**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

Lesson 1 – Jesus’ Second and Third Withdrawals

(Matthew 15:21-16:4; Mark 7:24-8:12)

**Memorize:**

“And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, ‘He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak’.”

 Mark 7:37 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

Woman from Canaan – Canaan is the name first used for ancient Palestine and Syria. Mark tells us this woman was born in Syrian Phoenicia, so this is in agreement with Matthew's statement that she is a Canaanite. Mark also tells us that this woman from this region was Greek, which is the description used in the New Testament for anyone that is not a Jew.

**Questions:**

1.What did the woman of Canaan call Jesus? (Matt. 15:22)

2. What was her request?

3. When Jesus didn’t answer her right away, what did the disciples suggest that Jesus do? (vs.23)

4. What was Jesus’ response? (vs. 24)

5. What did the woman do then?

6. What was Jesus’ reply this time? (vs. 26)

7. When the woman said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their

 masters’ table”, what did Jesus say to her then? (vs. 28)

8. In verse 28 it says that her daughter was healed that very hour. Why do you think that Jesus did

 not answer her request the first time?

9. After this Jesus left and went up on the mountain and the multitudes followed him desiring

 to have many sick healed by him and they laid them down at Jesus’ feet and He healed them.

 What were some of the miracles that Jesus did that day?

10. In verse 32 Jesus has compassion on the crowds that had been there for three days without

 anything to eat and what does He do about it? (vs. 34-37)

11. How many people were fed in all?

12. Once again, Jesus leaves the multitude and this time He got into a boat and traveled to

 Magdala. Who came to see Him once there and what did they want? (Matthew 16:1)

13. What was Jesus’ answer? (16:2)

14. Read Mark 7:31-37. Again the people bring someone to Jesus needing to be

 healed. What does Jesus do to heal the deaf and mute person?

15. What words did Jesus speak?

16. What did the crowds say after witnessing the miracle? (16:37)

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**Part II**

Lesson 2 – Disciples’ Spiritual Highs & Lows

(Matthew 16:5-28; Mark 8:13-9:1; Luke 9:18-27)

**Memorize:**

“…For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

 Mark 8:38 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

The Gospels – The New Testament books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are referred to as The Gospels and are the four recorded historical accounts of the life of Jesus in the NT. The word gospel means “good news”.

**Questions:**

1. In reading Mark 8:13-21, when the disciples forgot to bring bread with them and Jesus said, “Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod”, why did the disciples think that Jesus was saying this? (verse 16)
2. Jesus was disappointed that they did not understand what He was taking about. He reminds

 them of how He had given the multitude enough food to eat from 5 loaves and 2 fish. What

 was Jesus really warning them about? (See Matthew 16:12)

1. Read Mark 8:22-26. How does Jesus heal the blind man? Why do you suppose Jesus

 instructs the blind man not to tell anyone?

1. Read Mark 8:27-30. Jesus asks His disciples, “Who do men say that I am?” What did

 they tell him?

1. In reading Matthew 16:13-20, when Jesus asks again and says, “But who do you say that I am?” what does Peter answer?
2. Be prepared to discuss what Jesus tells Peter in Matthew 16:18-20. Think about what

 “the rock” is and what “the keys of the kingdom” would be referring to in Matthew 16:19.

1. Read Mark 8:31-33. Jesus tells His disciples how He is going to be rejected by the elders

 and the chief priests. He even tells them that He is going to be killed, but that He would rise

 again after 3 days. What does Peter say when Jesus says these things? (See Matt. 16:21-23)

1. Why do you think Jesus meant when He told Peter, “Get behind Me, Satan!”

 (Matt. 16:23)

1. Read Mark 8:34-38. What did Jesus mean when he talked about taking up your cross and

 following Jesus?

1. Jesus says in Mark 8:38 that if we are ashamed of Jesus or His words now, that He will be ashamed of us when He comes again. Also read Matthew 10:32-33. What are some ways that we can confess Jesus before men? What are some ways that Jesus can be denied before men?

11. In thinking again about Jesus’ words in Mark 8:34-38, list a few things that you think would

 be involved in denying yourself?

**Thought Questions:**

What is the answer to the question that Jesus asks in Mark 8:36-37, “What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

What kingdom is Jesus referring to in Matthew 16:28?

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**Part II**

Lesson 3 – The Transfiguration

(Matthew 17:1-23; Mark 9:2-32; Luke 9:28-45)

**Memorize:**

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways”, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts higher than your thoughts.”

 Isaiah 55:8-9 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

Transfigured – To alter the outward appearance of; a marked change in form or appearance;

 a metamorphosis; a change that glorifies or exalts.

Mustard Seed - the mustard seed is about 1/20th of an inch in size.

**Questions:**

1. Read Matthew 17:1-8. Where did Jesus take Peter, James and John and who also appeared while they were there?
2. What was Peter’s idea?
3. What happened while Peter was still talking?

1. Was God pleased with Peter’s idea? What did God say?
2. On what other occasion in the New Testament do we read of where God chose to speak these same words?
3. How did the disciples react when they heard God speak?
4. In reading Matthew 17:9-13, we see where Jesus tells them to, “Arise and do not be afraid” and then what did He command them NOT to do?
5. Read Malachi 4:5 and also read Luke 1:13-17. Now read Matthew 17:9-13 again. In these verses we see the disciples asking about Elijah. Who was Jesus talking to them about when he spoke of Elijah?
6. Now read Matthew 17:14-23. What was wrong with the sick boy?
7. Why could the disciples not heal him? What did Jesus say was required to heal him?
8. What did Jesus say could be accomplished in Matthew 17:20? Also see Matt. 13:31-32.



**Thought Question:**

Read Isaiah 55:8-9. Tell how this verse helps us understand God’s reaction to Peter’s idea to build three tabernacles.

Malachi 3:6 – “For I am the Lord I do not change…”

Hebrews 13:8 – “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”

John 4:24 - “God is Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth.”

Now comment on how we might use the above verses to teach why we should be careful to make sure that we worship God in spirit and truth today.

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 4 – Jesus Teaches About the Kingdom

(Matthew 17:24-18:35; Mark 9:33-41; Luke 9:46-62; John 7:2-10)

**Memorize:**

“Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of

 heaven.”

 Matthew 18:4 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

In reading the New Testament, it is important to realize that the term “Kingdom of Heaven” refers to either the church here on earth or the eternal home in heaven with God depending on the context in scripture. For example, see Matthew 11:12 and Matt. 7:21.

**Questions:**

1. Read Matthew 17:24-27. Those that collected the taxes came to Peter and asked him

a question about Jesus. What did they want to know?

1. Peter answered them, “yes” and then he went to speak with Jesus. Jesus knew what Peter

had come to talk to Him about and asked Peter who the kings of the earth took taxes

from their sons or strangers. Peter answered, “from strangers”. Jesus said, “then the

Sons are free, but lest we offend them, go to the sea…” and do what?

1. Read Matthew 18:1-9. The disciples came and asked Jesus who was the greatest in the

kingdom of heaven. What kind of kingdom do you think the disciples were talking about?

Is it either of the kingdoms that are described in the Keys to Understanding above?

1. What was Jesus’ answer? What does the word converted mean? What characteristics

do little children have that would make Jesus say that we need to become like them?

1. What does it mean in verse 5 when Jesus says, “Whoever receives one little child like

this in My name receives Me?

1. What does Jesus say should be done to the one who causes one of these “little ones” who

believe in Me to stumble and sin? (verse 6)

1. Who does Jesus warn in verse 7?
2. What does Jesus say about anything that causes us to sin, even if it is a body part?
3. Read Matthew 18:10-14. Now in verse 10, Jesus warns those who despise one of these

“little ones”. What does the word despise mean? Who does Jesus say is in heaven ministering

 to these “little ones”? (Also see Hebrews 1:14)

1. We see how valuable these “little ones” are in verses 11-14. Jesus tells us that it is NOT the

will of God that even one of these “little ones” should perish. He rejoices more over the lost

and then found sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not ever go astray. Jesus then tells us

how we can do our part in keeping “little ones” from being lost. Read Matthew 18:15-20.

Summarize the steps of what we should do if a brother sins against us?

**Thought Question:**

Read Matthew 18:21-35. Be prepared to discuss the parable of the unforgiving servant in class.

Share your ideas about what you feel caused the forgiven servant to be so unforgiving toward his servant. Give an example of how we might fall prey to this same type of behavior today.

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**Part II**

# Lesson 5 – Jesus at the Feast of Tabernacles

(John 7:1-53)

**Memorize:**

“Jesus answered them and said, ‘My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me’.”

