

# DISCOVERING THE BIBLE FOR YOURSELF

## Goals

- Knowing God better
- Unity with others
- Developing our message

## Year 1

- Genesis
- Matthew
- Exodus
- Acts
- Leviticus and Numbers
- Romans
- Deuteronomy

## Year 2

- Joshua, Judges, Ruth
- Mark
- The United Kingdom (I Samuel – I Kings 11)
- I & II Corinthians
- The Divided Kingdom (I Kings 12 – II Chronicles)
- Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians

## Year 3

- Ezra, Nehemiah, Job
- Luke
- Psalms
- Thessalonians, Timothy, Titus, Philemon
- Proverbs and Song of Songs
- Hebrews
- Isaiah

## Year 4

- Jeremiah and Lamentations
- John
- Ezekiel and Daniel
- James and Peter
- Minor Prophets (I)
- I, II, III John and Jude
- Minor Prophets (II)
- Revelation

## Luke

As Paul said, *“I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.”* (Philippians 3:10 – 11)

When Paul wrote that statement of the ultimate desire – the desire to know Christ – one wonders if Luke, his dear friend, responded by saying “Well, then read my book!” The *Gospel of Luke* and the *Letter to the Philippians* were written at about the same time (around 60 A.D.) by two close friends. Paul was near the end of his life, and surely he knew Jesus as well or better than anyone living. But his desire was to know Jesus better. Not just know about Him, but know Him.

Luke states in the introduction to his gospel (*Luke 1:4*) that his goal is that the reader *“may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.”*

Hopefully, Paul’s stated desire as a student of Christ and Luke’s stated desire as a writer both fit into your goals as well. Whether you, like Paul, already know a great deal about Jesus, or you are just starting to learn about Him, you cannot find a better life-long pursuit than that of knowing with certainty Jesus, our Lord.

Love,

*John Sullivan*  
February 2007

Week	Themes	Scriptures	Pages
1	<i>Nothing is Impossible with God</i>	Luke 1 – 3	2
2	<i>Jesus, Led by the Spirit</i>	Luke 4 – 6	4
3	<i>Training the Twelve</i>	Luke 7 – 9	6
4	<i>The Heart of Discipleship</i>	Luke 10 – 14	8
5	<i>The Faithful Heart</i>	Luke 15 – 18	10
6	<i>The Passion Week</i>	Luke 19 – 24:12	12
7	<i>The Risen Lord</i>	Luke 24	14

# *Nothing is Impossible with God*

Isn't it a shame that some stories in the Bible are so familiar as Sunday school stories that they almost lose their impact on us?

When's the last time you went to a Bible study that you usually expect to be on deep, practical, life-changing topics and had the lesson be on the birth of Christ?

But if possible, let's rise above that! Pray about it and do whatever it takes to let God's Spirit impact you with this most wonderful of stories. Put yourself in the shoes of those that witnessed these things for the first time. There's nothing ordinary or childish about these stories. And they don't need to be read just at Christmas time! Just imagine being told, *"You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."* (Luke 1:31 – 34) Would that get your attention?

Well, so will the rest of the story!

**Memory Verse**

*For nothing is impossible with God.*

**Luke 1:37**

**Day 1**

**A Carefully Investigated, Orderly Account**

Read *Luke 1:1 – 4*.

- a. According to verse 3, this gospel was written to a man named \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Read *Acts 1:1 – 2*. From those verses you can see that the book of *Acts* is written by the same author to the same man. So *Luke* and *Acts* are really a 2-volume set. Note, however, that neither of these books says who the author is. That conclusion is made from the "we and us" passages in the book of *Acts* (such as *Acts 16:10*).
- c. Read also *Colossians 4:14*, where Paul refers to Luke as a dear friend whose occupation was a \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. According to *Luke 1:4*, what was Luke's purpose for writing this book?

Meditate on how important that "certainty" is to you.

**Day 2**

**The Birth Announcements**

Read *Luke 1:5 – 38*.

- a. The first announcement predicted the birth of John. How do you think Zechariah and Elizabeth felt, as they heard these amazing words (verse 17, for instance)?
- b. The second announcement predicted the birth of Jesus. How do you think Joseph and Mary felt?
- c. Gabriel told Mary (1:37), *"For nothing is impossible with God."* How much of your faith is summarized in that statement?
- d. Mary responded (1:38), *"I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said."* How much of your discipleship is summarized in that statement?
- e. Meditate and pray about your faith and your discipleship today.

