

# Worksheets

## The Chosen Person

Keep your eyes on Jesus.

Book 9 – Worksheets

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# ***Melchizedek***

the priest of Jerusalem

## **Discussion Questions**

### A. MELCHIZEDEK

A1. Record and list all the things you know or can find out about Melchizedek.

A2. Melchizedek was a priest of the Most High God (Gen 14:18):

What do you think it means that Melchizedek was a priest? Who did he represent as a priest?

A3. What other office did Melchizedek hold that might have allowed him to function as a priest?

A4. What are the implications of Hebrews 7:3?

*Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever. NIV*

A5. What interesting occurrence is reported in Genesis 14:20?

Q. Since the king would normally receive part of the spoils of war, is this a religious tithe or the spoils of war?

## **B. PRIESTS**

B1. Priests represented the people before \_\_\_\_\_ and conducted their duties by presenting \_\_\_\_\_ on behalf of the people and the nation to God.

B2. Based on Leviticus 4:20, why was an offering presented by the priest?

*Thus shall he do with the bull. As he did with the bull of the sin offering, so shall he do with this. And the priest shall make atonement for them, and they shall be forgiven. ESV*

Q. What does "atonement" mean?

B3. The Levites \_\_\_\_\_ the priests by caring for the Temple (or tabernacle) and helping prepare the sacrifices which the priests would offer on behalf of the people. In presenting these sacrifices, the priests were acting as \_\_\_\_\_ between God and man.

Q. What is a "mediator"?

B4. Why was a mediator or priest necessary? What did they do for Israel?

### C. AARON AND THE LEVITES

C1. How, when, and where did the Levitical priesthood become established?

C2. What does Heb 5:1 and 5:4 tell us about the High Priests?

C3. What does Heb 2:17 say was a responsibility of the priest?

C4. What were the inherent limitations of Jewish Levitical priests?

The priests were normal men, therefore, they were themselves inherently \_\_\_\_\_.  
Since they were normal men they eventually \_\_\_\_\_ and their service ended.  
The priest could only temporarily \_\_\_\_\_ the problem; they could not permanently  
\_\_\_\_\_ people.

Thus the priest could not provide what was needed most:

--Permanent \_\_\_\_\_ from sin

--A \_\_\_\_\_ heart.

--A right relationship with \_\_\_\_\_.

### D. JESUS, the High Priest

D1. What does Heb 7:16 say that Jesus' priesthood is based on?

Q. Why is that important, how does it relate, and what does that mean?

D2. What does 7:19 say is a better way than the former priesthood?

D3. How does the author use Melchizedek to show the eternal nature of Jesus' priesthood?

D4. How would you contrast the longevity of the former Levitical priesthood and that of Jesus' priesthood?

D5. What does Hebrews 7:25 say Jesus is doing and what is the significance?

D6. So what conclusion can you draw from all the above?

**E. APPLICATION**

E1. Do you believe or feel that you need a priest? Why? Why not?

a) to approach Jesus?

b) to approach God, the Father?

c) to speak to the Holy Spirit?

E2. Do you believe, like the Levitical priests, you must prepare in advance in any way before you approach God?

# ***Scribe***

wants to follow Jesus

## **Discussion Questions**

### A. GENERAL

A1. Is there any significance in Matthew reporting that the person saying he would follow Jesus anywhere was a scribe?

A2. Did Jesus approach this first individual and ask him to follow?

A3. Does Jesus' response in Mt 8:20 provide any insight into His personal identity and ministry?

A4. What would the scribe have likely known about the designation or name "Son of Man"?



A5. Do you think the scribe really meant that he would follow Jesus anywhere He would go?

A6. How would you characterize the scribe's statement that he would follow Him anywhere?

A7. What do you think Jesus meant by, "*Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head?*"

A8. Would the above have any special meaning to the scribe?

A9. One might conclude that Jesus was warning the scribe that it was not an easy life, but what can we conclude about the meaning when Jesus says, "*Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead?*"

A10. The passage in Luke is followed by a third illustration that does not appear in Matthew's account:  
Luke 9:61-62 *Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." 62 Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."* ESV

Given Jesus' response in this illustration, how would you interpret and summarize Jesus' teaching in this passage?

A11. How would you compare or contrast Lk 9:23 to these illustrations about following?