 John 7:16 (NKJV)

“Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.”

 John 7:24 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

**Feast of Tabernacles** – The Feast of Tabernacles, also called Booths, comes on the fifteenth day of the seventh month. This was the third feast that required a pilgrimage to Jerusalem to worship in the Temple and offer sacrifices and offering to the Lord. “Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty: Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee” (Deut. 16:16-17).

**Questions:**

1. Read John 7:1-2. Why was Jesus going to stay in Galilee? (verse 1)

2. What Feast was about to take place (verse 2)?

3. Read Lev. 23:34-44. Read about the details of the Feast of Tabernacles. What other

 name was it called? (verse 42) What was/is a booth?

4. Why did God command the Jews to keep this feast? (Lev. 23:43) How long were they

 to keep this feast? (Lev. 23:41)

5. Read John 7:3-9. Why did Jesus’ brothers want Jesus to go to Judea?

6. What do we learn about his brothers in verse 5?

7. What was Jesus’ answer? What did Jesus mean when He said, “My time has not yet come,

 but your time is always ready”? (verse 6)

8. Read John 7:10-24. Did Jesus stay in Galilee or go to the Feast in Judea?

9. Where do we find Jesus in verse 14 and what was He doing?

10. What amazed these Jews about Jesus? (Verse 15)

1. What question does Jesus ask the Jews in verse 19 and what was their response in vs. 20?

12. In verses 22-24, Jesus points out the Jews’ inconsistencies. In verse 24, Jesus tells them

 that they are judging according to appearance. How does He tell them that they should

 judge?

1. Read John 7:25-31. In these verses, some sought to take Him, but others believed.

On what basis did they believe in Him? (verse 31)

1. Read John 7:32-36. What did Jesus mean when He told them, “You will seek Me

and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come”? (verse 36)

1. Read John 7:37-39. On the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles, Jesus spoke concerning

the Holy Spirit. We read in verse 39 that those believing in Him would receive the

Holy Spirit after Jesus was glorified. When was Jesus going to be glorified?

(See John 12:16; John 13:31 and John 17:1-5).

1. Do we ever read of those believing in Him receiving the Holy Spirit?

 (See John 20:19-22, Acts 2:4 and Acts 10:44-45)

1. Read John 7:40-44. It seems many from this crowd believed in Jesus, but they had

some doubts. What was their concern? (See Micah 5:2)

1. Read John 7:45-53. When the officers returned to the Chief Priests and Pharisees

without Jesus, they were mad and asked, “Why have you not brought Him?, what was

the officers’ answer? (Luke 7:46) What question did Nicodemus have for them in verse 50?

1. In verse 52, what did the Chief Priests and Pharisees mean when they said, “Search and look,

for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee”? What were they asking Nicodemus to search? (See Micah 5:2)

**Thought Question:**

What about Isaiah 9:1-2? What does it say about Galilee?

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# Lesson 6 – Spiritual Fathers, Blind Man Healed

(John 8:1-9:41)

**Memorize:**

“For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world

 through Him, might be saved.”

 John 3:17 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

**Sadducees** - The Sadducees and Pharisees comprised the ruling class of Israel. There are many similarities between the two groups but also important differences between them as well.  During the time of Christ and the New Testament era, the Sadducees were aristocrats. They tended to be wealthy and held powerful positions, including that of chief priests and high priest, and they held the majority of the 70 seats of the ruling council called the Sanhedrin. They worked hard to keep the peace by agreeing with the decisions of Rome (Israel at this time was under Roman control), and they seemed to be more concerned with politics than religion. Because they were accommodating to Rome and were the wealthy upper class, they did not relate well to the common man, nor did the common man hold them in high opinion. The common man related better to those who belonged to the party of the Pharisees. Though the Sadducees held the majority of seats in the Sanhedrin, history indicates that much of the time they had to go along with the ideas of the Pharisees, because the Pharisees were popular with the masses.  However, the Sadducees were more conservative in one main area of doctrine. The Pharisees gave oral tradition equal authority to the written Word of God, while the Sadducees considered only the written Word to be from God. The Sadducees preserved the authority of the written Word of God, especially the books of Moses (Genesis through Deuteronomy). While they could be commended for this, they definitely were not perfect in their doctrinal views. The following is a brief list of beliefs they held that contradict Scripture. 1. They were extremely self-sufficient to the point of denying God's involvement in everyday life.  2. They denied any resurrection of the dead ([Matthew 22:23](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matthew%2022.23); [Mark 12:18-27](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Mark%2012.18-27); [Acts 23:8](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%2023.8)).  3. They denied any afterlife, holding that the soul perished at death, and therefore denying any penalty or reward after the earthly life.  4. They denied the existence of a spiritual world, i.e., angels and demons ([Acts 23:8](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%2023.8)).  Because the Sadducees were more concerned with politics than religion, they were unconcerned with Jesus until they became afraid He might bring unwanted Roman attention. It was at this point that the Sadducees and Pharisees united and conspired to put Christ to death ([John 11:48-50](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/John%2011.48-50); [Mark 14:53](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Mark%2014.53); [15:1](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Mark%2015.1)). Other mentions of the Sadducees are found in [Acts 4:1](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%204.1) and [Acts 5:17](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%205.17), and the Sadducees are implicated in the death of James by the historian Josephus ([Acts 12:1-2](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%2012.1-2)).  The Sadducees ceased to exist in A.D. 70. Since this party existed because of their political and priestly ties, when Rome destroyed Jerusalem and the temple in A.D. 70, the Sadducees were also destroyed.

**Pharisees** – The Pharisees, together with the Sadducees, made up the ruling class of Israel. In contrast to the Sadducees, the Pharisees were mostly middle-class businessmen, and therefore were in contact with the common man. The Pharisees were held in much higher esteem by the common man than the Sadducees. Though they were a minority in the Sanhedrin and held a minority number of positions as priests, they seemed to control the decision making of the Sanhedrin far more than the Sadducees did, again because they had the support of the people.  Religiously, they did accept the written Word as inspired by God. (At the time of Christ's earthly ministry, this would have been what is now our Old Testament). However, they also gave equal authority to oral tradition and attempted to defend this position by saying it went all the way back to Moses. Evolving over the centuries, these traditions were attempted to be added to God's Word, which is forbidden ([Deuteronomy 4:2](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Deuteronomy%204.2)), and the Pharisees sought to strictly obey and bind these traditions on others along with the Old Testament. The Gospels abound with examples of the Pharisees treating these traditions as equal to God's Word ([Matthew 9:14](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matthew%209.14); [15:1-9](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matthew%2015.1-9); [23:5](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matthew%2023.5); [23:16](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matthew%2023.16), [23](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Matthew%2023.23), [Mark 7:1-23](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Mark%207.1-23); [Luke 11:42](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Luke%2011.42)). However, they did remain true to God's Word in reference to certain other important doctrines. In contrast to the Sadducees, they believed the following:  1. They believed that God controlled all things, yet decisions made by individuals also contributed to the course of a person's life.  2. They believed in the resurrection of the dead ([Acts 23:6](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%2023.6)).  3. They believed in an afterlife, with appropriate reward and punishment on an individual basis.  4. They believed in the existence of angels and demons ([Acts 23:8](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%2023.8)).  Though the Pharisees were rivals of the Sadducees, they managed to set aside their differences on one occasion—the trial of Christ. It was at this point that the Sadducees and Pharisees united to put Christ to death ([Mark 14:53](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Mark%2014.53); [15:1](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Mark%2015.1); [John 11:48-50](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/John%2011.48-50)).  While the Sadducees ceased to exist after the destruction of Jerusalem, the Pharisees, who were more concerned with religion than politics, continued to exist. In fact, the Pharisees were against the rebellion that brought on Jerusalem's destruction in A.D. 70, and they were the first to make peace with the Romans afterward. The Pharisees were also responsible for the compilation of the Mishnah, an important document with reference to the continuation of Judaism beyond the destruction of the temple.  Both the Pharisees and the Sadducees earned numerous rebukes from Jesus. Perhaps the best lesson we can learn from the Pharisees and Sadducees is to not be like them. Unlike the Sadducees, we are to believe everything the Bible says, including the miraculous and the afterlife. Unlike the Pharisees, we are not to treat traditions as having equal authority as Scripture, and we are not to allow our relationship with God to be reduced to a legalistic list of rules and rituals.

**Questions:**

1. Read John 8:1-12. After Jesus spoke at the Feast of Tabernacles in Judea, he went to

the Mount of Olives, just outside of Jerusalem. Where did He go early the next

morning?

