How do you think these statements sounded to Thomas – harsh? Just instructive? Understanding? Loving?
- 3) Thomas was absent from the meeting when Jesus came the first time. He failed to get the assurance the others had, which resulted in doubt and unbelief. How does that compare to what happens when one is routinely absent from worship with fellow Christians?
- 4) This experience with Thomas resulted in Jesus making that all-important statement, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Do we really stop to consider the significance of that statement often enough? Discuss
- 5) In this situation, Thomas' honest doubt led him to a firm faith. When is honest doubt healthy?
- 6) Application: If/when you've had doubts in your faith, what have you found to be most helpful?

## April 12 (John 21: 1-25)

- 1) Verses 3-11 relate an experience similar to a previous one that these disciples had encountered, as told in Lk 5:1-11. What do you think was the point of the disciples going through another experience so similar to the first one?
- 2) V4. Why did the disciples have difficulty recognizing Jesus when he called to them from the shore? Why were they later afraid to inquire who He was (v12)?
- 3) Why does Jesus focus his attention on Peter, and not all other disciples, in his conversation in verses 15-17? Why does He go to the point of asking Peter a very similar question three times? Are there different implications?
- 4) Given Peter's nature, does it seem surprising that he did not become irritated by being questioned three times? For most Christians today – if they were asked that question three times like that, would they most likely feel – irritated? Challenged? Humbled?
- 5) Why does Peter ask about John (v21)? What is the important issue revealed in Jesus' response to Peter in v22?
- 6) Application: What have you gained the most from the study of the book of John?

# 1 Timothy #1

## April 19 (1 Timothy 1:1-11)

- 1) Based on these verses, why did Paul write this epistle? What were the problems that were occurring in the church at Ephesus? What is the root cause of these problems?
- 2) Why does Paul mention his apostleship (v1)? What purpose was served in mentioning that to Timothy?
- 3) What does Paul want Timothy to do there in Ephesus? How do you suppose Timothy felt, being left in charge of this situation?
- 4) Paul instructs Timothy to "*command* certain men not to teach false doctrines" (3). Will he really be able to do that? Is that what Paul really means? What light does v5 shed on this?
- 5) Read v8. How was the law being used improperly? In v11, why do you think Paul was so specific and detailed in listing all the unrighteous types?

## April 26 (1 Timothy 1:12-20)

- 1) Last week in verses 1-11, Paul gave Timothy the charge to address the problem of false teaching there in Ephesus. After doing that, why would Paul revert to making the comments about himself, as noted in vv12-14?
- 2) Paul says he had been blasphemer, a persecutor, and a violent man, but yet he was appointed to be one of God's great servants. What message or messages does that speak to us?
- 3) V13 – Paul says he was shown mercy (had been appointed) because he acted in ignorance and unbelief. What is your reaction to that statement? If/when we (or anyone) sin in ignorance, does that excuse us?
- 4) Why did Paul include his statement in v17 at this point in this letter to Timothy? What was the purpose?
- 5) How would vv18-19 have helped Timothy in face of the opposition that he would be experiencing?
- 6) Why are Hymaneus and Alexander mentioned in this charge to Timothy? How did Paul "hand them over to Satan?" Does 1 Cor 5:5 shed any light on this?