

Hope Today
January – April 2022

Daily Study

for Program Series



discovering Jesus

a study of The Gospel of John

Week 5: January 31 – February 4

The following series of daily readings, questions, and prayers have been designed by Pastor Tom Cullen to lead up to the program for the coming week. There are five daily studies for each week. Allow about 20 minutes a day to complete each one.

A video that will take you deeper into the text is available at lightnlife.ca

Program Schedule
Discovering Jesus

February 6 - Discovering Jesus the thirst quencher (John 4:1-26)

February 13 - Discovering Jesus the miracle worker (John 5:1-15)

February 20 - Discovering Jesus at a great feast (John 7:37-39)

February 27 - Discovering Jesus with eyes wide open (John 8)

March 6 - Discovering Jesus the good shepherd (John 10:11-21)

March 13 - Discovering Jesus at a funeral (John 11:1-16)

March 20 - Discovering Jesus in a parade (John 12:12-19)

March 27 - Discovering Jesus in an act of service
(John 13:1-17)

April 3 - Discovering Jesus at Prayer (John 17:1-8)

More to come

Program Series Study Guide

discovering Jesus

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Monday

Read

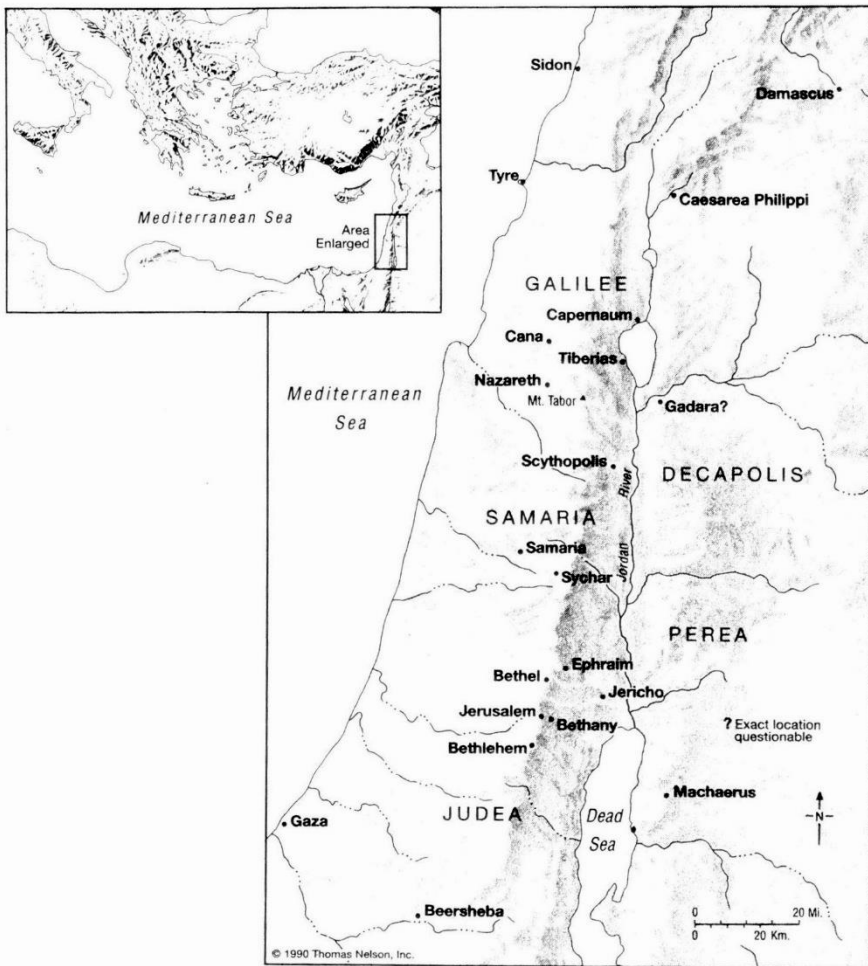
❖ John 4:1-15

Study

1. In the opening verses of this chapter John is very clear about where Jesus is traveling. It is an important point. In verses 3 and 4, he mentions 3 regions: Judea, Galilee and Samaria. Locate them on the map on the next page. He also mentions one town, Sychar. Locate it on this map.

To the Jews, the region of Samaria is what my daughter would describe as “sketchy”, not the kind of place where you would want to be after dark. Many would avoid the area by traveling through Perea (find it on the map). Knowing this, does this give new meaning to verse 4 for you? Why do you think Jesus “had to go” through Samaria?

Palestine



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2. In your own words write out the Samaritan woman's response to Jesus in verse 9. What emotions do you think she is feeling?

3. Starting at verse 10 Jesus begins to focus on the woman's real need. What is that real need? What does the woman think Jesus is talking about? What does the well illustrate for Jesus?

4. List the claims that Jesus makes about Himself in these verses.

5. What is it that Jesus can do for the woman, for us?

Notes

- ❖ John 4:4 *Samaria* This is a region in which the Samaritans lived. Because they worshipped a corrupted form of Judaism (they only regarded the books of Moses to be Scripture and they didn't make sacrifices in Jerusalem) the Jews held certain prejudices toward them. The two groups did not get along at all and both groups were guilty of treating the other with disdain, hatred and contempt.