1. Who did the Scribes and Pharisees bring to see Jesus? (vs. 3)
2. What was the punishment for adultery according to the Law of Moses? (vs. 5)
3. Why did the Pharisees ask Jesus what He thought about this? (vs. 6)
4. How did Jesus respond? (vs. 6-7)
5. Verse 9 says that those who heard it were convicted by their conscience. What does

this mean?

1. What did those who were convicted by their conscience do? (vs. 9)
2. What did Jesus ask the woman? (vs. 10)
3. What is an accuser?
4. What did Jesus say to the woman? (vs. 11) What does the word condemn mean?
5. Read John 3:17. If Jesus was not sent to this earth to condemn, why did God send Him?
6. Why did Jesus not need to condemn this woman? (See John 3:17-18)
7. How is it that those who don’t believe in Jesus are already condemned?
8. Because God loved us, He sent His son to keep us from being punished with the punishment

 that we all deserve because of our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Read John 8:13-59. Be prepared to discuss the conversation between Jesus and the

 Pharisees.

16. What was it about this statement that made the Jews become so angry that they began

 to stone Him?

17. Also read John 9. We will review the highpoints of Jesus healing this blind man and

how the Jews cast the healed man out of the synagogue when he insisted that Jesus

was from God. (John 9:22-34)

**Thought Question:**

What did Jesus mean in verse 58 when He said, “…before Abraham was, I AM.”?

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**Part II**

# Lesson 7 – Good Shepherd; Good Samaritan

(John 10:1-21; Luke 10)

**Memorize:**

“…I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly.”

 John 10:10b (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

**Samaritans** - The Samaritans occupied the country formerly belonging to the tribe of Ephraim and the half-tribe of Manasseh. The capital of the country was Samaria, formerly a large and splendid city. When the ten tribes were carried away into captivity to Assyria, the king of Assyria sent people from Cutha, Ava, Hamath, and Sepharvaim to inhabit Samaria ([2 Kings 17:24](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/2%20Kings%2017.24); [Ezra 4:2-11](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Ezra%204.2-11)). These foreigners intermarried with the Israelite population that was still in and around Samaria. These “Samaritans” at first worshipped the idols of their own nations, but ended up embracing a religion that was a mixture of Judaism and idolatry ([2 Kings 17:26-28](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/2%20Kings%2017.26-28)). Because the Israelite inhabitants of Samaria had intermarried with the foreigners and adopted their idolatrous religion, Samaritans were generally considered “half-breeds” and were universally despised by the Jews.  Additional grounds for animosity between the Israelites and Samaritans were the following:  1. The Jews, after their return from Babylon, began rebuilding their temple. While Nehemiah was engaged in building the walls of Jerusalem, the Samaritans vigorously attempted to halt the undertaking ([Nehemiah 6:1-14](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Nehemiah%206.1-14)).  2. The Samaritans built a temple for themselves on “Mount Gerizim,” which the Samaritans insisted was designated by Moses as the place where the nation should worship. Sanballat, the leader of the Samaritans, established his son-in-law, Manasses, as high priest. The idolatrous religion of the Samaritans thus became perpetuated.  3. Samaria became a place of refuge for all the outlaws of Judea ([Joshua 20:7](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Joshua%2020.7); [21:21](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Joshua%2021.21)). The Samaritans willingly received Jewish criminals and refugees from justice. The violators of the Jewish laws, and those who had been excommunicated, found safety for themselves in Samaria, greatly increasing the hatred which existed between the two nations.  4. The Samaritans received only the five books of Moses and rejected the writings of the prophets and all the Jewish traditions.  From these causes arose an irreconcilable difference between them, so that the Jews regarded the Samaritans as the worst of the human race ([John 8:48](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/John%208.48)) and had no dealings with them ([John 4:9](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/John%204.9)). In spite of the hatred between the Jews and the Samaritans, Jesus broke down the barriers between them, preaching the gospel of peace to the Samaritans ([John 4:6-26](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/John%204.6-26)), and the apostles later followed His example ([Acts 8:25](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Acts%208.25)).

**Questions:**

1. Read John 10:1-6. Who does Jesus say is a thief and a robber? (vs. 1)
2. Who enters by the door? (vs. 2)
3. The doorkeeper opens the door to the shepherd. He calls them by name and they

follow him. Why? (vs. 4)

1. Read John 10:7-21. Jesus said that all who ever came before Him were thieves and

 robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. Jesus said He is the door. What does he

 promise those who enter by Him? (vs. 9)

1. Jesus said that he came that we may have life and have it more abundantly. Why

does Jesus say that the thief came? (vs. 10)

1. Jesus also says that He is the good shepherd. What does He say that the good shepherd

does? (vs. 11)

1. What is someone who is hired to care for the sheep called? What does He do when danger

 comes? (vs. 13)

1. Jesus said He knows His sheep and they know Him. He also says He knows the Father.

In verse 16, Jesus talks about “other sheep which are not of this fold”. Who is he

talking about? (See Isaiah 42:6 and Isaiah 56:8)

1. How many flocks does He say there will be? (vs. 16, Eph. 2:13-18 and Eph. 4:4))

10. In verse 17, Jesus said that He would lay down His life that He may take it again.

 He also said, “No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself.” (See John 19:11)

 Where does Jesus say that He received this power from? (John 10:18)

1. This created a division among the Jews. What did some of the Jews believe? (vs. 20)
2. Read Luke 10:1-16. How many did Jesus appoint to be sent out two by two? (vs. 1)
3. Be prepared to review what it was that Jesus told them to take with them and why.
4. What were they to do if the city that they entered did not receive them? (vs. 10-11)
5. Read Luke 10:17-20. What did the seventy report back to Jesus in vs. 17?
6. What did Jesus have to say about this? (vs. 18-20)
7. Read Luke 10:21-24. Explain what you think that Jesus meant in His prayer in vs. 21.
8. Who does Jesus say is blessed and why? (verses 23-24)
9. Read Luke 10:25-37. The lawyer asked a question that he felt sure he already knew

the answer to. It says that he was testing Jesus. When he answered Jesus correctly,

it says that he wanted to further justify himself by asking Jesus what? (vs. 29)

1. Jesus answered this man by telling him the parable of the Good Samaritan. Be prepared to discuss this well-known parable in class. Be sure and read the description of the Samaritans at the beginning of this Lesson. It will help you understand how hard it would have been for those that heard the instruction “go and do likewise” to accept that they needed to learn from this story about a Samaritan. Explain what you think Jesus was instructing the man to do when he said, “Go and do likewise”.

**Thought Question:**

In reading Luke 10: 21 again, explain what you think that Jesus meant in this prayer to God?

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# Lesson 8 – Warning and Encouragement

(Luke 11:1 – 12:34)

**Memorize:**

“…blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!” Luke 11:28 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

Unclean Spirit in Luke 11: 24-26 - The term “evil spirit” (or “unclean spirit” in some translations) is a Jewish expression which is synonymous with what we would call the devil.  That is the term they often used for the devil.  As we see in 1 Peter 5:8, the devil is always seeking to win over Christians.

**Questions:**

1. Read Luke 11:1-4. What did one of the disciples ask Jesus to do? (vs. 1)
2. Jesus began his prayer recognizing God as our Father, praising Him and stating that

His will be done. What does He ask God for? (vs. 3-4)

1. Read Luke 11:5-8. What characteristic did the friend that needed something from

his neighbor have that helped him get what he needed? (vs. 8)

1. Luke 11:9-13. Jesus tells them to seek, and you will find; knock, and it will

be opened to you. What is required before the door will be opened? (vs. 9-10) What is on the other side of the door?

1. Read Luke 11:14-23. Be prepared to explain what Jesus meant when He said, “He

Who is not with Me, is against Me…” (verse 23)

1. Read Luke 11:24-28. We will discuss verses 24-26 in class. Think about what mistake

you think that the man that had the unclean spirit made. We see that the last state of

this man is worse than the first. What could he have done to prevent the unclean

spirit from coming back?

1. Read Luke 12:22-34. List several reasons why Jesus says we should not be anxious or

worry about our physical needs.

1. What does Jesus tell us to make a priority in our life? (vs. 31)
2. Jesus tells us in this Lesson to seek first the kingdom of God. List some ways that we can seek Him first in our lives.

**Thought Question:**

Explain what verse 34 means? “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Name some worldly treasures that we accumulate today. Give scripture that talks about what will eventually happen to these treasures. Now list some ways that we can accumulate treasures that will last forever. List scripture that supports your answer.