**Day 3** **The Birth of a Prophet**  
Read *Luke 1:39 – 80*.

- a. What stands out to you as you think about the story of the visit between Mary and Elizabeth?
- b. What stands out to you about Mary's words of praise (verses 46 – 55)?
- c. What stands out to you about Zechariah's words of praise (verses 67 – 79) after the birth of his son John?
- d. How can you apply this to your life today?

**Day 4** **The Birth of the Messiah**  
Read *Luke 2*.

- a. What are your thoughts as you consider the birth of Jesus?
- b. What was Simeon's response to seeing Jesus in the temple?  
  
What do you think he meant by the "falling and rising of many"?
- c. What was Anna's response to seeing Jesus in the temple?
- d. What do you learn from Jesus' statement at age 12 about being in His Father's house (verse 49)?
- e. Jesus grew in \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and in \_\_\_\_\_ with God and men (verse 52). What do you learn from that?
- f. Meditate on how you will respond to these thoughts in your life today.

**Day 5** **The Minister in the Desert**  
Read *Luke 3*.

- a. What do you think people thought of John the Baptist and his ministry?
- b. Why do you think he called people "brood of vipers"?
- c. *John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them* (verse 18). What do you think that means?
- d. Why do you think Jesus was baptized?
- e. How do the words of the voice from heaven at Jesus' baptism (verse 22) apply to you?
- f. John's purpose was to prepare a way for the Lord. (Recall also *Luke 1:17*.) Think about how you can have that as a purpose in your life as well.

*Week One Summary*

**Nothing is Impossible with God**

***Deep Conviction: did you get it?***

As you close this week's study, write a summary of your convictions.

***Put it in your heart.***

Quote the memory verse for the week.

***Share it.***

Call or visit someone and share your thoughts from this week's studies.

***Prepare for worship and fellowship.***

Recommended Scripture: *Psalms 8*

Recommended Song: *Amen*

# Jesus, Led by the Spirit

Right after the baptism of Jesus, the devil tempted Him to leave it all. But Jesus was “*full of the Spirit*” (4:1), “*led by the Spirit*” (4:1) and “*in the power of the Spirit*” (4:14). So He was able to resist the devil and begin His ministry in a powerful way.

Jesus’ ministry only lasted about three years. That’s remarkable when you think of all that was accomplished during that short time. His early ministry that you’re about to read about in these next three chapters was just like the rest of His ministry. He was constantly serving, preaching, praying, and often getting into trouble with the religious establishment of the day.

Jesus challenged people with a higher vision for themselves, yet calmed their fears. His challenge was that of a vision for their lives, not a pressure to perform. He confidently stated that His disciples, when fully trained, would be like Him (not might be, will be).

Jesus caused many to praise God, while others resisted and ignored God. See what happens in your life when you, as a student of Jesus Christ, become more and more like your Teacher.

### Memory Verse

*A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher.*

**Luke 6:40**

### Day 1

### The Temptations of Jesus

Read *Luke 4:1 – 13*.

- a. Describe the three temptations of Jesus and how He answered each one.

- b. *Hebrews 4:14 – 16* says that Jesus was tempted in every way just as we are. Therefore, He has a great deal of sympathy for our situations, and we can approach His throne of grace with confidence.

What do you learn from all of this to apply to the way you will face temptations today?

### Day 2

### Jesus’ First Controversy

Read *Luke 4:14 – 44*.

- a. Jesus went to the synagogue in his home town of Nazareth. What is a synagogue?

What did Jesus do in that synagogue?

What was the reaction of the people?

- b. Then Jesus went to Capernaum. What did the people of that area think of Jesus?

- c. Where was he at daybreak?

- d. What did Jesus refer to as “*that is why I was sent*” (verse 43)?

- e. Meditate on the example of Jesus and how you can apply that to your life today.

**Day 3** **The First Disciples**  
Read *Luke 5*.

- a. *Luke 5:1 - 11* gives some details about Peter, James, and John that the other gospels do not mention. What was Peter's first response to Jesus?

Can you identify with the way he felt?

How did Jesus react to Peter's words?

What did Jesus say that these fishermen would be doing from then on?