Reflect

- ❖ If Jesus was to meet you at the coffee shop this afternoon what would be the one thing you would ask Him for? What would you say? What would you want to keep hidden from Him?

Pray

- ❖ Do you have the “living water” in you? If so, give thanks. If not, ask God to give it to you.

Memory Verse for the Week

John 4:23

Tuesday

Read

- ❖ John 4:16-26

Study

1. Jesus now (*verse 16*) seems to take the discussion with the Samaritan woman in a different direction. Why?

2. How does the woman attempt to avoid the discussion? Do you think if the problem (about where to worship) was settled that this would have helped the woman?

3. Jesus is patient and answers the woman’s question. What does He teach her about worship? About God?

4. What claim does Jesus make about Himself? (*verses 25,26*)
This is the first time Jesus makes such a claim. Do you think it's significant that He makes this claim to *this* person? Why or why not?

Notes

- ❖ John 4:20 *this mountain* The mountain the woman is referring to is Mount Gerizim where the Samaritans had built a temple. Even though the temple had been destroyed the Samaritans still felt that the place was holy.

Reflect

- ❖ How about you? Do you prefer to talk about "issues" rather than your own personal need? Why?

- ❖ Why do you think Jesus wants to expose our sin? How would He like us to respond?

Pray

- ❖ Have an honest conversation with God today. Tell Him how you are feeling about your job, your work, your relationships, your spiritual life. Allow Him to respond to you and speak to you in the silence.

Memory Verse for the Week

John 4:23

Read

❖ John 4:27-38

Study

1. When the disciples return and see Jesus talking to the woman, how do they react? Why do you think that is?

2. Verse 28 tells us that the woman left her water jar behind as she went back to the village. Besides verifying the fact that this is a first-hand account, what does this fact tell us?

3. What does the woman tell the people in the village? What is their response?

4. What does Jesus teach His disciples about the work He is called to do? (*verse 34*) About the work they are called to do? (*verses 35-38*)

Notes

❖ John 4:35-38 *sowing and reaping* In the natural world there were four more months until the harvest could be brought in. But in the spiritual world, in this instance, reaping could begin at once because someone had done the sowing.

Reflect

How do you react to the fact that the Lord knows everything about you, even your secret sin?

Pray

- ❖ Allow your reflection time to shape your prayer. Depending on how you feel about the above stated truth, pray. If you feel guilty or ashamed pray a prayer of confession knowing that Jesus is the Christ who will not “*snuff out the smoldering wick*”. (Isaiah 42:3)

Memory Verse for the Week

John 4:23

Reading

❖ John 4:39-54

Study

1. What happens in the Samaritan village as a result of the woman's testimony? What reasons do the villagers give for their belief? (*verses 39, 41,42*)

2. In verses 43-54 we have the "second miraculous sign that Jesus performed". What truth(s) does it reveal about Jesus?

3. How do you think Jesus spoke the words recorded in verse 48? How would you explain these words?

Reflect

Think about your experience of Jesus Christ. How have you been influenced by the testimony of others? Who were they? What did you find attractive about their testimony? How have you been influenced by a direct encounter with Jesus Christ?

Pray

- ❖ Give thanks for people who have witnessed to you about the truth of Jesus Christ. Pray that you too will be a witness for Him.

Memory Verse for the Week

John 4:23

Read

❖ John 5:1-15

Study

1. Jesus asks the man if he wants to get well (*verse 6*). Why do you think He asked the man that question? Are there situations where people *don't* want to get well?

2. What does the man say he needs? Look again at yesterday's study and the healing of the boy. Did the boy have what the man lacks? Did it help him?

3. This is the third sign that Jesus performs. What does it tell us about Jesus?

4. What is significant about the man's response to Jesus in verses 8 and 9? What does it say about his faith?

5. Describe the criticism the man encounters.

6. Jesus meets the man a second time (*verse 14-15*) what does He tell the man? Do you think His words have spiritual application for those who have new life in Him? How?
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Notes

- ❖ John 5:10 “... *law forbids*” I believe there are 39 different activities which the Hebrews consider to be work. These include, washing, tearing, reaping, plowing, shaping, knotting, untying and carrying. Each of these activities have sub-activities. For instance, under the heading of plowing it would be considered work and therefore unlawful to drag a chair across the lawn. Why? Because this action could break the soil hence be defined as plowing and therefore be considered to be work. The law was applied as widely as possible in order to avoid breaking any of the laws prescribed by God through Moses.

Reflect

- ❖ Are you like the disabled man in any area of your life? How do you think Jesus can change it? How would you respond to Jesus’ question, “Do you want to get well?”

Pray

- ❖ Begin your prayer with a recognition of our Lord’s power. How has it been revealed to you? Through His healing power? Through His creation? Pray these back to God.

Memory Verse for the Week

John 4:23