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 9 – Servants Must Be Ready

(Luke 12:35 – 13:35)

**Memorize:**

“…for everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required…” Luke 12:48b (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Iniquity -  | [abhorrence](http://thesaurus.com/browse/abhorrence), abomination**,** transgression, unwillingness to abide by law, **lawlessness**. |

**Questions:**

1. Read Luke 12:35-48. Jesus continues to teach and prepare his listeners and in

 verse 35 he encourages them to be ready like servants waiting for the return

 of their master. What was the reward for the servant who the Master finds

 watching? (vs. 37 and vs. 44)

1. What is it that we are supposed to be ready for? (vs. 40)
2. What will happen to those servants who did not prepare themselves for the

Master’s return? (vs. 47)

1. Read Luke 12:49-53. What is the baptism that Jesus speaks about in vs. 50?

 (See Mark 10:38; John 18:11)

1. What is the division that Jesus said He brings? (verses 51-53)
2. Read Luke 12:54-56. What “time” is Jesus talking about in verse 56 that the Jews did

 not discern? (Gal. 4:4-5)

1. Read Luke 13:1-5. Jesus also tells them that unless they repent, they will perish like others. What does repent mean again?

8. Read Luke 13:6-9. The parable Jesus tells them in these verses speaks of a fig tree

 that is not producing figs. We have seen this analogy used by Jesus before.

 . Who do the trees represent?

 . What does the fruit/no fruit represent?

 . Who is the owner of the vineyard?

 . Who is the keeper of the vineyard?

 . What did both the owner and the keeper of the vineyard hope to

 eventually see on the tree?

 . Were they willing to wait? How long?

* Be prepared to share your ideas of how this parable applies to our lives today.
1. Read Luke 13:18-21. What is the kingdom of God that is being talked about here?
2. Read Luke 13:22-35. What was Jesus’ answer to their question, “Are there few

who are saved?” (vs.23-24)

1. Who are the people that Jesus says He does not know and has to turn away? (vs. 25-27)

12. What does the word iniquity mean in verse 27, “…all you workers of iniquity”?

**Thought Question:**

Lawlessness (iniquity) is doing something that which there is no law for. Give an example of what

someone who is a worker of lawlessness would be involved in today.

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 10 – In Perea: The “Lost” Parables

(Luke 14-15; John 10:22-42)

**Memorize:**

“…For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and He who humbles himself will be exalted.”

 Luke 14:11 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

**Sabbath Day** - Was the weekly day of rest for the Jews. “By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done” ([Genesis 2:2](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Genesis%202.2), [3](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Genesis%202.3)). The very word “sabbath” means rest, and to rest implies that you have labored. It’s logical, then, for God to have designated the last day of the week a day of rest. “The seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God” ([Exodus 20:10](http://biblia.com/bible/kjv1900/Exodus%2020.10)).

**Questions:**

1. Read Luke 14:1-6. Once again, Jesus healed on the Sabbath. This time Jesus asked the

Pharisees the question about whether they had ever pulled a donkey or an ox out of a pit

on the Sabbath Day. What did they answer? (verse 6)

1. Read Luke 14:7-14. Jesus tells another parable. What does the word exalted mean in verse 11?
2. Read Luke 14:12-14. Who does Jesus tell them they should and should not invite for

dinner and why? (verse 13-14)

1. Read Luke 14:15-24. Who was invited to the great supper? Why didn’t they come?
2. Who was invited next? (verse 21)
3. Read Luke 14:25-35. What good was the salt that had lost it’s flavor? (vs. 34) What does Jesus mean when He says, “He who has ears, let him hear”. (vs. 35)

**Thought Question:**

Be prepared to talk about counting the cost as is discussed in Luke 15:25-33. What are some of the costs of being a Christian that need to be considered before becoming a Christian today?

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 11 – Parables in Stewardship

(Luke 16:1 – 17:10)

**Memorize:**

“No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.”

 Luke 16:13 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

Mammon - a term that is used to describe greed and unjust worldly gain. It is often used to refer to excessive materialism or greed as a negative influence.

**Questions:**

1. Read Luke 16:1-3. Jesus continues to speak to His disciples, with the publicans

and sinners listening as well. He tells the parable of the unfaithful steward.

What is a steward?

1. This steward was accused of wasting his master’s goods. Does the steward ever

deny this accusation or try to prove it to be false?

1. When he was called to give account, what did the steward decide to do? (vs. 4-7)
2. The master commended or praised the steward’s prudence and schrewdness, even

though the steward’s actions had caused him loss of money. The master was not

praising the steward’s dishonesty, but rather his quick thinking in securing a place

to live comfortably after he lost his job. Do you think the master still fired the

steward? Why or why not?

1. Who do you think “the sons of this world” is referring to? What do they ambitiously

work and plan for? Who do you think “the sons of light” is referring to? What should

they ambitiously be working and planning for?

1. Jesus is teaching us to use this same kind of ambitious, shrewd planning that worldly

 people use to obtain physical riches in our pursuit to obtain our spiritual riches, heaven.

 If we do, our spiritual friends, that have gone ahead of us, will welcome us when we

 arrive to our everlasting home. (See Psalms 49:10-20).

1. Read Luke 16:19-31. Here we are given a glimpse into the lives of two men after they have died. One is in Abraham’s bosom in comfort while the other is in torment. What two things does the man in torment ask for? What answer does he receive?
2. Why cannot he not receive a drop of water?
3. What is the answer to his question about warning his five brothers?
4. When Abraham tells him, “…neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead”,

does it seem harsh or unfair? Have there been those today that have refused to believe even though there has been one who has risen from the dead (Jesus)?

1. Read Luke 17:1-4. Again, Jesus is talking to his disciples. Who is Jesus talking about

When He says, “Woe unto him…”? (17:1)

1. What does Jesus tell us to do if your brother sins against you? (17:3) When do we forgive

 the brother that has sinned against you? (vs. 3)

**Thought Question:**

How many times does Jesus say that we are to forgive? (17:4). Be prepared to discuss in class.

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 12 – Lazarus Raised from the Dead

(John 11)

**Memorize:**

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he

may die, he shall live.”

 John 11:25 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

**Mary and Martha** – Mary and Martha of Bethany were two young women who knew Jesus well. They were close friends with him, and shared several important episodes in his life. In today’s lesson we learn when Jesus raised their brother, Lazarus, from the dead. The two other accounts of their interaction with Jesus are recorded in Luke 10:38-42 when Martha is upset for Mary not helping her serve Jesus and the other house guests and in John 12:1-8 when Mary uses an expensive perfume to wash Jesus’ feet.

**The Passover** – The Passover commemorated the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, as recorded in the [book of Exodus](http://christianity.about.com/od/oldtestamentbooks/qt/exodusintro.htm) when the Israelites were passed over and the 10th plague did not affect their firstborn. The Passover is one of the [three pilgrimage festivals](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Three_pilgrimage_festivals) during which the entire Jewish populace historically made a pilgrimage to the [Temple in Jerusalem](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temple_in_Jerusalem). It began at twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month (Leviticus 23:5), and then the next day, day 15, the Feast of Unleavened Bread would begin and continue for seven days (Leviticus 23:6). Paul said in Colossians 2:16-17 that the Jewish feasts and celebrations were a shadow of the things to come through [Jesus Christ](http://christianity.about.com/od/newtestamentpeople/p/jesuschrist.htm). And though as Christians today we are no longer commanded to commemorate these feasts, as we learn about the significance of each, we certainly gain a greater knowledge of God's Word, an improved understanding of the Bible, and a deeper relationship with the Lord.

**Chief Priests -** The high priests, like all [Jewish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jew) priests, came from the tribe of Levi, the descendants of Aaron. The High Priest was supposed to be able to be able to trace his lineage from the High Priestly families. He also had to maintain ritual purity in himself and in his descendants. His major tasks were to make atonement in the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement, to officiate in the Temple, and (at certain historical times) to preside over the Sanhedrin. In the Gospel accounts the two best-known High Priests are Caiaphas (who ruled from18-36 A.D.) who presided over the group that turned Jesus over to Pilate for crucifixion, and Annas (who ruled from 6-15 A.D.), his father-in-law, who first examined Jesus.

**Questions:**

1. Read John 11:1-16. We see where Lazarus, Mary and Martha’s brother, was sick.

The sisters sent for Jesus to come. What did Jesus say when He heard that Lazarus

was sick? (John 11:4)

1. Verse 5 says that Jesus loved Martha, her sister and Lazarus. What do we know about

Mary? (John 11:2) Have we read anything else about these sisters in the New Testament?