Does that apply to you also?

- b. What was Jesus' habit about prayer (verse 16)?
- c. What did the Pharisees think about Jesus forgiving sins (verses 20 – 21)?
- d. What kind of reaction did Jesus get from calling Levi (also known as Matthew) to be a disciple?
- e. What do you think Jesus meant about the parable of the cloth and wineskins?
- f. What do you learn from this great chapter to apply to your life today?

**Day 4** **Lord of the Sabbath**  
Read *Luke 6:1 – 16*.

- a. What did Jesus' disciples do on the Sabbath that made the Pharisees upset?
- b. What do you think Jesus meant by the phrase "*Lord of the Sabbath*"?
- c. Why do you think they were so upset that Jesus wanted to heal on the Sabbath?
- d. What did Jesus do on the night before He chose the twelve apostles?
- e. How will you apply this today?

**Day 5** **Sermon on the Plateau**  
Read *Luke 6:17 – 49*.

- a. The Sermon on the Mount is found in *Matthew 6 – 8*. This sermon is said to occur on a level place (6:17). But both sermons have some of the same teachings.

A shorter version of the *Beatitudes* is found here in *Luke 6:20 – 23*. But what is added here is the section of "woes" (verses 24 – 26). What stands out to you about the "blessings" and the "woes"?

- b. Verse 31 is usually referred to as the *Golden Rule*. Meditate on how you will apply that simple but powerful command in your life.
- c. What did Jesus say about judging?
- d. Also meditate on how you want to be the student referred to in verse 40.
- e. Finally, let the parable of the house remind you of how important your foundational decisions are this day.

**Week Two Summary**

**Jesus, Led by the Spirit**

**Deep Conviction: did you get it?**

As you close this week's study, write a summary of your convictions.

**Put it in your heart.**

Quote the memory verse for the week.

**Share it.**

Call or visit someone and share your thoughts from this week's studies.

**Prepare for worship and fellowship.**

Recommended Scripture: *Psalm 66*

Recommended Song: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

# Training the Twelve

It's one thing to be hand picked to be in the school of the greatest teacher of all time. It's another thing to catch His heart and have His Spirit work through you.

Jesus spent a lot of time teaching and ministering to the crowds. But you can always see so much of His focus being the training of the twelve.

They were the ones who not only heard Jesus' words but saw the consistency of His life behind those words.

They not only saw the miracles but also the amazing humility and unassuming personality of the miracle worker.

Allow yourself to continue to be trained by the Ultimate Trainer, as you follow Him as well.

### Memory Verse

*Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."*

**Luke 9:23**

### Day 1

## God Has Come to Help His People

Read *Luke 7*.

- a. What impressed Jesus about the Centurion?
- b. Jesus' *heart went out* to the widow who had lost her son (7:13). What does that tell you about our Lord?
- c. What do you think Jesus meant by saying that the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than John the Baptist (7:28)?
- d. What do you think is the point of Jesus' story of the two men with debts (7:41 – 42)?
- e. Forgiven much, love much; forgiven little, love little (7:47). Which applies to you?

### Day 2

## Ears to Hear

Read *Luke 8:1 – 21*.

- a. Jesus spent this time traveling from one town and village to another. You can imagine how exhausting that was. How important do you think the twelve apostles and the women were to Him during this time?
- b. The parable of the sower and the soils always makes you think about your own heart. Which soil are you?
- c. What do you learn from the parable of the lamp?
- d. How do you feel about the possibility of being Jesus' mother or brothers (verse 21)?
- e. Meditate on how this affects your life today.

**Day**  
**3**

### Who is This?

Read *Luke 8:22 – 56*.

- a. When Jesus calmed the storm, the disciples asked “*Who is this?*” Can you imagine how they were feeling?
- b. What stands out to you about the way Jesus helped the demon possessed man (8:26 – 39)?
- c. What stands out to you about the way He healed the woman (8:40 – 49)?
- d. Then He raised the dead girl. Amazing!

Don’t let these four miracles ever get old or commonplace to you.

Meditate on what they tell you about Jesus. Think about the impact that these events had on the Twelve and the impact they have on your life today.

**Day**  
**4**

### Training and Sending the Twelve

Read *Luke 9:1 – 17*.

