

The Gospels

Journal Questions

LESSON
ONE

INTRODUCTION TO THE GOSPELS



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Journal Questions

1. How should the life-changing accounts of the person and work of Jesus Christ affect the way we live?
2. How should the literary character of the Gospels influence the way we read them?
3. How do the Gospels help us understand the historical narratives in the Old Testament?
4. How can we trust that the Gospels are reliable when they were written by fallen human beings?
5. How might the diversity amongst the Gospels help us to appreciate the diversity of the church?
6. How might the Gospels help us refute and reject erroneous doctrines like the belief that Christ's return in glory has already occurred?
7. What assurance and hope does the future coming of the kingdom give us? How should this hope impact the way we live presently?
8. How does Jesus being the Messianic King of Israel impact your life?
9. What can Jesus' sufferings teach us about the way we should view difficulties, trials and sufferings in our own lives?
10. How does your life display that you are loved by God?
11. What are some ways you can care for the poor and strive to meet their needs?
12. Which gospel is your favorite to read and why?
13. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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LESSON
TWO

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW



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1. How does knowing that Matthew is the author impact the way we read the Gospel of Matthew?
2. What are some specific ways you can demonstrate humility in your present circumstances?
3. How can you demonstrate heartfelt obedience to Jesus in your life today?
4. How can we trust the Gospels and uphold them as reliable when they were written by human beings?
5. What benefits have you seen and experienced from your practice of regularly repenting of and confessing your sins?
6. What ministries are you currently engaged in, and how are they helping to build the kingdom of God?
7. What are some specific ways you can demonstrate love to Christians and non-Christians?
8. Why should we care that Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament messianic prophecies and expectations?
9. How should it make us feel, knowing that the church belongs to Jesus?
10. What encouragement should we gain from the fact that we are part of the family of God?
11. How should we face suffering knowing that Jesus came to give us abundant life and blessing?
12. What are some hardships and sufferings you have experienced and are currently going through?
13. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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LESSON
THREE

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK



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Journal Questions

1. What are some specific ways Mark's gospel can help us endure hardships and persecution?
2. How should we respond as we read about the miracles of Jesus and his preaching about the kingdom in Mark's gospel?
3. Why does Jesus call Christian leaders to be servants of their people?
4. How can you exhibit servant leadership in your current circumstances and ministry?
5. What are some specific ways we can respond to Jesus' call for Christian perseverance and loyalty?
6. What types of compromises are we permitted to make, given that following Jesus is often difficult?
7. How should we make use of the power God has given us to suffer and serve?
8. How do you feel knowing that being a follower of Christ will involve suffering and difficulties in this life?
9. What can we learn from the various Jewish expectations of the Messiah?
10. How can we remain hopeful in the victory of Jesus in the midst of suffering and persecution?
11. What should be our response to doubts that arise about Jesus, since we don't see him reigning on earth right now?
12. How should we live in this time when the kingdom is temporarily veiled, growing slowly, and even suffering?
13. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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Journal Questions

LESSON
FOUR

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE



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1. How should the purpose behind Luke's gospel strengthen our faith?
2. Why is it important to keep Luke's original audience in mind as we read his gospel?
3. Why is it important for us to pray?
4. How can quoting the Bible help us face temptation?
5. What are some specific ways you can apply the Sermon on the Plain to your own life?
6. What should we learn from the temple cleansing in Luke's gospel?
7. How should we respond to the reality of the kingdom of God?
8. Why is joy important in the Christian life?
9. As disciples of Jesus, why is it important for us to love both our neighbors and God?
10. Why is it important to know that Jesus came to rescue his people from condemnation?
11. How many of our conditions should we expect to be reversed in this life and world?
12. What encouragement do we gain from knowing that Jesus brought God's kingdom to earth?
13. How should we respond to Luke's emphasis on socially disenfranchised groups, such as sinners and the poor?
14. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?

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Journal Questions

LESSON
FIVE

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN



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1. How does knowing that John wrote the Gospel of John influence the way we read it?
2. How should the purpose behind John's gospel impact the way we live?
3. How does Jesus' farewell discourse apply to your life?
4. How does John's gospel influence the way we read the other gospels?
5. How should we live knowing that Jesus has miraculously changed our lives?
6. How should we live in light of Jesus' resurrection and coming return?
7. What encouragement do we gain from Jesus' high priestly prayer?
8. Why is it important to know that Jesus was willing to be crucified?
9. What can we learn from Thomas being skeptical about Jesus' resurrection?
10. How should we view God's Law, knowing that Jesus has fulfilled it?
11. How should Jesus being "I Am" impact the way we read the Old and New Testaments?
12. How should we respond to the gift of eternal life that we have through Jesus?
13. What is the most significant thing you learned in this lesson?