1. Jesus did not leave right away, but waited two more days before He decided to go to

Judea. Why do you think he waited? How did the disciples feel about Jesus traveling to Judea? (11:8)

1. Jesus responds in verses 9-11. He talks about walking in the day when one can see

clearly versus walking in the night when it is not clear and one will stumble. Whether

Jesus would go to Judea or to Jerusalem, his travel would be in light because his purpose

and plans for what He was going to accomplish were clear to Him, even though it was

unclear to the disciples. Why does Jesus tell them that He was going? (vs. 11)

1. When Jesus told them that Lazarus was dead, He said that He was glad. Why did Jesus say that He was glad? (vs. 15)
2. What did Thomas say that he was willing to do? (vs. 16)
3. Read John 11:17-27. How long had Lazarus been in the grave when Jesus arrived? (vs. 17)
4. There were many Jews there comforting Mary and Martha. When Martha heard that Jesus

was coming, she went out to meet Him. What did she say to Jesus that shows us her great faith? (vs. 21-22)

1. Jesus told her that her brother would rise again. Martha said that she knew that he would

rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus then spoke of living eternally, even

though one dies. What does Jesus say one must do so that they may never die? (vs. 26)

1. Did Mary believe? (vs. 27)
2. Read John 11:28-37. After Martha went and told Mary that Jesus was asking for her,

 she too, went to see Jesus. The Jews that were at the house with Mary, followed her.

 Mary fell down at Jesus’ feet. We read that Jesus was troubled to see Mary upset and

 Jesus wept. What did some of the Jews that were looking on say? (vs. 37)

1. Read John 11:38-44. Jesus told them to take away the stone. Martha warned Jesus

and reminded him that it had been four days. What did Jesus remind her of? (vs. 40)

1. Jesus gave thanks to God for hearing His prayers and said that He knew that God

always heard His prayers. Why did Jesus say that he prayed this prayer? (vs. 41-42)

1. Read John 11:45-57. Jesus commanded Lazarus to come forth. When he did, many of

 the Jews that were there with Mary, believed in Jesus. What did some of the other Jews

 do? (vs. 46.)

1. The chief priests and the Pharisees formed a council and gathered them together. What

were they afraid was going to happen? (vs. 47-48)

1. Caiaphas talks about the fact that there were people among all nations who would believe in Jesus. Up until now, it had only been the fleshly family of the Jews that were the children of God.

What does verse 53 say that the chief priests and Pharisees tried to do from this day forward?

1. After this Jesus went to a city called Ephraim with his disciples. When the Passover

was near, they looked for Jesus to come to Jerusalem. Both the chief priests and the

Pharisees spoke among themselves wondering whether Jesus would come to the Passover and they gave a command to everyone. What was it? (vs. 57)

**Thought Question:**

In this chapter of John and in verse 50, Caiaphas said that Jesus would die for the nation. He thought he spoke it of himself, but he unwittingly announced a prophecy. John comments in verse 51-52 that Jesus would also gather together into one, the children of God. What do you think he meant?

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 13 – Journey Toward Jerusalem

(Matthew 19:1-12; Mark 10:1-12; Luke 17:11-18:14)

**Memorize:**

“…Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

 Luke 18:8b (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

**Tax Collector -** Tax collectors, also known as [publicans](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Publican), are mentioned many times in [the New Testament.](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Bible) They are generally described as being greedy, and taking more money than they are entitled to. In the [Gospel of Luke](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gospel_of_Luke), when [Jesus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus) sympathizes with the tax collector [Zacchaeus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zacchaeus), He receives criticism saying that Jesus would rather be the guest of a sinner than of a more respectable or "righteous" person.

**Questions:**

1. Read Matthew 19:1-12. The multitudes gathered to Jesus in the region of Judea to hear

Jesus teach and the Pharisees came and asked Jesus if it was lawful for a man to

divorce his wife for any reason. What was Jesus’ answer? (verses 8-9)

1. What did the disciples say when they heard this? (verse 10)
2. Jesus said that not all can accept this, but, He goes on to say, “He who is

able to accept it, let him accept it. What about those that can’t accept it, what choice

do they have? (verse 10)

1. Read Luke 17:11-19. There were ten men who saw Jesus and stood afar off because

they were lepers. What did they say to Jesus? (verse 13)

1. Jesus answered them, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” Why would Jesus want them

to go and show themselves to the priest? (See Deut. 24:8) Were they healed from their

leprosy yet?

1. Did they go ahead and go anyway? (Luke 11:14b) What happened along the way?

1. When one of them saw that he was healed, it says that he returned to Jesus. What did

he do when he found Jesus? (Luke 11:15-16)

1. Jesus asked him where the other nine were that had been cleansed. He asked, “Were there

there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner”? Why do

you think he called this man a foreigner? (Luke 11:15b) How important was it to Jesus that he returned and was thankful?

1. Read Luke 17:20-37. The Pharisees are asking Jesus when the kingdom of God would

come. Jesus said that it does not come with observation, but that it was in their midst.

He also told them that soon they would long to have Jesus among them, walking and

talking, but that they would not be able to have Him there with them then. What does

Jesus say must happen first? (Luke 17:25)

1. Jesus said that the day when the Son of Man is revealed would be very much like the

day when Noah entered the ark and when Lot left Sodom. How does Jesus say it will be

the same? In verse 33 Jesus says, “whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.” What did Jesus mean?

1. Read Luke 18:1-14. Jesus then spoke a parable to them and said that men always ought

to pray and not lose heart. He spoke of a city judge that did not fear God nor regard man,

but yet did answer a widows’ request. Why did Jesus say that this city judge gave the

widow woman what she wanted? (Luke 18:5)

1. What did Jesus have to say about how God will take care of those who cry out to Him?

(Luke 18:7-8)

1. What final question did Jesus have for them in Luke 18:8b?
2. Jesus ends this conversation with a parable about a tax collector and a Pharisee in Luke 18:9-14. How did the Pharisee describe himself when talking with God? Who did he say that he was glad that he was not like?
3. How about the tax collector, how did he describe himself to God?
4. Which man did Jesus say would be justified by his actions and why?

**Thought Question:**

Give some thought to Jesus’ words in Luke 18:14b and comment on them. “…for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” How and when do you think this exalting and humbling will take place?

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 14 – The Kingdom and It’s Subjects

#  (Matthew 19:13-20:16; Mark 10:13-31; Luke 18:15-30)

**Memorize:**

“…Children, how hard it is for those who trust in riches to enter the kingdom of God!”

 Mark 10:24 (NKJV)

**Questions:**

1. Read Mark 10:13-16. Jesus said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not

forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God.” What qualities do little children

have that would make Christians need to imitate or become like them?

1. Read Mark 10:17-22. What question did the rich young ruler have for Jesus? (v.17)

1. Jesus said, “You know the commandments”, and the man said that he had kept all

of these things from his youth. Then Jesus looked at him, loved him and gave him

 the answer to his question. What was he lacking? What did Jesus tell him that he must do?

 (vs.21)

1. Is the same required for everyone to have treasure in heaven? Why or why not? Are we all lacking the same thing that this rich young ruler was lacking?
2. How did this make the young man feel? Why? (vs. 22)
3. Be prepared to discuss why Jesus would have required this man to sell all that he had?

7. Read Mark 10:23-31. Jesus then took this and taught a lesson to his disciples about

riches. How hard did Jesus say it would be for a man that has riches to enter the

kingdom of God? (Mark 10:24-25)

1. Is there any one else that it will be difficult for? (See 1 Timothy 6:9)
2. What other kinds of problems can loving money cause? (See 1 Timothy 6:10)

10. Jesus’ disciples asked him, “Who then can be saved?” What was Jesus’ answer?

 (Mark 10:27)

11. Peter pointed out to Jesus that they had left all and followed Him. What does Jesus

 say about anyone who has given up people or things for the sake of following Jesus?

 (Mark 10:29-30)

**Thought Question:**

What do you think Mark 10:31 means? (Hint: What nation was the gospel preached to first?

When was the gospel going to be preached to the Gentiles? )

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 15 – Bartimaeus and Zacchaeus

#  (Matthew 20:17-34; Mark 10:32-52; Luke 18:35-19:28)

**Memorize:**

“…whoever desires to become great among you, let him be a servant…”

 Matthew 20:26b (NKJV)

**Questions:**

1. Read Matthew 20: 17-19. Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem and he takes the twelve

disciples aside. What did he tell them?

1. Read Matthew 20:20-28. Who were the sons of Zebedee and what did their mother

ask Jesus?