- a. Jesus gave the Twelve power and authority as He sent them out. What did they do?
- b. When Jesus tried to take the Twelve away for a retreat, a crowd followed them. When they became hungry, Jesus wanted to feed them.

What did Jesus tell the Twelve to do (9:13)?

Remember the power that Jesus had given them. Do you think they had the power to feed these people?

- c. What do you think the Twelve learned from these events?

What do you learn from all of this to apply to your life today?

**Day**  
**5**

### Discipleship

Read *Luke 9:18 – 62*.

- a. What was Peter’s confession about Jesus?  
  
What is yours? What do you say about Jesus? (Not, what would you say, but what do you say?)
- b. Jesus gave to them, and to us also, the fundamental requirement for discipleship in verse 23. What is it?
- c. What important lesson do you think the disciples learned on the mountain with Jesus (9:28 – 36)?
- d. Why do you think the disciples couldn’t help the boy (9:37 – 43)?
- e. How did the disciples react when Jesus told them about His upcoming death and resurrection?
- f. What else stands out to you in this great section of scriptures?

#### *Week Three Summary*

### Training the Twelve

#### *Deep Conviction: did you get it?*

As you close this week’s study, write a summary of your convictions.

#### *Put it in your heart.*

Quote the memory verse for the week.

#### *Share it.*

Call or visit someone and share your thoughts from this week’s studies.

#### *Prepare for worship and fellowship.*

Recommended Scripture: *Psalm 113*

Recommended Song: *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name*

# The Heart of Discipleship

A lot of people followed Jesus. Then, just like today, the motives may not always have been the best. But Jesus was so pure in His motives and so sincere in His methods, that anyone could be encouraged and enriched by being around Him.

Jesus didn't seem to try to entice people to follow Him. He always laid it out in a straight forward way. Somehow, many people found His challenges and convictions to be the good news they were looking for in their lives. Maybe it was because they finally met someone who lived what He taught. And maybe it was because they finally met someone who believed in them. He didn't just tell you to change your life. You would get the feeling that He actually believed you could do it and would help you.

Heart. Jesus' heart. Your heart. Pray for Jesus' heart to touch your heart.

**Memory Verse**

*In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.*

**Luke 14:33**

**Day 1**

**Expanding the Number of Disciples**

Read *Luke 10*.

- a. This time Jesus sent out how many disciples to do the teaching?  
  
What were their results?  
  
What was Jesus' reaction (verse 21)?  
  
Can you imagine Jesus being "*full of joy*"?
- b. Note carefully what Jesus said about our Father's "*good pleasure*" (10:21).
- c. Jesus told the famous story of the Good Samaritan (10:30 – 37) in response to what question?
- d. What do you learn from the story of Mary and Martha about the urgent versus the essential? Which one do you focus on?
- e. Meditate on the applications of this chapter to your life today.

**Day 2**

**Prayer and Parables**

Read *Luke 11*.

- a. Besides giving a model prayer, what other principles of prayer did Jesus teach in this chapter?
- b. What do you think Jesus meant about the gathering and scattering (11:23)?
- c. How does the parable of the evil spirits (11:24 – 26) apply to you?
- d. What do you think is the lamp of your life (11:33 – 36)?
- e. How would you feel if you were a Pharisee and you heard Jesus' words at the end of this chapter?
- f. What do you learn from this chapter to apply to your life today?

**Day 3** **Be on Your Guard**  
Read *Luke 12*.

- a. What was Jesus' warning to the disciples about the Pharisees?
- b. What was Jesus' warning about greed?
- c. "*Not rich toward God*" – that was Jesus' warning in the parable of the rich fool. What do you think that means?

How does that relate to seeking the kingdom (verse 31)?

- d. How do Jesus' words in verse 32 encourage you? (Recall also *10:21*.)
- e. How does the principle of "given much, expected much" (12:48) apply to you?
- f. Why do you think Jesus predicted that He would divide some people (12:53)?
- g. Pray about how you will apply the teachings in this chapter to your life.

**Day 4** **Repentance**  
Read *Luke 13*.

- a. What did Jesus say would happen if they didn't repent?
- b. What do you learn from the parable of the fig tree (13:6 – 9)?
- c. Why do you think Jesus was indignant (13:14)?
- d. What do you learn from the mustard seed and yeast parables (13:18 – 21)?
- e. "*Make every effort*" (13:24) What do you think that means in your life?
- f. What do you learn about Jesus from the statement of his prayer for Jerusalem?

