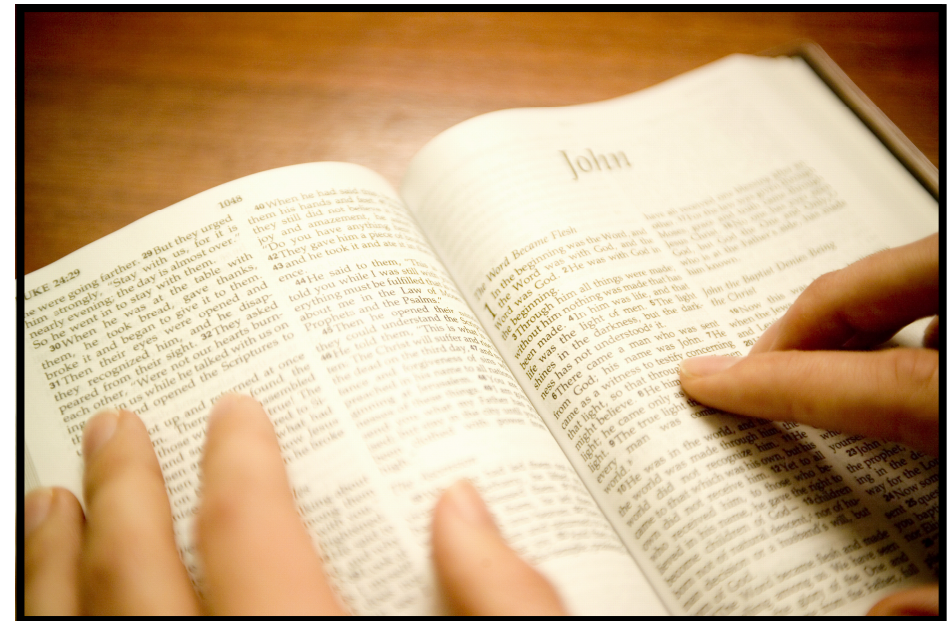
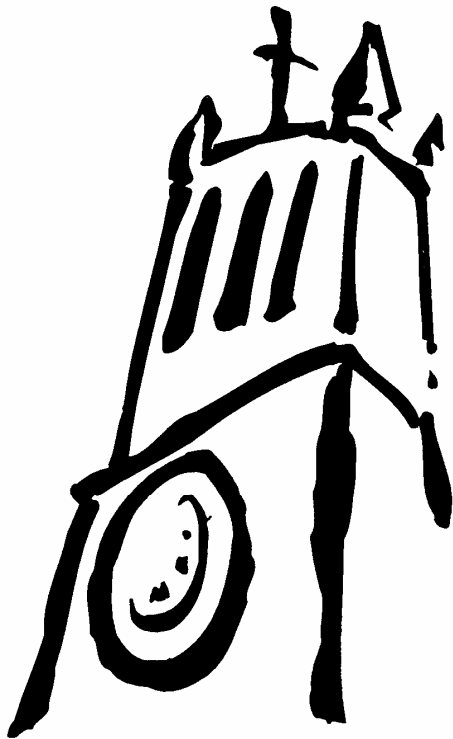


John 10 – 14



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INTEGRATED BIBLE STUDY

How to the get best value out of these studies...

Welcome to a new series of New Testament studies focused on the book of John.

If you're using these Guides in a Small Group, it is vital that you have done preparatory work *before* you get to your meeting. This will be of great benefit not only to you, but to the other members of your group.

If you're doing these studies individually, make sure you let someone know you are doing so, and arrange a time to meet with them when you've finished (or even before) to let them know how your life is being changed by God's Word.

If you're after good commentaries or resources to complement your looking into the bible, speak to your Small Group Leader or one of the staff, and we'll try to be as helpful as possible. Most people aren't going to spend lots of dollars on theological works, so we're constantly on the look out for good quality titles that will result in money well spent.

Always surround your time looking into God's Word with **prayer**, asking God to change your heart and life so that you – with God's people – might become more and more like our Lord Jesus Christ.

A good reference book for the book of John is:
Johns Gospel (Read Mark Learn Series), St Helen's Bishopsgate.

10. There are all sorts of different responses from the disciples to Jesus' last words.

Read John 13:36-37 How would you describe Peter's response?

Read John 14:5 What about Thomas?

Read John 14:8 What about Philip?

Going further...

11. In light of our response to Jesus, how are we to respond to each other?

In your Bible group?

In our Church?

12. What would you say are the most prominent features of our discipleship

Read John 13:34-35

6. These would have to be a couple of the most famous verses in the Gospel. What does Jesus mean when he says 'love'?

7. What light does the context of this new commandment shed on what Jesus meant? (Read John 13:21-30 and 13:38 to get a snapshot of the context.)

Read John 14

8. The disciples are understandably grief stricken and probably quite confused. Look at the following verses and write down what is going to happen because Jesus is 'going to the Father'...

John 14:2-3

John 14:12

John 14:13-14

9. Look at John 14:6. Express as clearly as you can what Jesus means when he says he is...

The way

The truth

The life

John 10

Just For Starters...

In John 1:11 we're told Jesus came to his own, but his own did not receive him. How do we receive him? Should this be evident to other people? If so, how?

In John 9 the Pharisees rejected the man who was born blind, rejected Jesus and denied their own blindness and sin. These people were supposed to be leaders of God's people, the ones with the responsibility of caring for Israel's spiritual life were called "Shepherds" in the Old Testament. In response to the actions and arguments of the Pharisees in John 8 & 9, Jesus tells a parable of the good shepherd which highlights their failure as shepherds. (see Ezekiel 34).

Looking at the passage

The Good Shepherd

Read John 10:1-18

1. Write down the characteristics of the true or good shepherd, and explain what each one tells you about Jesus:

John 10:2,7

John 10:3-4, 14

John 10:10

John 10:11

The thieves, robbers and hired hands.