1. What was Jesus talking about when He asked if they were able to “drink the cup that

I am about to drink”, and “be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with”?

(John 18:11)

1. What does Jesus say about those who desire to become great? (Matthew 20:26)

1. Read Mark 10:46-52. When Jesus and his disciples came out of Jericho, who was

begging at the side of the road?

1. What did Bartimaeus say when he heard that it was Jesus? (Mark 10:47)
2. How did Jesus respond? (Mark 10: 49-51)
3. Bartimaeus asked for Jesus to give him his sight. What was Jesus’ reply? (10:52)
4. Luke 19:1-10. Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Who was in Jericho that

wanted to see Jesus? What was his occupation? (Luke 19:2-3)

1. How did he get to see Jesus? (19:3-4)
2. What did Jesus say when he looked up and saw him in the tree? (19:5)
3. What complaint did the Pharisees have? (19:7)
4. What explanation did Jesus give for spending time with Zacchaeus? (19:9-10)

**Thought Question:**

Jesus said He had come to seek and to save that which was lost. Who are the lost today?

 **A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 16 – Bethany and the Triumphal Entry

#  (Matt.26:6-13; 21:1-17; Mark 14:1-11; 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-44

John 12:1-19)

**Memorize:**

“…Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

 John 12:13b (NKJV)

**Questions:**

1. Six days before the Passover, Jesus went to Bethany to eat supper with Mary and Martha.

Who sat at the table with Jesus? (John 12:1-2)

1. What did Mary do for Jesus? (12:3)
2. Who had a problem with what Mary did? (12:4-6) Why?
3. What did Jesus say about what Mary did? (12:7-8 and See Matthew 26:13)
4. Many Jews had come there to Bethany. Why? (12:9)
5. Why were the chief priests there? (12:10-11)
6. What did the multitudes do when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem? (12:12-13)
7. The disciples did not understand at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered

that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him. (12:16) When was Jesus glorified? (John 17:1-5; John 13:31; John 19:30)

1. What were the Pharisees saying among themselves? (12:19)
2. What did the Pharisees say to Jesus? (Luke 19:39)

11. What did Jesus tell them? (Luke 19:40)

**Thought Question:**

In reading Luke 19:41-44. Why did Jesus cry over Jerusalem? Can you remember another time when the scripture records that Jesus cried?

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 17 – Fig Tree and the Temple

#  (Matt.21:18-22; Mark 11:12-26; Luke 19:45-48; John 12:20-50)

**Memorize:**

“For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command,

 what I should say and what I should speak.”

 John 12:49 (NKJV)

**Questions:**

1. Read Mark 11:12-14. What did Jesus say when He found nothing but leaves on the fig

tree?

1. Read Mark 11:15-19. What did Jesus do when He came to Jerusalem and saw money

changers selling their wares in the temple?

1. Read Mark 11:20-24. What was it that Peter noticed about the fig tree when they passed back by?
2. Jesus uses this to teach His apostles about the power they had been given. How much power did Jesus say the apostles had? (Mark 11:23-24)
3. What did Jesus say needed to be taken care of before praying to God for forgiveness of sins?

(Mark 11:25-26)

1. Read John 12:20-26. What did the Greeks who came to worship at the feast of the Passover

ask Philip?

1. Philip told Andrew and Andrew told Jesus what the Greeks had said. What was Jesus’

reply to this request? What was Jesus talking about? (John 12:23-24)

1. Jesus’ glorification was to come through His death. If Jesus had loved this present

life so much that He had refused to give it up, He would not have gained a future

eternal life for others. It is also true that if we put the things of this life above our

devotion to God and spiritual things, we will lose eternal life. In John 12:25-26, what

does Jesus say is required if we are going to be able to follow Him to heaven?

1. Read John 12:27-36. Instead of asking God for deliverance from the upcoming

suffering, Jesus says, “But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father glorify Your Name”. What happens then? (John 12:28-29) What explanation did those standing close by give?

1. What did Jesus say would be accomplished by His death and resurrection? (verse 31-32)
2. Read John 12:37-50. We see that even though Jesus had done many signs, there were

 many that did not believe in Him. Verse 42-43 says that there were some that did believe

 in Jesus, but did not confess Him. Why? (v. 42b and v. 43)

1. What did Jesus say would happen to those who heard His words, but did not believe?

 (John 12:47) What about those that reject His words? (John 12:48)

1. Jesus said He did not speak on His own authority. By whose authority did He speak?

 (John 12:49-50)

**Thought Question:**

In reading John 12:34-36, the people asked how it could be that Jesus would die because they had heard that the Christ would remain forever. Jesus told them that they should walk in the light so that they may become “sons of light”. What are sons of light? (See Ephesians 5:8-10 and 1Thess. 5:5-8)

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 18 – Jesus’ Enemies Try to Entrap Him

#  (Matthew 21:23-Matthew 22:33; Mark 11:27-12:12; Luke 20:1-19)

**Memorize:**

“Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation

 bearing the fruits of it.”

 Matthew 21:43 (NKJV)

**Questions:**

1. Read Matthew 21:23-27. Jesus went into the temple and the chief priests asked Him,

“By what authority are You doing these things?” What were some of the “things”

that they were talking about? (See Matthew 21:12)

1. Not only had they asked by whose authority, but they also asked who gave Jesus this

authority. What could Jesus have answered? (John 5:26-27; Matthew 28:18)

1. What did Jesus answer them instead? (Matt. 21:24)
2. What did the elders and the chief priests reason among themselves saying? (21:25-26)

What answer did they finally give Jesus? (21:27)

1. How did Jesus respond to their answer? (21:27)
2. Read Matthew 21:28-32. Jesus then told them a parable about two sons. What did

the father in the parable ask his two sons to do?

1. How did the sons answer their father? (21:29-30)
2. Jesus asked, “Which of the two sons did the will of his father?” What was the point that

Jesus was trying to get them to see? (21:31-32)

1. Read Matthew 21:33-46. Jesus tells them another parable. Were the elders and chief

priests able to see the wrong in the behavior of the vinedressers in this parable?

What did they call these men that had killed the landowner’s servants and son? (21:41)

What judgment did they make about what should be done? (21:41)

1. Jesus then quotes a scripture from Psalm 118:22-23 and asks them if they have ever

read this in the Scriptures? Had they? Who was being referred to as the stone?

Who were the builders that rejected the stone?

1. Jesus then makes the connection between the parable and the Jews by telling them,

“…the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the

fruits of it.” What nation is having the kingdom of God taken from them? What

nation is it being given to?

1. Did the elders and chief priests get the analogy and the connection that Jesus was

making? (Matthew 21:45)

1. In Matthew 21:44-45, Jesus refers to the Scripture written in the book of Isaiah

 and Daniel. Read Isaiah 8:14-15 and Daniel 2:44. Who and what is being prophesied about

 in these verses? Should the chief priests and elders have been able to understand Jesus’

 references to the “stone of stumbling” and “a kingdom that shall never be destroyed”?

1. We have read where it was prophesied that Jesus would be “the cause of the fall and rising of many” earlier in this study of Jesus’ life. Who prophesied this to Mary when Jesus was a baby? (See Luke 2:34)
2. Peter also writes about this in 1 Peter 2:7-8. To those who believe, Jesus is what? (vs. 7)

But to those who are disobedient, Jesus is what? (vs. 8)

1. In reading Matthew 22:1-14. What was the punishment of the man who came to the

 wedding, but did not wear a wedding garment? (v. 13) What was the man’s reason for not having one? (v. 12)

1. In reading Matthew 22:15-33, what question did they try and trap Jesus with? (v. 17)
2. How did Jesus handle this situation? (vs. 18-21)
3. What about the Sadducees. How did they try and trick Jesus? (vs. 23-28)
4. Once again, they were astonished by Jesus’ teaching. What was Jesus’ reply to their question? (vs. 29-32)

**Thought Question:**

We see back in our reading in Matthew 21:45-46 that the elders and chief priests sought to lay hands on Jesus even after they understood what Jesus was trying to reveal to them. In light of this verse (Matt. 21:46), what do you think Jesus was to them….a precious Stone? Or a stone of stumbling?

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 19 – Scribes, Pharisees & A Widow

#  (Matt.22:34-23:39; Mark 12:28-44; Luke 20: 41-21:4)

**Memorize:**

“You shall the love Lord with all of your heart, with all of your soul and with all your mind.

 This is the first and great commandment.”

