

The Easter Challenge

WEEK ONE

Luke 22:7-53



The Easter Challenge

⁷ Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. ⁸ And He sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat." ⁹ So they said to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare?" ¹⁰ And He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house which he enters. ¹¹ Then you shall say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?"' ¹² Then he will show you a large, furnished upper room; there make ready." ¹³ So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they prepared the Passover.

1. From Luke 22:7, record and comment on the significance of the time of these events.

- 2. Using Luke 22:8–12, answer the following questions concerning Jesus's instructions to His disciples:
 - a. Where were they to go?
 - b. What were they to look for?
 - c. What were they to do?

- d. What were they to ask?
- e. What would happen?
- 3. According to Luke 22:13, what was the outcome of following Jesus's instructions?

4. What is your greatest takeaway from Luke 22:7–13?

¹⁴ When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. ¹⁵ Then He said to them, "With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶ for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷ Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸ for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." ¹⁹ And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁰ Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. ²¹ But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. ²² And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!" ²³ Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing.

- Use the following phrases from Luke 22:14–16 to underscore the perspective of Jesus toward this hour:
 - a. The hour had come
 - b. Fervent desire
 - c. This Passover
 - d. Before I suffer

- e. No longer eat of it until it is fulfilled
- f. In the kingdom of God
- 2. From Luke 22:17–20, comment on Jesus's instructions, actions, and explanation of the significance of the following elements:
 - a. The cup
 - b. The bread

- 3. Use the following verses to observe what Jesus said concerning His betrayer:
 - a. Verse 21
 - b. Verse 22

4. What do you find most interesting about the disciples' reaction to Jesus's warning about His betrayer? Luke 22:23

5. What is your greatest takeaway from Luke 22:14–23?

²⁴ Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. ²⁵ And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called 'benefactors.' ²⁶ But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves. ²⁷ For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves. ²⁸ But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials. ²⁹ And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me, ³⁰ that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel."

1. Comment on the attitude of the disciples during this sacred meal. Luke 22:24

- 2. Using Luke 22:25–26, contrast the distinctions that are to exist between the attitudes of:
 - a. The Gentile leaders
 - b. The disciples of Jesus

Day 3 cont.

Luke 22:24-30

- 3. Note and comment on Jesus's:
 - a. Example (verse 27)
 - b. Promise (verses 28-30)
- 4. What is your greatest takeaway from Luke 22:24–30?

³¹ And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. ³² But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren." ³³ But he said to Him, "Lord, I am ready to go with You, both to prison and to death." ³⁴ Then He said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me." ³⁵ And He said to them, "When I sent you without money bag, knapsack, and sandals, did you lack anything?" So they said, "Nothing." ³⁶ Then He said to them, "But now, he who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a knapsack; and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one. ³⁷ For I say to you that this which is written must still be accomplished in Me: 'And He was numbered with the transgressors.' For the things concerning Me have an end." ³⁸ So they said, "Lord, look, here are two swords." And He said to them, "It is enough."

- 1. Use the following phrases from Luke 22:31–32 to grasp Peter's plight, peril, and potential:
 - a. Simon! Simon!
 - b. Satan has asked for you
 - c. Sift you as wheat
 - d. I have prayed for you
 - e. That your faith should not fail

- f. When you have returned to Me
- g. Strengthen your brethren
- 2. From Luke 22:33–34, note and comment on:
 - a. Peter's belief about himself
 - b. The reality of what Peter would do
- 3. Answer the following questions from Luke 22:35–38:
 - a. How did Jesus previously send out the disciples?
 - b. How were the disciples now to prepare themselves?
 - c. Why would these changes take place?
- 4. What is your greatest takeaway from Luke 22:31–38?

³⁹ Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. ⁴⁰ When He came to the place, He said to them, "Pray that you may not enter into temptation." ⁴¹ And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, ⁴² saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." ⁴³ Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. ⁴⁴ And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground. ⁴⁵ When He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping from sorrow. ⁴⁶ Then He said to them, "Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation."

- 1. Use Luke 22:39–45 to answer the following questions concerning Jesus and His disciples:
 - a. Where did they go?
 - b. What were the disciples instructed to do?
 - c. Where did Jesus go?
 - d. What did Jesus pray?

Day 5 cont.

- e. Who ministered to Jesus?
- f. What was Jesus's demeanor?
- What do you find noteworthy about Jesus's response to His disciples? Luke 22:46

3. What is your greatest takeaway from Luke 22:39–46?

⁴⁷ And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him. ⁴⁸ But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" ⁴⁹ When those around Him saw what was going to happen, they said to Him, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰ And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus answered and said, "Permit even this." And He touched his ear and healed him. ⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests, captains of the temple, and the elders who had come to Him, "Have you come out, as against a robber, with swords and clubs? ⁵³ When I was with you daily in the temple, you did not try to seize Me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness."