A12. Do you think that the man's father is dead? Why? Why not?

A13. What tendencies of men might Jesus be thinking about when He says there is "no place to lay his head?"

A14. Why do you think Luke adds the statement in 9:60 to "proclaim the kingdom of God"?

A15. In Luke 9:57-62 what is different about the first story compared to the last two?

Q. Do these excuses sound familiar to anyone? How easy is it for you to put off what you know you should do because you're lazy, complacent, tired, busy, or scared?

A16. One obvious question for the reader is, "How did the scribe and the questioners respond to Jesus' challenge?" What do you think?

A17. Jesus is speaking about our priorities in choosing to follow Him. Specifically in the last two stories (Lk 9:59-62) who or what is to take a lower priority?

Q. How do you feel about this?

A18. Does your family (spouse, children, parents) take second priority to Jesus?

Q. Can you think of any situation in your life when you chose Jesus over family? How did the family respond?

## B. APPLICATION

B1. Do you consider yourself a follower? Why? Why not?

B2. When you became a Christian did you "count the cost"?

B3. Do you need to stop now and count the cost?

B4. Are you fully committed or only partially committed to your faith?

B5. If you sense you are not fully committed, what one thing could you do that would make a significant difference?

B6. Have you made a complete break with the past or time before you accepted Christ? In Luke 9:62, Jesus said, *"No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."* ESV Elijah called Elisha as his coworker or assistant and Elisha responded as Christ wants us to respond to His calling. He slaughtered his oxen and burned his farm equipment – he even held a barbecue for his neighbors (1 Kings 19:20-21).

How would you characterize your commitment compared to Elisha?

B7. Are you too comfortable in your relationship with Christ?

# ***Nicodemus***

who came at night

## **Discussion Questions**

### **A. GENERAL**

A1. Why do you think Nicodemus came to visit Jesus? What are the logical reasons that a man like Nicodemus might make this visit?

A2. What can we learn about Nicodemus from:

Jn 3:1 (Pharisee) \_\_\_\_\_.

Jn 3:1 (ruler) \_\_\_\_\_.

Jn 19:39 \_\_\_\_\_.

A3. Why do you think Nicodemus came at night?

A4. How would you describe or explain being "born again?"

A5. What is the theological reason one must be born again?

A6. Why does Nicodemus believe that Jesus came from God (3:2)?

Q. Is this a legitimate reason to believe?

Q. What does John 2:23-25 say about the people who saw the signs and believed?

A7. Based on 3:2 who does Nicodemus believe Jesus to be?

Q. Why would Nicodemus address Jesus as Rabbi?

A8. Nicodemus did not ask about salvation. Why did Jesus reply to Nicodemus about being born again?

A9. In 3:3 what does Jesus say is the result if one is not born again?

Q. What did that mean to the Jewish believer?

A10. In 3:5-6 Jesus repeats what He said in 3:3 but with a bit more information. Again, Jesus says a requirement for entering the Kingdom is being born again. What further clues does Jesus give here about the meaning of being born again?

Born of water: \_\_\_\_\_.

Born of the Spirit: \_\_\_\_\_.

Born into the Spirit: \_\_\_\_\_ I live in the Spirit.

Q. In 3:6 Jesus says, "*Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit.*" What does He mean?

A11. How would you relate being born of the Spirit to:

John 1:12-13 *But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.* ESV

A12. In 3:10 what did Jesus do?

Q. Is this a fair accusation?

A13. Could Jesus make this accusation of us today? Do we adequately understand the prophetic scriptures that should concern us today? Can you think of any passages that current believers tend to overlook or put aside as not important that in fact, may be critical to our understanding of:

Salvation: \_\_\_\_\_.

Christian Life: \_\_\_\_\_.

The Gospel: \_\_\_\_\_.

A14. Who is the "Son of Man" (3:13)? How do you know?

A15. What further do we learn from John 8:28, *So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me."* ESV

A16. When everything was said and Nicodemus departed, what do you think he was thinking? What did he actually learn during his visit with Jesus?

A17. Nicodemus may have been embarrassed about coming to Jesus. He never really asked Jesus a question (except in response to Jesus saying he must be born again). We assume that Jesus knew what was on his mind. What's on your mind? If you had one, and only one, question to ask about Christian salvation, what would it be?