 Matthew 22:37-38 (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

Scribes -A scribe was a person who wrote books or documents by hand as a profession to keep track of historical records. The profession could involve copying books, including sacred texts, or secretarial and administrative duties such as taking of dictation and the keeping of business, judicial and historical records for [kings](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monarch), [nobility](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobility), [temples](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temple) and [cities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cities). Scribes in Ancient Israel, as in most of the ancient world, were distinguished professionals who could also exercise functions we would associate with lawyers, government ministers and judges.

A Mite – A very small copper coin; like an ancient penny and fairly worthless at the time.

**Questions:**

1. Read Matthew 22:34-46 What question did the lawyer ask Jesus and why?
2. What was Jesus’ answer? (22:37-40)
3. What did Jesus mean when He said, “On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”? (v. 40)
4. What question did Jesus have for the Pharisees? (22:42-45)
5. After Jesus asked this question that they could not answer, no one dare ask him any more

questions from then on. Instead, Jesus spoke to the multitude and his disciples about

several different matters. Read Matthew 23:1-39 and then choose 3 different subjects

from the verses below, that Jesus spoke to them about in this chapter, and be ready to summarize

them for the class.

 . Matthew 23:1-5 Matthew 23:6-12

 . Matthew 23:13 Matthew 23:14

 . Matthew 23:15 Matthew 23:16-22

 . Matthew 23:23 Matthew 23:24-28

 . Matthew 23:29-36 Matthew 23:37-39

1. Read Mark 12:41-44. Jesus sat and watched how the people put money into the treasury.

Many who were rich put in a lot of money. How much money did the widow put in?

(12:42)

1. What did Jesus say about the small amount that the widow had put in? (12:43)

**Thought Question:**

Explain how it is that Jesus could say that the widow actually put in more to the treasury than those who put in large amounts of money? (12:44) (Luke 21:4)

What can we learn about this concerning what will be meaningful to God in our own giving back to the Lord on the first day of the week?

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 20 – Destruction of Jerusalem

#  (Matt.24:1-51; Mark 13:1-37; Lk.21:5-38)

**Memorize:**

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”

 Matthew 24:35 (NKJV)

**Questions:**

1. Read Matt. 24:1-28. What did Jesus tell His disciples about the temple? (24:2)
2. What question did they have for Jesus? (24:3)
3. Jesus warns them about many who will come in Jesus’ name and try and deceive them

saying, ‘I am the Christ’, but He told them a way to know of his return. What did He

say about the coming of the Son of Man? (24:27)

1. Jesus tells them that after many wars and after nation will rise against nation, famines,

and earthquakes that they would suffer tribulation and they would be killed. What

does Jesus say about the gospel? (24:14)

1. What do you think this tribulation that Jesus is talking about is? (vs. 15-21)
2. What advice did He give to the people in Judea? (24:16)
3. Read Matthew 24:29-31. Jesus says after this tribulation, the sign of the Son of Man

will appear in heaven and everyone will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of

heaven with power and great glory. The angels will sound a great sound of trumpet.

Who will be gathered together from one end of heaven to another? (24:24)

1. Read Matt. 24:32-35. Jesus tells them what to look for right before the tribulation (the

destruction of Jerusalem). What does He say about when the tribulation will come? (24:34)

1. Read Matt. 24:36-44. What does Jesus say about when the Son of Man shall come? (24:36,42,44)
2. What reassuring words does He give them about the tribulation coming? (24:35)
3. Read Matt. 24:45-51. What reassuring words does He give us all about the return of the

Son of Man? (24:46-47)

1. What will happen to the evil servant that thinks that Jesus is delaying His coming? (24:50-51)

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 21 – Parables of Judgement; Judas Acts

#  (Matt.25:1-30; Mark 14:1-16; Lk. 22:1-6; John 12:1-8)

**Memorize:**

“Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming.”

 Matthew 25:13 (NKJV)

**Questions:**

1. Read Matthew 25:1-13. The kingdom of heaven was likened to ten virgins who took

 their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. There were five that were called foolish

 and five were called wise. What made them wise or foolish? (25:2-3)

1. What did the foolish want the wise to do in verse 8?
2. Why wouldn’t the wise share with the foolish? (25:9)
3. What happened when the foolish virgins left to go and buy more oil? (25:10)
4. What happened when they returned? (25:11-12)
5. Be prepared to explain what we can learn from this parable as Christians that are waiting

for Christ’s return today?

1. Read Matthew 25:14-30. Be prepared to discuss the Parable of the talents in class. What

was the wicked servant’s downfall? (25:25)

1. Read Luke 22:1-6. We see where the Feast of the Passover was drawing near. What was

on the minds of the chief priests and the Scribes? (22:2)

1. What did Judas go and talk with the chief priests and captains about? (22:4-6)
2. Read John 12:1-8. Six days before the Passover, Jesus is having dinner with Martha,

 Lazarus and Mary. What does Mary do? Who had a problem with it and why? (12:3-6)

1. What did Jesus tell Judas? (12:7-8)

**Thought Question:**

Why did Jesus refer to this time as the day of His Burial? (12:7) (See Mark 12:23)

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 22 – The Last Supper

#  (Matt.26:20-35; Mark 14:22-31; John 13:1-38)

**Memorize:**

“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

 John 13:35 (NKJV)

**Questions:**

1. Read Matthew 26:20-25. When evening had come, Jesus sat down with the twelve apostles. What did Jesus say to them that made them exceedingly sorrowful? (vs. 21-22)
2. When they each asked, “Is it I"?, what was Jesus’ answer? (vs. 23)
3. What did Jesus say when Judas asked this question? (vs. 25)
4. Read Mark 14:22-31. As they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave

 it to the apostles to eat. He also took the cup, blessed it and they all drank from it. Jesus

 explained to them that He would not drink of the fruit of the vine again until when? (vs. 25)

1. Afterward they sang a hymn and went to the Mount of Olives. What did Jesus tell them would happen that night? (vs. 27)
2. What did Peter think about what Jesus said? (vs. 29, 31)
3. When did Jesus say Peter would deny Him? (vs. 30)
4. Read John 13:1-17. We see in this reading where Jesus taught His disciples about serving one another. What act of service did Jesus do toward each of his apostles? (vs. 5)
5. Jesus told them that what He did, they would not understand right then, but would understand later. What did Peter say to Jesus? (vs. 7-8)
6. What was Jesus’ reply?
7. What did Peter say then?
8. In verse 14 Jesus explains to them that if He, being their Teacher, had humbled himself and washed their feet, that they to should be willing to wash one another’s feet. What was He trying to teach them?
9. Read John 13:18-30. What does Jesus let them know in verse 18-21?
10. What does Jesus tell Judas in verse 27?
11. Read John 13:31-38. Jesus tells the apostles that He won’t be with them much longer and where He is going, they cannot come. What commandment does He give them in verses 34-35?

**Thought Question:**

Since Judas obviously now knows that Jesus is aware of his plan to betray him, why do you think

Judas still goes through with it?

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 23 – From the Upper Room to the Garden

#  (John 13:38-16:33)

**Memorize:**

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except

through Me.”

 John 14:6 (NKJV)

**Questions:**

1. Read John 13:38 – 14:11. Jesus continues to comfort the apostles after he tells them

 that He will be leaving them. He reassures them and tells them to not be troubled

 because He is going to prepare a place for them. Where is this place? (John 14:1-3)

1. Thomas is concerned about being able to find the way to be with Jesus. What does Jesus tell Him? (14:6)
2. Philip asks to see the Father. What is Jesus’ answer? (14:9)
3. Read John 14:12-18. What does Jesus tell them about what works the apostles will be

 able to do? (14:12-13)

1. Jesus promises that He will send another Helper to be with them forever. Who was the Helper? (14:16-18, 26) Does He ever come? (See Acts 2:1-4)
2. Read John 14:19-31. What will the Helper do for the apostles? (14:26)
3. Jesus tells them not to be troubled. What does He say that He is leaving with them? (14:27)
4. Read John 15:1-17. Jesus continues to speak to them and uses the analogy of the vine and the branches to explain the relationship that they will have with Jesus and the Father. Who is the vinedresser? Who is the vine? Who are the branches?
5. What happens to every branch in the Vine that does not bear fruit? (15:2)
6. What happens to every branch in the Vine that does bear fruit? (15:2)
7. Jesus said that just like a branch cannot bear fruit unless it stays in the vine, so can we not bear fruit unless we stay in Jesus. What can we accomplish without Jesus? (14:5)
8. What happens to us if we do not abide in Jesus? (15:6)
9. What blessings do we have if we abide in Jesus? (15:7)
10. Read John 16:1-15. Why does Jesus say that He has told us these things? (15:1)
11. What does Jesus warn the apostles of in 16:2-4?
12. Jesus tells them again in verse 7 that He will send the Helper after Jesus departs.