1. What happened while Jesus was still speaking to His disciples? Luke 22:47

2. Use Luke 22:47–48 to record the interaction between Judas and Jesus.

3. Record the events of Luke 22:49-51.

- 4. From Luke 22:52–53, comment on the following words of Jesus to His enemies:
 - a. Have you come out, as against a robber
 - b. With swords and clubs
 - c. I was with you daily in the temple
 - d. You did not try to seize Me
 - e. This is your hour
 - f. The power of darkness
- 5. What is your greatest takeaway from Luke 22:47–53?

WEEK TWO

John 18



The Easter Challenge

¹ When Jesus had spoken these words, He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. ² And Judas, who betrayed Him, also knew the place; for Jesus often met there with His disciples. 3 Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. 4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?" 5 They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. 6 Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground. ⁷ Then He asked them again, "Whom are you seeking?" And they said, "Jesus of Nazareth." ⁸ Jesus answered, "I have told you that I am He. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way," 9 that the saying might be fulfilled which He spoke, "Of those whom You gave Me I have lost none." 10 Then Simon Peter, having a sword, drew it and struck the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. 11 So Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into the sheath. Shall I not drink the cup which My Father has given Me?"

- 1. From John 18:1–2, describe the place where Jesus went with His disciples.
- 2. Use John 18:3–9 to comment on the following:
 - a. Those who accompanied Judas
 - b. Jesus's demeanor

- c. Jesus's power
- d. Jesus's command
- e. The fulfillment of Jesus's Word
- 3. Comment on Peter's reaction to the arrest of Jesus. John 18:10

4. What stands out to you most about Jesus's response to Peter? John 18:11

5. What is your greatest takeaway from John 18:1–11?

Then the detachment of troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. ¹³ And they led Him away to Annas first, for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year. ¹⁴ Now it was Caiaphas who advised the Jews that it was expedient that one man should die for the people. ¹⁵ And Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Now that disciple was known to the high priest, and went with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest. ¹⁶ But Peter stood at the door outside. Then the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to her who kept the door, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷ Then the servant girl who kept the door said to Peter, "You are not also one of this Man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." ¹⁸ Now the servants and officers who had made a fire of coals stood there, for it was cold, and they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and warmed himself.

- 1. Use John 18:12–14 to record your observations concerning:
 - a. The detachment of troops
 - b. Jesus
 - c. Annas
 - d. Caiaphas

- Use the following verses to note Peter's actions and demeanor during Jesus's ordeal:
 - a. Verse 15
 - b. Verse 16
 - c. Verse 17
 - d. Verse 18
- 3. What is your greatest takeaway from John 18:12–18?

¹⁹ The high priest then asked Jesus about His disciples and His doctrine. ²⁰ Jesus answered him, "I spoke openly to the world. I always taught in synagogues and in the temple, where the Jews always meet, and in secret I have said nothing. ²¹ Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed they know what I said." ²² And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, "Do You answer the high priest like that?" ²³ Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?"

- 1. Use the following verses to reflect on the trial of Jesus:
 - a. Verse 19
 - b. Verse 20
 - c. Verse 21
 - d. Verse 22
 - e. Verse 23
- 2. What is your greatest takeaway from John 18:19–23?

²⁴ Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. ²⁵ Now Simon Peter stood and warmed himself. Therefore they said to him, "You are not also one of His disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not!" ²⁶ One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of him whose ear Peter cut off, said, "Did I not see you in the garden with Him?" ²⁷ Peter then denied again; and immediately a rooster crowed.

- 1. Use John 18:24–27 to share your thoughts concerning:
 - a. Annas
 - b. Peter
 - c. The servant of the high priest
 - d. The rooster
- 2. What is your greatest takeaway from John 18:24–27?

²⁸ Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover. ²⁹ Pilate then went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this Man?" ³⁰ They answered and said to him, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him up to you." ³¹ Then Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your law." Therefore the Jews said to him, "It is not lawful for us to put anyone to death," ³² that the saying of Jesus might be fulfilled which He spoke, signifying by what death He would die.

- 1. Use John 18:28–31 to write your observations concerning:
 - a. Those who led Jesus from Caiaphas
 - b. The time of day
 - c. The place they went
 - d. The accusation made against Jesus
 - e. Pilate's response
 - f. The ultimate desire of Jesus's enemies

Day 5 cont.

2. According to John 18:32, why were these things significant?

3. What is your greatest takeaway from John 18:28–32?

Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" ³⁵ Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" ³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." ³⁷ Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." ³⁸ Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all. ³⁹ But you have a custom that I should release someone to you at the Passover. Do you therefore want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" ⁴⁰ Then they all cried again, saying, "Not this Man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a robber.