A18. The term "born again" only appears in Scripture three times. Is there real meat in this concept or is this all just a story or allegory with limited scope? What descriptive term does Jesus use in all of the following?



3:3 \_\_\_\_\_.

3:5 \_\_\_\_\_.

3:11 \_\_\_\_\_.

**B. BORN AGAIN**

B1. Based on the following, what do we learn about new birth?

a. \_\_\_\_\_.

1 Cor 3:1-2 *But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, ESV*

b. \_\_\_\_\_.

Eph 4:22-24 *to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. ESV*

Q. How would you compare this to Ro 12:2?

Rom 12:2 *Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ESV*

c. \_\_\_\_\_.

1 Peter 1:3 *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ESV*

d. \_\_\_\_\_.

Titus 3:5 *he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit. ESV*

**D. APPLICATION**

D1. What is the most important thing you learned from this lesson?

D2. Should anything you learned here change your life in any way?

D3. Do you have a serious or personal question about your spiritual life you need or want to ask somebody?

D4. Are you born again? If you are, what are you doing about it? If you are not, why not?

# ***Lazarus***

beggar at Abraham's side

## **Discussion Questions**

### **A. GENERAL**

A1. Is anything about hell or Hades inconsistent with your thoughts about God?

A2. How do you feel about discussing hell? Is this a subject you would prefer left alone? Do you have a problem with a loving God making provision for sinners to spend eternity in hell?

A3. Do you think anyone could make a reasonable argument that there is no real hell?

### **B. The Parable**

B1. What is the length of the period of torment for those in hell?

B2. Is there any evidence that the period of suffering in hell can be cut short or terminated by repentance or by annihilation?

B3. Is the sentence for the unrighteous just? Is it too severe? Why? Why not?

B4. Do you know or have you seen any Scripture that indicates that one does not experience pain, torment, or anguish of some kind in hell?

B5. Why do you think that the poor man, Lazarus, is mentioned by name?

B6. Do you think that this parable is about being poor or rich?

Q. If yes, explain.

Q. If no, then why does Jesus use these opposite terms to identify the two men?

B7. Since Lazarus went to Abraham's side and the Rich Man went to Hades, what can we conclude about these two characters and their relationship to God?

Lazarus: \_\_\_\_\_.

Rich Man: \_\_\_\_\_.

B8. Based on this Parable, what might we conclude about hell in the following verses from Luke?

16:23: \_\_\_\_\_.

16:25: \_\_\_\_\_.

16:26: \_\_\_\_\_.

16:30: \_\_\_\_\_.

16:31: \_\_\_\_\_.

B9. Where is Lazarus located in this story when he is alive?

Q. What does that mean or imply about the Rich Man?

B10. The Rich Man did not remove Lazarus from his gate. There is no evidence that he refused him the bread scraps, and nothing is said about abuse in any way. So what was the rich man's sin that caused him to end up in hell?

B11. Do you think it is right that the Rich Man's request to warn his brothers was refused?

C. HELL

C1. Why does a place like hell have to exist?

C2. How is hell described in Mark 9:42-44 and what does it mean?

Q. What is the moral of the story in this passage?

C3. Why would Luke say that the one to fear is the One who has authority to assign people to hell (Luke 12:5)?

Q. Does this literally mean that God throws people into hell?

If yes, explain? \_\_\_\_\_.

If no, explain? \_\_\_\_\_.

C4. What do we learn about hell (the lake of fire) in Rev 20:10?

C5. What do the following proverbs tell us about the "house of the wicked"?

Pr 3:33 \_\_\_\_\_.

Pr 14:11 \_\_\_\_\_.

Pr 21:12 \_\_\_\_\_.

C6. What do we learn about God's Kingdom in Mt 13:47-50 (Parable of the Net)?

Q. What does this parable teach about the ultimate separation of good and bad?

Q. What does the Parable of the Net mean for us today? (This is the same as the Parable of the Weeds in Mt 13:24-30.)

Q. How should this concept apply to our lives today?

Q. What does this say about keeping public or flagrant sinners out of the church?

BONUS QUESTION: If at the end of the Millennium, God annihilated all those in Hell, would that violate His character?

#### D. APPLICATION

D1. Are you personally comfortable with the concept of hell?

If no, or probably not, what is your concern?