What else does Jesus say that the Helper will do when He comes? (15:8-11)

1. Jesus tells them that He has many other things to tell them, but He cannot tell them yet.

 Why not? (15:12) When will they be able to learn all of what He wants them to know? (15:13)

19.Read John 16:25-33. In verse 25 Jesus tells the apostles that He has spoken to them in a

 figurative language, but will speak to them plainly soon. He tells them in verse 28 that He is

 going to go back to be with His Father, God. Where does He tell them that they will be going?

 (15:32)

20.Jesus goes on to tell them that they would be able to have peace about this Later, but that there

 will also be tribulation later too. How does He reassure them and enable them to be of good

 cheer? (15:33)

**Thought Question:**

Jesus told his disciples that God is glorified when we bear much fruit and when we do this, we are Jesus’ disciples. What are some ways that you can bear fruit as young person today?

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 24 – Jesus Prays and is Arrested

#  (Matthew 26:36-75; Mark 14:32-72; Luke 22:39-53; Jn. 17:1-18:12 )

**Memorize:**

#### “Sanctify them by Your truth, Your word is truth.”

#### John 17:17 (NKJV)

**Questions:**

#### 1. Read Luke 22:39-53. After Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper, He went to the

 Mount of Olives to a place called Gethsemane and his apostles followed Him there.

 What request did Jesus make? (22:41)

1. Jesus went about a stone’s throw from them and then prayed. What did He pray? (vs. 42)
2. What were the apostles doing when he returned? (vs. 45-46)
3. While Jesus was still speaking to them, Judas and a multitude came and Judas kissed Him.

 Who was with Judas? (vs. 52)

1. We know that when one of the servants of the high priest got his ear cut off, Jesus healed him. Interestingly enough, even after they all witnessed this miracle, they still continued to arrest Jesus. What did Jesus ask the chief priests, captains of the temple and the elders? (Luke 22:52-53)
2. In Matthew 26:35 and in John 13:37 we see where Peter tells Jesus that he is ready to lay down

 his life for Jesus’ sake. In Luke 22: 52-53, it states that one of them that was with Jesus draws his sword and cuts off one of the High Priest’s servant’s ears. In reading John 18:10, we see that it was Peter that stood up for Jesus in the Garden and was ready to physically fight for Him. And yet we read in Mark 14:53-65, we read that they led Jesus away to the high priest and Peter follows at a distance and later denies Jesus. Where did he stay while Jesus stood before the council? (14:54)

7. They had many false witnesses to speak against Jesus, but what was the problem with their

testimonies? (14:56)

1. What did Jesus have to say during these testimonies? (14:60-61) Why do you think Jesus did not give them an answer to these questions?
2. In verse 61, the High Priest asked Jesus another question and Jesus did answer. What was the question and what was Jesus’ answer? (14:61-62)
3. What did the high priest say about Jesus’ answer? (14:63-64)
4. How did the crowd react? (14:65)
5. Peter was still in the courtyard warming himself by the fire. One of the servant girls of the high priest recognized him and accused him of being with Jesus. What did Peter say? (14:67-68)
6. The servant girl saw him again a little later and said, “This is one of them.” But he denied it again. This was twice now that he had denied Jesus. Still later those who stood by said that they thought that Peter was one of them because his speech showed that he was a Galilean. What did Peter say to them this time? (14:70-71)
7. Then the rooster crowed a second time and Peter remembered what Jesus had said to him.

What did Peter do when he realized what he had done? (14:72)

1. Read John 17:1-28. Jesus prays to God and states that He has finished the work that

### His father had sent Him to do. What does He ask of God in verse 27? (Also see

Philippians 2:6).

1. Jesus then prays for His disciples. What does He ask for specifically in verse 11?
2. He also says that He does not pray for them to be taken out of the world but instead, what does He pray for in verse 15?
3. In verse 17 He prays, “Sanctify them by Your truth, Your word is truth.” What does

the word sanctify mean? Explain what you think Jesus meant.

1. Who else does Jesus pray for in verse 20-22?

**Thought Question:**

Jesus declared to His disciples God’s name. He prays that the love with which God loved Jesus to be in them and us. How can the love with which God loves Jesus be in us today? (See John 15:9)

**A Study of “The Life of Christ”**

**Part II**

# Lesson 25 – Trials Before Jews, Herod, Pilate)

(Matthew 27:1-66; Mark15:5-47; Lk.22:54-23:56; John 18:12-19:42)

**Memorize:**

“…Truly this Man was the Son of God!”

 Mark 15:39b (NKJV)

**Keys to Understanding:**

Veil of the Temple - During the lifetime of Jesus, the holy temple in Jerusalem was the center of Jewish religious life. The temple was the place where animal sacrifices were carried out and worship according to the Law of Moses was followed faithfully. [Hebrews 9:1-9](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Hebrews%209.1-9) tells us that in the temple a veil separated the Holy of Holies—the earthly dwelling place of God’s presence—from the rest of the temple where men dwelt. This signified that man was separated from God by sin ([Isaiah 59:1-2](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Isaiah%2059.1-2)). Only the high priest was permitted to pass beyond this veil once each year ([Exodus 30:10](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Exodus%2030.10); [Hebrews 9:7](http://biblia.com/bible/esv/Hebrews%209.7)) to enter into God's presence for all of Israel and make atonement for their sins (Leviticus 16).

**Questions:**

1. We see in John 18:12-14 that after arresting Jesus, they led Him away to Annas first, the father-in-

 law of the high priest, Caiaphas. Then Annas sent Jesus bound to Caiaphas in verse 24 of that

 same chapter. Then He was led to the Praetorium to see Pilate in verse 28. In verse 31, what was

 Pilate’s suggestion to the Jews concerning Jesus?

2. Read Matthew 27:1-65. While Jesus was being delivered to Pontius Pilate, the governor, in the

 meantime, Judas, realizing that Jesus had been condemned, was sorry for turning Jesus over

 to the Chief Priests and elders and returned the thirty pieces of silver. Instead of confessing his

 sin to God and asking for his forgiveness, who did Judas go to and what did he say to

 them in verse 3 and 4?

3. They were not touched by Judas’ words of remorse and confession of his sin. They sarcastically

 said what to Judas in verse 4?

3. Then what did Judas choose to do? (verse 5) Compare this to what Peter chose to do when he

 also grievously sinned against Jesus? (Matthew 26:75; Mark 14:72; Luke 22:62)

4. What prophecy was fulfilled by the chief priests in verses Matt. 27:6-10?

5. Meanwhile, at the feast, it was a custom for the governor to release one prisoner to the people.

 When Pilate asked them who they wanted to be released, what did they answer? (vs. 21)

6. What warning did Pilate’s wife give to Pilate? (vs. 19)

1. Pilate could fine no wrongdoing in Jesus, but yielded to the cries of the Jews anyway. What

did he do to signify that he was not in agreement with this decision? (vs. 23-24)

1. What did the people say about being responsible for Jesus’ death? (vs. 25)
2. List the things they did to Jesus that mocked the fact that He said He was a king?

 (vs. 27-31 and vs.41-42)

1. Who carried Jesus cross for Him when He could no longer bear it? (vs. 32)
2. What did they offer Jesus to drink? What was the name of the place he was crucified? (vs. 33-34)
3. What other prophecy was fulfilled in verse 35?
4. What inscription was written over Jesus in letters of Greek, Latin and Hebrew? (Matt. 27:37)
5. Be prepared to discuss the reactions and comments of the two thieves that were crucified with Jesus. (Luke 23:39-43)
6. In Luke 23:44-46 we see that there was darkness over all the land from the 6th hour until the 9th hour. Then the sun was darkened, the veil of the temple was torn in two. What do you think the significance of this was?

1. What were Jesus words before He yielded up His spirit? (Matt. 27:46; and Luke 23:34,46)
2. What other miraculous events took place at Jesus’ death? (Matthew 27:51-53)
3. When the Centurion saw these things happen, he feared greatly and said what? (vs. 54)
4. Who were some of the women that witnesses Jesus being crucified? (Matt. 27:55-56)
5. What happened to Jesus’ body after he died? (Matt. 27:57-60) (Mark 15:43-46)

 **Thought Question:**

What did the Chief Priests and Pharisees remember that Jesus had said about what He would do after He died? Did they believe Him? (Matt. 27:62-66) What did they decide to do?