- 1. Remark on the significance of the following phrases from John 18:33–37:
 - a. King of the Jews
 - b. Are you speaking for yourself
 - c. What have You done?

- d. My kingdom is not of this world
- e. You say rightly that I am a king
- f. For this cause I was born
- g. That I should bear witness to the truth
- h. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice
- 2. Use John 18:38–39 to observe and comment on Pilate's:
 - a. Reaction to Jesus's declaration
 - b. Verdict concerning Jesus
 - c. Offer

Day 6 cont.

3. Comment on the choice of the crowd. John 18:40

4. What is your greatest takeaway from John 18:33–40?

WEEK THREE

John 19



The Easter Challenge

¹ So then Pilate took Jesus and scourged Him. ² And the soldiers twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put on Him a purple robe. ³ Then they said, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they struck Him with their hands. ⁴ Pilate then went out again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you, that you may know that I find no fault in Him." ⁵ Then Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. And Pilate said to them, "Behold the Man!"

- 1. Use John 19:1–3 to remark on the treatment of Jesus:
 - a. Verse 1
 - b. Verse 2
 - c. Verse 3
- 2. From John 19:4, comment on Pilate's second assessment of Jesus.

Use John 19:5 to describe how Jesus looked when He was presented to the crowd. 4. Share what you find noteworthy about Pilate's declaration concerning Jesus: *Behold the Man!*

5. What is your greatest takeaway from John 19:1–5?

⁶ Therefore, when the chief priests and officers saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Crucify Him, crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "You take Him and crucify Him, for I find no fault in Him." ⁷ The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God." ⁸ Therefore, when Pilate heard that saying, he was the more afraid, ⁹ and went again into the Praetorium, and said to Jesus, "Where are You from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" ¹¹ Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

- 1. From John 19:6–9, observe and comment on:
 - a. The demand of the crowd
 - b. The behavior of Pilate
- 2. Use John 19:10–11 to assess the demeanor and power of:
 - a. Pilate
 - b. Jesus
- 3. What is your greatest takeaway from John 19:6–11?

¹² From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Jews cried out, saying, "If you let this Man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar." ¹³ When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus out and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called The Pavement, but in Hebrew, Gabbatha. ¹⁴ Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, "Behold your King!" ¹⁵ But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" Pilate said to them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but Caesar!" ¹⁶ Then he delivered Him to them to be crucified. Then they took Jesus and led Him away.

- 1. Using John 19:12, write your observations concerning:
 - a. Pilate
 - b. Caesar
 - c. The Jews
- 2. Cite any insights you receive from John 19:13–15 concerning:
 - a. Pilate
 - b. The Day

- c. Pilate's declaration: Behold your King!
- 3. According to John 19:16, what was Pilate's final concession?

4. What is your greatest takeaway from John 19:12–16?

¹⁷ And He, bearing His cross, went out to a place called the Place of a Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha, ¹⁸ where they crucified Him, and two others with Him, one on either side, and Jesus in the center. ¹⁹ Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on the cross. And the writing was: JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁰ Then many of the Jews read this title, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. ²¹ Therefore the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'The King of the Jews,' but, 'He said, "I am the King of the Jews."" ²² Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."

- 1. From John 19:17–18 describe the following concerning Jesus:
 - a. How Jesus went
 - b. Where Jesus went
 - c. What happened to Jesus
 - d. Where Jesus was placed

Day 4 cont.

John 19:17-22

- 2. Use John 19:19–22 to note the significance of:
 - a. What Pilate wrote
 - b. The languages Pilate wrote in
 - c. The reaction of the chief priests
 - d. The declaration of Pilate
- 3. What is your greatest takeaway from John 19:17–22?

²³ Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece. ²⁴ They said therefore among themselves, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be," that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: "They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots." Therefore the soldiers did these things. 25 Now there stood by the cross of Jesus His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" 27 Then He said to the disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her to his own home. 28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" 29 Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. 30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. 31 Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. 32 Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. 33 But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. 34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. 35 And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. 36 For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not one of His bones shall be broken." 37 And again another Scripture says, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."

- 1. Observe and comment on the activity of the soldiers in John 19:23–24.
 - a. Why was their action significant? John 19:24b
- 2. Use the following verses from John 19:25–30 to write any insights you receive concerning the crucifixion of Jesus:
 - a. Verses 25-27
 - b. Verses 28-29
 - c. Verse 30
- 3. From John 19:31–37 comment on the significance of the following:
 - a. The Preparation Day
 - b. The soldiers' treatment of the body of Jesus

4. From John 19:35, cite the attestation and purpose of the writer of the Gospel of John.

5. What is your greatest takeaway from John 19:23–37?

³⁸ After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus. ³⁹ And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. ⁴⁰ Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury. ⁴¹ Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴² So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.