**Day 5** **Counting the Cost**  
Read *Luke 14*.

- a. What did Jesus say about humbling yourself versus exalting yourself (14:11)?
- b. Look at the excuses given in the parable of the banquet (14:15 – 24). Any of those sound familiar?
- c. What do you think Jesus meant by "hating" your family (14:26)?
- d. What do you think it means to "estimate the cost" (14:28) when it comes to being a disciple?
- e. Have you given up everything you have to be His disciple? Don't let excuses keep you from your focus: following Christ and serving others.

*Week Four Summary*

**The Heart of Discipleship**

***Deep Conviction: did you get it?***

As you close this week's study, write a summary of your convictions.

***Put it in your heart.***

Quote the memory verse for the week.

***Share it.***

Call or visit someone and share your thoughts from this week's studies.

***Prepare for worship and fellowship.***

Recommended Scripture: *Psalms 119:161 – 168*

Recommended Song: *Oh, How I Love Jesus*

# *The Faithful Heart*

The power of positive thinking. If you want to sell books, come up with an optimistic title and tell people about how they can accomplish great things if they will just have enough faith.

On the surface, at least, Jesus did the same thing. He talked about the power of faith in a person's life. The difference, though, was that Jesus was not talking about how to get rich or be famous or be noticed. His focus was always as a servant who was more interested in the will of God and the welfare of others than of self.

But it is still true that Jesus knew that anyone who put his/her faith in the Lord could do whatever the Lord wanted to be done. Starting with the fact that our God is in the business of saving the lost, welcoming them into His family in a joyful way. That in itself is a test of faith for most. It is sometimes so hard to believe that the Father will not only forgive us, but that He actually will celebrate when we come to Him. After we finally accept that for ourselves, then our faith is challenged to believe that the Lord can use us to bring others to salvation as well.

Of course, most people would rather hear about how our faith can make us millions, but there is a whole lot more joy and fulfillment from seeing that faith produce changed lives.

Impossible? Not with God.

### Memory Verse

*Jesus replied, "What is impossible with men is possible with God."*

**Luke 18:27**

**Day  
1**

### Lost and Found

Read *Luke 15*.

Jesus told these parables in response to the muttering of the religious people about His eating with "sinners". Summarize what each parable tells about God's heart for the lost.

– *the parable of the lost sheep*

– *the parable of the lost coin*

– *the parable of the lost son*

Be grateful that God has that attitude about you, but also pray that you will have that attitude about the lost.

**Day  
2**

### God Doesn't See Things as We Do

Read *Luke 16*.

- a. How does the "little-much principle" (16:10) apply to you?
- b. What are the two masters that Jesus was referring to in verse 13?
- c. What do you think Jesus meant that things that are highly valued among men are detestable in God's sight (verse 15)?
- d. What stands out to you about the story of the rich man and Lazarus?
- e. How will you apply these things to your life today?

**Day 3 Faith, Gratitude, and Preparation**Read *Luke 17*.

- Jesus said to rebuke those who sin and forgive those who repent (verses 3 – 4). Which of these is harder for you?
- Faith as small as a mustard seed (17:6). How does that apply to you?
- Why do you think only one of the lepers came back to thank Jesus?  
What application do you see from that about your own gratitude?
- What do you think Jesus was teaching about the kingdom of God in verse 21?
- What was Jesus' point about "*the day the Son of Man is revealed*" (17:30)?
- What do you learn from this chapter to apply to your life today?

**Day 4 Prayer and Humility**Read *Luke 18:1 – 17*.

- Luke* has a lot about prayer from Jesus' example and from His teachings. What stands out to you about the parable Jesus told here (18:1 – 8) about prayer?
- How do you feel about Jesus' question in verse 8, and how do you want to answer it?
- What did Jesus say about the desire to look down on others (18:9 – 14)?
- Jesus repeated in verse 14 what He said in 14:11 about humbling yourself. Why do you think this is so important?  
  
How does this relate to what Jesus said about the little children (18:15 – 17)?
- How will you apply these verses to your life today?