If yes, why?

D2. Mark 9 suggests it is better to cut off a body part rather than allow it to cause you to go to hell. The meaning here is that hell is a bad place and should be avoided at all costs. Is there anything you need to do to be right with God?

# ***Criminal***

on the cross

## **Discussion Questions**

### GENERAL

A1. Do you think the criminal who rebuked the other criminal was given the truth supernaturally or did he come to this understanding about Jesus in some other way? Explain.

A2. How would the criminal know that Jesus "had done nothing wrong"?

A3. When the criminal says, "*Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom*" what does the criminal know about Jesus?

A4. Why do you think that Jesus did not respond to the insulting criminal?



A5. In 23:34 it says that Jesus forgave "them." Who do you think Jesus is referring to? Is it (a) the persecutors in general, (b) the two criminals, (c) the Romans, (d) the Jewish leaders, or (e) everyone?

A6. What do you think is the most significant thing we learn from this passage? Why?

A7. What do you think happened to the insulting criminal?

A8. Who in this story do you identify with most? Why?

## B. DIGGING DEEPER

B1. Do you think that Lk 23:40 means that the criminal knew Jesus was God?

Luke 23:40 *But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"* ESV

B2. Is the question, "Aren't You the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" asked by the insulting criminal legitimate?

B3. Compare what the rebuking criminal says in Lk 23:41 with the reward described in 23:43. What is ironic about what he is getting in one case compared to the other?

B4. Do you think the following verse could be used to support the criminal's salvation? How?

Rev 12:11 *And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.* ESV

### C. SALVATION

C1. If you believe that there must be some degree of works involved in salvation, then how do you explain that the criminal will be in Paradise with Jesus, today?

C2. If you think baptism, church membership, a sinner's prayer, spiritual gifts, or asking for forgiveness are required for salvation, then how did the criminal get saved?

C3. Can you find an example of the sinner's prayer in the New Testament? What must be said?

C4. Can you think of any other salvation requirements that man imposes which are questionable given this example of salvation?

C5. What do you think is the minimum necessary for a person to do or say in order to be saved?

C6. Do you think this criminal knew what he was asking for? Do you think he was looking to be "saved"? What do you think was his motive or purpose for asking to be remembered?

#### D. APPLICATION

D1. If Jesus were sitting next to you, would you recognize Him?

D2. Is your heart ready to hear the Good News? Is your heart ready to hear any news?

D3. Which type of criminal are you? Do you see and understand what is right next to you or are you blinded and focused on yourself?

D4. What do you hope in when trouble hits you?

# ***Emmaus Disciples***

two men on road

## **Discussion Questions**

### GENERAL

A1. Why were these two disciples going to Emmaus? In fact, why were they going anywhere? Why were they leaving the other disciples in Jerusalem?

A2. The text says they were discussing and arguing about the events that had taken place. What might they have been arguing about?

Q. Why did Jesus have to die?

A3. Complete the statements about the key events that are reported as happening in this passage (24:13-35).

a. Two men walked west from Jerusalem to \_\_\_\_\_.

b. They were discussing the events in Jerusalem:

- chief priests/rulers had handed Jesus over to be \_\_\_\_\_;
- women found the tomb \_\_\_\_\_;
- the angels told them Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_;
- the disciples \_\_\_\_\_ the women's report.

c. Jesus joined them on the road, walked and talked with them, but they \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

d. Jesus opened up the Scriptures and \_\_\_\_\_.

e. Jesus would have gone on, except the men invited Him \_\_\_\_\_.

f. They \_\_\_\_\_ together.

g. Their eyes were \_\_\_\_\_ and they \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.

h. Then Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.

i. The disciples got up and returned to \_\_\_\_\_.

A3. What is your view or understanding of 24:16.... "*but they were kept from recognizing him?*"

A4. In 24:19 they referred to Jesus as a "prophet." Why? What does that tell you about what these two believed?

A5. In 24:21 notice that the disciples mentioned the "third day." It is possible that they were referring to the belief of the Jews that the soul left the body after the third day. But it is more likely they were remembering what Jesus said about "being raised" on the third day (there are 12 such references in the New Testament). This thought may have been one of the things the two were arguing about on the road. What do you believe they were thinking about in this context?