2. By contrast, how are thieves and robbers recognised?

John 10:1-10

3. How are the Pharisees trying to “enter the sheep pen”?
What way(s) in were they trying to use (10:1, 7-8)?

4. How does a “hired-hand” behave and why (10:12-14)?

The Sheep

5. What happens to the sheep who know and follow the good shepherd?

John 10:3-4

John 10:9-10

John 10:27-29

John 13:31-14:14

Just for starters...

1. These words are supposedly found on a headstone – “See, I told you I was sick.” Quite often such serious matters are dealt with lightly because people want to avoid the harsh reality that one day they will no longer be around. What would you want to have as your last words?
2. Jesus knows his death is 24 hours away and the men he is sharing this meal with are the ones who will carry on the mission he has from God. His last words are famous and familiar – but what do they mean?

Looking at the Passage...

Read John 13:31-21

3. What does it mean to be glorified?
4. How will God be glorified by what is about to happen?
5. How will Jesus be glorified?

Going further...

10. Consider this summary of the passage...

"Service is following the example of Jesus as Teacher and Lord who selflessly and sacrificially served his followers in order to please his Father who sent him."

Do you think it adequately sums up the message of the passage? How might you improve it?

11. What has this passage taught you about God?

12. What has this passage taught you about yourself?

6. What does Jesus mean by "other sheep" (10:16)?

The Feast of Dedication

From 167 – 164BC the Syrians controlled Jerusalem. They desecrated the temple by setting up one of their own idols on the altar. In 164BC Judas Maccabeus drove the Syrian out, built a new altar and rededicated the temple. (You can read something of this in 1 Maccabees 4:4ff which is in the Apocrypha). Each year after the overthrow of the Syrians the Jews celebrated a feast of dedication.

7. Why wouldn't the Jews believe Jesus (10:26)?

Calling all sheep

8. What privileges does Jesus mention for those who believe in Him (10:27-29)?

"The enemies of their soul may be strong and mighty, but their Saviour is mightier; and none shall pluck them out of their Saviour's hands."

[J.C. Ryle, "John" (1990) p193]

9. Why did Jews want to stone Jesus (10:33)?

Going Further...

10. The Pharisees tried to 'enter the sheep pen by another way'. What ways do people try today?

11. How do we recognize the voice of impostors when they sound a bit like a shepherd?

12. Why is it important that there is only "one flock" and "one shepherd" (10:16)? What implications does this have for our church in a "multicultural, religiously tolerant" society?

13. If belief depends on God's call, why are those who don't believe still held responsible for their unbelief?

6. Jesus act was to symbolise 'the full extent of his love' (v 1). What would the disciples understand 'later' (v 7) that would enable them to grasp the extent of Jesus' love?

7. What sort of cleansing is implied in the act of foot-washing?

8. Jesus interprets the events of vv 1-11 in vv 12-17. Explain in your own words how he applies the passage to those listening.

9. What is the Christian's key motive in serving?

4. The disciples come up with some very practical advice for Jesus in 11:8. Have a look back over the following passages to see why...
- John 7:1
- John 7:25
- John 7:32
- John 8:37
- John 8:59
- John 10:31
5. Having seen the context of the danger, try now to understand the context of Jesus' reply in John 11:9-10. What is the point of his response? What does it mean?
6. What do John 10:20-33 reveal about Martha and Mary? Describe their responses.
7. Why was Jesus deeply upset (11:33) if he **knew** he could raise Lazarus?

10. What tension do the believers face in v 43? What are the consequences of (a) belief; and (b) unbelief in vv 44-50?

Going further...

11. What has this passage taught you about God?
12. What has this passage taught you about yourself?

5. Look up Zechariah 9:9-13. How do these verses, together with the events of the cross, help the disciples understand what is going on (v 16)?

6. How does Jesus' explanation of what his 'hour' will involve (vv 24ff) correct the crowd's expectation of him and his ministry?

7. What model of discipleship does Jesus give in vv 23-26?

8. What is Jesus' hour of glory? What impact will it have? (vv 31-32)

9. Jesus words are not readily received and understood. Why not? (vv 37-41)

8. What does John 11:35 tell us about Jesus?

9. What do John 10:40-42 reveal about Jesus' attitude toward Martha?

10. Look at the way the authorities reacted to this news (11:45-48). What was wrong with their values and their approach to the facts?

11. How did they respond to the prophecy by Caiaphas (11:49-52)?

Going Further...

12. What do you know about the Sanhedrin? Why were they so alarmed at reports that Lazarus had been raised?

13. What does this whole incident tell us about:
 - Love of God?

 - Power of God?

 - Are they different?

The living dead

14. What do you think Mary and Martha were praying for before Lazarus died? How did they expect their prayers to be answered?

15. Do you agree with the following statement?

“Despite massive propaganda to the contrary, our Lord’s purpose for us is not to make us happy but to make us holy.”

16. Look back at your prayer requests from the beginning of this study. This incident teaches us a lot about prayer. What can it teach you?

17. How do your requests show you seek holiness rather than happiness?

18. If you think you need to, re-write your prayer requests and pray together for each other.

John 12**Just for starters...**

1. In what ways do we underestimate the significance of Jesus’ death?

2. Could Jesus’ death be seen as a successful model for ministry? What would it teach us about how ‘success’ is measured in Christian service?

Looking at the Passage...

3. How does John’s account of the anointing in vv 1-11 prepare us for Jesus’ impending death. Contrast the reaction of Judas and Jesus and explain Jesus’ remarks of vv 7-8.

4. In what ways is the crowd’s reaction to Jesus in vv 12-19 typical of how he has been treated in John’s Gospel.