**Day 5 The Rich Young Ruler**Read *Luke 18:18 – 43*.

- Matthew 19:20* refers to this man as a young man. How would you describe this rich, young man?
- How did the man respond to Jesus' instructions to him?
- Mark 10:21* adds that when Jesus told these things to the young man, he "*looked at him and loved him*." What is the significance of that?
- What important lesson did Jesus teach about God and about faith in God in verse 27? Recall what Gabriel said to Mary in *Luke 1:37*.
- Even as Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem for his last days before the crucifixion, he gave his love and attention to the blind man. What does all of this tell you about Jesus and your life as His follower?

**Week Five Summary****The Faithful Heart****Deep Conviction: did you get it?**

As you close this week's study, write a summary of your convictions.

**Put it in your heart.**

Quote the memory verse for the week.

**Share it.**

Call or visit someone and share your thoughts from this week's studies.

**Prepare for worship and fellowship.**

Recommended Scripture: *Psalms 24*

Recommended Song: *There's Not a Friend*

**Week Six**

*Luke 19 – 24:12*

# *The Passion Week*

So quickly we have come to the end of Jesus' three-year mission. Did you notice all of the times that Jesus told the disciples about the crucifixion and resurrection? Remember when Luke told us that "*as the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem*" (9:51)?

That horrible week! Beaten almost beyond recognition. Deserted by some of His closest friends. Falsely accused. Betrayed by one of His own. Even forsaken by the Father. Yet this was what Jesus came to do, and this was what He resolutely set out to accomplish.

That horrible week! Yet it started out so joyfully. Imagine Jerusalem giving Jesus a hero's welcome. Surely, this must be the reception God wanted for His only Son. But, in fact, they didn't know what they were doing.

Fortunately for them, and for us, the Lord Jesus prayed for their (and our) forgiveness.

## **Memory Verse**

*Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."*

**Luke 23:34**

**Day  
1**

## **The Triumphal Entry**

Read *Luke 19*.

- Jericho was Jesus' last stop before Jerusalem. But Jesus seemed to have a mission in Jericho, namely Zacchaeus. What do you learn from his story?
- Verse 10 is often quoted. According to Jesus, what was His reason for being here?
- The parable of the ten minas (19:11 – 27) is similar to the more familiar parable of the talents (*Matthew 25:14 – 30*). How is this one different?
- Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem (19:28 – 40) was at the beginning of the same week in which He was killed there. What do you learn from that?
- What was Jesus' concern about Jerusalem and the temple?
- How will you apply this to your life?

**Day  
2**

## **Jesus Answers the Accusations**

Read *Luke 20*.

- What was the first question asked of Jesus here, and how did He answer it?
- The parable of the vineyard (20:9 – 18) was obviously pointed towards those that wanted to kill Jesus. How did they react?
- What was the next question, and how did Jesus answer it (20:22 – 26)?  
  
What do you think it means that Jesus can see through duplicity (verse 23)?
- What was the last question, and how did Jesus answer it (20:27 – 38)?
- When they decided to no longer ask Jesus questions, He asked them some. How do you think they felt?

**Day**  
**3**

## Teaching in the Temple Area

Read *Luke 21*.

- a. While Jesus condemned the leaders for taking advantage of poor widows (20:47), He praised this widow for giving all she had. What do you learn from this for your life?
- b. While Jesus was impressed with the giving of this woman, the disciples were more impressed with the glory of the temple. What did Jesus say about that?
- c. The disciples wanted to know when the temple would be destroyed. Jesus gave them some of the signs. A lot of this is hard for us to understand in detail, but what seems to be His main point?
- d. What do you learn from this chapter?

**Day**  
**4**

## The Last Supper, Arrest, and Trial

Read *Luke 22*.

- a. In what way did Judas' betrayal actually help Jesus' enemies arrest Him?
- b. Since this was Passover week, Jesus had the disciples prepare a room to eat the Passover feast together. So the "Last Supper" was a celebration of Passover. What is significant about that?
- c. During this meal, Jesus gave the new meaning to the unleavened bread and the cup. What other main course of the Passover meal did He not mention here?
- d. What stands out to you about Jesus' prayer time in the garden?
- e. The first part of Jesus' trial was before the Sanhedrin. Who were they?
- f. Meditate on your reaction to this time and prepare yourself for tomorrow's reading of Jesus' death.

**Day**  
**5**

## The Crucifixion

Read *Luke 23*.