A6. In 24:30 Luke reports that Jesus took the bread, broke it, and gave thanks. Why? Who should have given the blessing?

A7. What was inherently happening when Jesus prayed and gave thanks? How might this have contributed to the disciples recognizing him?

A8. What other reason associated with the breaking of the bread might have contributed to the disciples recognizing Jesus?

A9. Why were the two returning to Jerusalem?

A10. Luke 24:32 reports that the disciples' hearts burned within them when Jesus talked with them on the road. Why do you suppose they said nothing at that point? Would you have revealed the feeling if you had been one of the two men?

Q. Has anything like this ever happened to you?

A11. In none of the other post-resurrection appearances of Jesus are the disciples prevented from recognizing Him. Why do you think Jesus did that in the case of these two disciples?

A12. Is the unnamed disciple a man or woman? Could you make an argument for the companion of Cleopas being a woman?

**B. DIGGING DEEPER**

B1. What theological or spiritual concepts are confirmed by the passage above (Luke 24:13-35)?

- a. The \_\_\_\_\_ actually happened.
- b. The tomb was \_\_\_\_\_.
- c. God is sovereign. He has the divine prerogative to keep us blinded to His presence if that suits Him.
- d. Jesus associated Himself with the \_\_\_\_\_ (24:26).
- e. Jesus had to \_\_\_\_\_ and then be \_\_\_\_\_ (24:26).
- f. The church can be \_\_\_\_\_ to believe the Bible. (24:25).
- g. God Himself will cause us to \_\_\_\_\_.

B2. What did Jesus mean in 24:26 when He said that He will enter into His glory?

B3. How does Hebrews 1:3 support what you found in B2?

Hebrews 1:3 *He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.* ESV

Q. What characteristic does John 2:11 reveal about Jesus?

B4. In 24:27 Jesus is said to have explained the Scriptures relative to Himself. If that explanation included the following passages, what would Jesus have revealed to the two disciples?

Isa 7:14 \_\_\_\_\_.

Isa 7:14 *Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.* ESV

Micah 5:2 \_\_\_\_\_.

Micah 5:2 *But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.* ESV

Mal 3:1 \_\_\_\_\_.

Mal 3:1 *Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.* ESV

Zech 13:7 \_\_\_\_\_.

Zechariah 13:7 *"Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who stands next to me," declares the Lord of hosts. "Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered; I will turn my hand against the little ones.* ESV

Zech 12:10 \_\_\_\_\_.

Zechariah 12:10 *"And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn."* ESV

Jer 31:31-32 \_\_\_\_\_.

Jeremiah 31:31-32 *"Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord."* ESV

Hosea 2:23 \_\_\_\_\_.

Hos 2:23 *"and I will sow her for myself in the land. And I will have mercy on No Mercy, and I will say to Not My People, 'You are my people'; and he shall say, 'You are my God.'"* ESV

Rom 9:24-25 *even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles? 25 As indeed he says in Hosea, "Those who were not my people I will call 'my people,' and her who was not beloved I will call 'beloved.'"* ESV

B4. What did the two disciples tell the group in Jerusalem when they returned (24:35)?

Q. What might they have wanted to keep hidden?

B5. These two disciples were in the upper room when Jesus appeared to the group of disciples gathered there (24:42-49). What important information did they observe and hear directly from Jesus because they were in that group?

- a. They observed Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ boiled fish like any other person who was alive.
- b. He said that everything that was \_\_\_\_\_ about Him in the Old Testament would be fulfilled.
- c. Their minds were opened to \_\_\_\_\_ the Scriptures – the same thing He did for the two disciples on road to Emmaus.
- d. Jesus told them to stay in Jerusalem until they received \_\_\_\_\_ (Pentecost).



C. APPLICATION

C1. Have you ever been surprised by Jesus' presence? Where? How? Why?

C2. Has Jesus ever been walking along with you and you did not recognize Him?

C3. What keeps you from recognizing Him or knowing that He may be near?

C4. Are you actually looking for Him? In Scripture? In worship? In your work? In your quiet times?

C5. Upon recognizing Jesus, the disciples rushed back to tell their friends. Do you have a friend who needs to hear about your encounter with Jesus?

# ***Ethiopian Eunuch***

Philip baptized

## **Discussion Questions**

### A. EUNUCH

A1. What do we actually know about the physical condition of the eunuch?