- 1. Use John 19:38–39 to write your observations concerning:
 - a. Joseph of Arimathea
 - b. Nicodemus
- 2. According to John 19:39–40, what did Joseph and Nicodemus:
 - a. Bring
 - b. Do

Day 6 cont.

3. Use John 19:41–42 to describe where they placed the body of Jesus.

4. What is your greatest takeaway from John 19:38–42?

WEEK FOUR

John 20 and 21



The Easter Challenge

¹ Now the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ² Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." ³ Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. ⁴ So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. ⁵ And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷ and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. ⁹ For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.

- 1. Use John 20:1–5 to summarize the activity of:
 - a. Mary Magdalene
 - b. Simon Peter and the other disciple
- 2. According to John 20:6–7, what did Simon Peter see?

- 3. Answer the following questions from John 20:8–10:
 - a. What was the reaction of the disciple who arrived at the tomb first?
 - b. What did the disciples as yet not know?
 - c. What did the disciples do after this?
- 4. What is your greatest takeaway from John 20:1–10?

¹¹ But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. ¹² And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. ¹³ Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him." ¹⁴ Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God." ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.

- 1. From John 20:11–14, comment on the attitude and actions of:
 - a. Mary Magdalene
 - b. The angels
 - c. Jesus

- 2. Use the following verses to make special note of the encounter and interaction of Mary Magdalene and Jesus:
 - a. Verse 15
 - b. Verse 16
 - c. Verse 17
- 3. How did Mary respond to the instruction from Jesus? John 20:18

4. What is your greatest takeaway from John 20:11–18?

John 20:19-23

¹⁹ Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

- 1. Use John 20:19–20 to answer the following questions about the risen Christ's encounter with His disciples:
 - a. When was it?
 - b. What were the disciples doing?
 - c. What was the disciples' demeanor?
 - d. What did Jesus do?
 - e. How did the disciples feel when they realized it was Jesus?

- 2. Record and comment on what Jesus said to His disciples from the following:
 - a. Verse 21
 - b. Verse 22
 - c. Verse 23
- 3. What is your greatest takeaway from John 20:19–23?

²⁴ Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." ²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." ³⁰ And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

1. Use John 20:24–25 to describe Thomas's attitude.

- 2. Use the following verses to record the interaction between Thomas and Jesus:
 - a. Verse 26
 - b. Verse 27

- c. Verse 28
- d. Verse 29
- 3. Answer the following questions using John 20:30–31:
 - a. What is not written in this book?
 - b. What are the purposes for the things that are written?

4. What is your greatest takeaway from John 20:24–31?

Day 5 John 21:1-14

¹ After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: 2 Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. 4 But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5 Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?" They answered Him, "No." 6 And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish. ⁷ Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. 9 Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught." 11 Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?"—knowing that it was the Lord. 13 Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish. 14 This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

- 1. From John 21:1–3, remark on the activity of Peter and the disciples:
 - a. Where were they?
 - b. Who was involved?
 - c. What did they decide to do?
 - d. What was the outcome?
- 2. Answer the following questions from John 21:4-6:
 - a. What happened in the morning?
 - b. What did Jesus ask the disciples?
 - c. What did Jesus instruct the disciples to do?
 - d. What was the result of their obedience?

- 3. Use John 21:7–8 to comment on the reaction of:
 - a. The disciple Jesus loved
 - b. Peter
 - c. The other disciples
- 4. Write any thoughts you have as you read about Jesus's breakfast with His disciples in John 21:9–14:
 - a. Verse 9
 - b. Verse 10
 - c. Verse 11
 - d. Verse 12

Day 5 cont.

John 21:1-14

- e. Verse 13
- f. Verse 14
- 5. What is your greatest takeaway from John 21:1–14?

¹⁵ So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." ¹⁶ He said to him again a second time. "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep. 18 Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish." 19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me." 20 Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?" ²¹ Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?" ²² Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me." ²³ Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you?" ²⁴ This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. ²⁵ And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

- 1. Record and comment on Peter's interaction with Jesus by citing any special details that stand out to you from the following:
 - a. Verse 15
 - b. Verse 16
 - c. Verse 17
 - d. Verse 18
 - e. Verse 19
 - f. Verse 20
 - g. Verse 21
 - h. Verse 22

- i. Verse 23
- 2. According to John 21:24, why is the account of Jesus verifiable?

3. What observations does the author, John, make concerning the things that Jesus did? John 21:25

4. What is your greatest takeaway from John 21:15–25?

The Easter Challenge by Cheryl Brodersen

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