I don't want any of my notes or questions to interfere with your thoughts on this chapter. So read, pray, and record your thoughts, feelings, and convictions here as you read. (J.S.)

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### Special Sunday Quiet Time

Before your time of worship and fellowship with the Body of Christ today, read the Resurrection Story (*Luke 24:1 – 12*). Record here any thoughts you have about it.

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### *Week Six Summary*

## The Passion Week

### ***Deep Conviction: did you get it?***

As you close this week's study, write a summary of your convictions.

### ***Put it in your heart.***

Quote the memory verse for the week.

### ***Share it.***

Call or visit someone and share your thoughts from this week's studies.

### ***Prepare for worship and fellowship.***

Recommended Scripture: *Psalm 22*

Recommended Song: *Lamb of God*

# The Risen Lord

Wouldn't it be great if you could have been at the empty tomb?

But do you know what? If you were as faithful as Jesus' disciples were (and which of us thinks that we would have been more faithful than they?), you probably would be a little bit embarrassed about what you did on that first Easter Sunday.

The disciples did not expect Jesus to be raised, even though He had explained that to them several times. Most of them did not believe even when others told them.

But they became believers!

One of the most amazing things, though, happened after the resurrection. And that is the way Jesus forgave and welcomed His disciples back into His good graces. Not only that, He showed them that they were still the ones that He expected to take the gospel into all the world.

Now that's forgiveness. It changed those disciples' lives, and it does the same for us.

## Memory Verse

*They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"*

## Day 1

### The Resurrection Power

Read again *Luke 24:1 – 12*.

- a. The angel reminded them of what Jesus had told them about His resurrection. (See *Luke 18:31 – 34*, for instance.) Why do you suppose they had forgotten that?
- b. The men didn't believe what the women said. In fact "*their words seemed to them like nonsense*" (24:11) Can you imagine why that happened?
- c. But when Peter ran to the tomb, what did he find there?
- d. Recall that the resurrection power is the same power working in you (*Ephesians 1:19 – 20*). So meditate, not only on your faith in the resurrection of Jesus, but also on your faith in what God said about His resurrection power at work in your life!

## Day 2

### The Road to Emmaus

Read *Luke 24:13 – 35*.

- a. Describe the conversation that Jesus had with two disciples on the road to Emmaus.
- b. "*We had hoped*" (24:21). What does that tell you about their mindset at the time?

Ever been there?

- c. What opened their eyes?
- d. Their hearts *burned within them* as Jesus talked to them and opened the scriptures to them. Is that the way you feel?
- e. What did these two disciples do when Jesus disappeared from them?

Wonder why they were going to Emmaus in the first place? Whatever it was, it wasn't very important now.

- f. How does all of this apply to you today?

**Day**  
**3**

**Last Words**

Read *Luke 24:36 – 49*.

- a. When Jesus appeared to the disciples, he said “*Peace be with you.*” (24:36)

After that, Jesus encouraged them to touch Him.

Note also that Jesus asked them for something to eat.

Does it seem like that Jesus was trying to make them feel at ease?

Don’t you love that about our Lord? He is the Lord of the universe, but instead of trying to impress or intimidate His disciples, He is trying to make them be at rest with Him!

- b. *Luke* gives a version of the great commission, just as *Matthew* and *Mark* do. But recall that *Luke* is the first volume of a two volume set. Read the opening verses of *Acts* and see how this ending fits with that beginning.

- c. Think about the great adventure you have been reading about the last seven weeks. The first disciples spent three years living that adventure. What are your thoughts about it now? Compare with the way they felt then (verse 52).

**Day**  
**4**

**Review**

Use this time to reread these scriptures using a different version than the one you usually use, or work on the memory verses that you have memorized, or review the statements that you wrote each week about your convictions, see how you’re doing with them, and pray for deep convictions, or catch up with any of the days that you missed or had to rush, or whatever else you want to do.

**Day**  
**5**

**Review**

*Week Seven Summary*  
**The Risen Lord**

***Deep Conviction: did you get it?***

As you close this week’s study, write a summary of your convictions.

***Put it in your heart.***

Quote the memory verse for the week.

***Share it.***

Call or visit someone and share your thoughts from this week’s studies.

***Prepare for worship and fellowship.***

Recommended Scripture: *Psalm 19*

Recommended Song: *Sing Hallelujah to the Lord*