A2. If the eunuch was emasculated and not allowed beyond the Court of the Gentiles, why would he come to Jerusalem all the way from Ethiopia? [Dt 23:1 *No one whose testicles are crushed or whose male organ is cut off shall enter the assembly of the Lord. ESV*]

A3. Why would the Christian Gospel be attractive to an emasculated eunuch?

A4. Does this mean that in Judaism the eunuch was treated unfairly?

A5. Do you know any group today that might feel unwanted or not welcome like the emasculated eunuch?

Q. Why do you think this division, separation (segregation) occurs?

A6. Fill in the blanks describing what we know about the eunuch and what he did.

The eunuch was an Ethiopian official in charge of the \_\_\_\_\_.

He worked for \_\_\_\_\_ (the Queen of Ethiopia).

He was in Jerusalem to \_\_\_\_\_ the LORD.

He was returning home, riding in a \_\_\_\_\_ on the Gaza road.

He was reading from the book of \_\_\_\_\_.

He was probably a "God-fearer."

He was open to \_\_\_\_\_ listening and understanding \_\_\_\_\_.

Q. Why a eunuch? If the text simply described this person as a "high official" would any meaning be lost because he was not identified as a eunuch?

A7. The text says that the eunuch "went on his way rejoicing." What do you think that means?

## B. GENERAL

B1. Who is "the angel of the Lord" in 8:26, "the Spirit" in 8:29, and "the Spirit of the Lord" in 8:39?

B2. How did Philip respond to the angel?

B3. What can you find out about "*the road that goes down from Jerusalem to desert Gaza?*"

B4. Does this road sound like a very exciting place to be sent? Why? Why not?

**YES:** \_\_\_\_\_.

**NO:** \_\_\_\_\_.

B5. How would you have reacted if some dirty, dusty character ran up to your chariot and asked, "Do you understand what you're reading?"

But this government official said, "Sure, I'm always open to someone else's opinions. Jump in."

Q. How did the eunuch get a copy of Isaiah? What form would this be printed on?

Q. Do you think that Philip just ran up to the chariot and started this conversation?

B6. List the providential things God is doing in this story.

Q. Describe the major obstacles that Philip could have or might have encountered in approaching the official.

B7. What lessons do we learn from Philip's actions?

- a. He was \_\_\_\_\_ to the Spirit.
- b. He recognized what the eunuch was reading, so he \_\_\_\_\_ Scripture.
- c. He asked a \_\_\_\_\_ question.
- d. He was capable of using \_\_\_\_\_ to describe Jesus, the Messiah, and the Gospel.

B8. Why do you suppose the eunuch couldn't understand what he was reading?

### C. DIGGING DEEPER

C1. How would you walk somebody through the Bible telling them about Jesus? What key Scriptures would you use to lead an individual to Christ?

C2. What key principle of evangelism do you observe here?

C3. Isaiah's Servant Songs include:

The passage in Isaiah that the eunuch was reading was from Song #4. In these "songs" the Savior (Messiah) is pictured and characterized as a servant. He is also related to or contrasted with Israel and is described as being the perfect Israel. But the servant is mostly described in more human terms. For example, He will be crushed and suffer (53:10), but be resurrected (53:11), and He will win the victory, bearing the sins of many.

*Isaiah 53:7-8 He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open is mouth. Like a lamb led to the slaughter and like a sheep silent before her shearers, He did not open His mouth. 8 He was taken away because of oppression and judgment; and who considered His fate? For He was cut off from the land of the living; He was struck because of My people's rebellion.*

Q. The eunuch seemed to be having trouble understanding the identity of the one unjustly "led like a sheep to the slaughter." His question relates to the identity of the servant. What are the possible answers to his question?

C4. How does Jesus fit the description in the Fourth Servant Song?

**Isaiah 53:5** *But He was \_\_\_\_\_ because of our \_\_\_\_\_, crushed because of our \_\_\_\_\_; punishment for our peace was on Him, and we are healed by His \_\_\_\_\_.*

**Isaiah 53:11** *He will see it out of His anguish, and He will be satisfied with His knowledge. My righteous servant will \_\_\_\_\_ many, and He will carry their iniquities.*

C5. Why would this be considered an excellent place to start an explanation of the Gospel?

#### D. BAPTISM

D1. The eunuch asked, "What would keep me from being baptized?" If you were to answer that question, what would you say? What are the minimum requirements for someone to be saved?

Q. How long do you think Philip was talking with the eunuch?

D2. The eunuch said, "*I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.*" Do you think that is enough to baptize the eunuch?

D3. Why do you think the eunuch wanted so badly to be baptized?

D4. What principles do we learn about baptism from this passage?

Q. How would you explain to someone the need to be baptized and the freedom not to be baptized?

E. APPLICATION

E1. Who has been your Philip?

E2. Have you been a Philip recently? Do you need to be? Do you need to ask someone if you can help them?

E3. How much trouble do you have understanding Bible passages? Do you need a Philip?

E4. Do you know any person today who might feel like the eunuch? Is God calling you to talk with them?



# Jason

## the host

**EXERCISE:**

In the space following the letter in the left column write the number of the fulfilling passage from the right column. How many can you match correctly?

<b><u>Prophecies about the Messiah</u></b>	<b><u>New Testament Fulfillment</u></b>
A ____ Isaiah 40:3, 5    3 A voice of one crying out: Prepare the way of the Lord in the wilderness; make a straight highway for our God in the desert. . . 5 And the glory of the Lord will appear, and all humanity will see it together . .	1    Matthew 3:16-17    . . . The heavens suddenly opened for Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on Him. 17 And there came a voice from heaven: This is My beloved Son. I take delight in Him!
B ____ Psalms 69:8    I have become a stranger to my brothers and a foreigner to my mother's sons	2    Luke 22:48    48 but Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"
C ____ Psalms 2:7    I will declare the Lord's decree: He said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have become Your Father."	3    Luke 1:33    He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.
D ____ Isaiah 6:9-10    And He replied: "Go! Say to these people: Keep listening, but do not understand; keep looking, but do not perceive. 10 Dull the minds of these people; deafen their ears and blind their eyes; otherwise they might see with their eyes and hear with their ears, understand with their minds, turn back, and be healed."	4    Matthew 27:46    At about three in the afternoon Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lemá sabachtháni?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"
E ____ Psalms 41:9    Even my friend in whom I trusted, one who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.	5    Luke 3:4-6    3 He went into all the vicinity of the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, 4 as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: A voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way . . ."
F ____ Isaiah 53:12    12 Therefore I will give Him the many as a portion, and He will receive the mighty as spoil, because He submitted Himself to death, and was counted among the rebels; yet He bore the sin of many and interceded for the rebels.	6    Mt 22:44    The Lord declared to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand until I put Your enemies under Your feet."
G ____ Psalms 22:1    22 My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Why are You so far from my deliverance and from my words of groaning?	7    Matthew 13:34-35    34 Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables, and He would not speak anything to them without a parable, 35 so that what was spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled: I will open My mouth in parables . . .
H ____ Psalms 16:10    For You will not abandon me to Sheol; You will not allow Your Faithful One to see the Pit.	8    Matthew 28:5-6    5 But the angel told the women, "Don't be afraid, because I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here! For He has been resurrected, just as He said. . . ."
I ____ Psalms 110:1    The Lord declared to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies Your footstool."	9    John 1:11    He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.
J ____ Daniel 2:44    In the days of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, and this kingdom will not be left to another people. It will crush all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, but will itself endure forever.	10    Matthew 27:38    Then two criminals were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left.

## Discussion Questions

### GENERAL

A1. Why would Paul want to go to Thessalonica?

A2. Why does 17:2 say "as was his custom" Paul went to the synagogue?

Q. What is a synagogue?

A3. Who were the God-fearing Greeks? What makes them "God-fearing"?

A4. When the text says Paul "reasoned" with them from the Scriptures, what does that mean? What were the subjects he would have "reasoned" about?

A5. Acts 17:5 says the Jews became jealous. What would they be jealous of?

A6. How do you think Jason would feel about his house being attacked? Would he be glad they could not find Paul or upset about all the problems his guests brought on him and his household?

A7. In the Jewish culture what would have been Jason's responsibility as a host?

A8. They charged Jason with "receiving them as guests" (17:7). What was the crime?

A9. The crowd accused them of "turning the world upside down." What was the basis for this charge?

Q. The Jews were upset with Paul's religious teaching, but when Jason and his friends were dragged into court, what were they charged with?

Q. How would the Jesus-followers have felt about what they were doing and what was happening?

A10. How did Jason respond to all the accusations?

A11. What did it mean and what are the implications of Jason having to post bond?

A12. Where does 17:10 indicate Paul went when he left at night?

Q. The brothers sent Paul and Silas off to Berea as soon as it was dark (at night). Why at night? Were they afraid?

A13. This is about the sixth time Paul is forced to leave an area where he is preaching and teaching. Based on 1 Thess 2:1-6, what did Paul say about his visit?

## **B. DIGGING DEEPER**

B1. Acts 17:3 says that Paul explained why Jesus had to die and be raised from the dead. What would Paul have argued and why?

B2. Did Jesus ever say or imply He was the Messiah? Can you find one or more examples in Scripture?

B3. In addition to accusing them of hosting Paul and Silas, they made a more serious charge concerning Caesar. What did they say and what did they mean?

Q. Whether Jesus or Caesar was to be LORD was the real underlying issue for these Christians. Have you ever been in a similar conflict with your faith, where other "authorities" were claiming or demanding your loyalty but it conflicted with your Christian faith?

B4. How does this charge about being a "king" contrast with the charge against Jesus in Luke 23:2? *And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this man misleading our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ, a king."* ESV

Q. Do you think the local authorities had any grounds for being concerned about Jesus being King?

B5. How would you contrast *blaspheme* relative to being a Jew and *treason* relative to being a Roman citizen?

### C. APPLICATION

C1. Have you ever gotten into serious trouble for something you did not do?

C2. What risks are you willing to assume for your faith?

C3. Have you ever "reasoned" with anyone about the scriptures? Could you?

C4. Have you ever been afraid because you are a believer? If so, what did you learn? What would it be like to be in a foreign country where Christianity is hated?

C5. Have you ever publically stood up for your faith like Jason who posted a bond?

# The Obscure Bible Study Series

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Meet Shamgar, Jethro, Manoah &amp; Hathach</b></p> <p>This book of four lessons is provided at a reduced cost so that students and leaders can get a first-hand experience and introduction to The <i>OBSCURE</i> Bible Study Series.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Blasphemy, Grace, Quarrels &amp; Reconciliation</b></p> <p>This book presents Joseph of Arimathea, Joanna, Ananias, Hymenaeus, and Cornelius (one of the centurions). It illustrates the nature and challenges of life as a first-century disciple. Life has real challenges, but they can be overcome.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Beginning and the End</b></p> <p>This book has four lessons from Genesis and four from the book of Revelation. It covers such topics as creation, rebellion, grace, worship, and eternity. It illustrates how God is leading us to worship in the Throne Room. This book will be a great introduction to "The Story of the Bible" (28 lessons) to be published in 2021.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God at the Center</b></p> <p>This book touches on the virgin birth, worship, the sovereignty of God, prayer, compromise, and trust. In all these stories and events we find God. He is there in the shadows or openly orchestrating our lives. Regardless of the situation He is at the center of our lives – a sovereign almighty God.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Women of Courage</b></p> <p>This book examines the lives of Jael, Rizpah, the woman of Tekoa, Tabitha, Shiphrah, and Lydia. We see these women exhibiting great courage and faithfulness. God used them in amazing ways and we can use their example for encouragement and spiritual leadership.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Beginning of Wisdom</b></p> <p>In this book we find courage, loyalty, thankfulness, love, forgiveness, and humility. It is clear that personal character counts. It is critical to make good decisions because they have consequences. Building our lives on wisdom will help us stand firm in our faith. We don't want to follow the example of Demas who deserted Paul for the values of the world.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Miracles and Rebellion</b></p> <p>This book contrasts the stories of biblical characters who rebelled against God and those who trusted and believed. God hates sin and loves to heal the faithful. The rebellion of Korah, Haman, and Alexander are included to compare with the healing stories of Aeneas, a slave girl, and the crippled man at Lystra.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Chosen People</b> <b>There is a remnant.</b></p> <p>This book concentrates mostly on Israel in the Old Testament, but also covers some interesting subjects as Lucifer, Michael the archangel, and Job's wife.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Chosen Person</b> <b>Keep your eyes on Jesus.</b></p> <p>The focus of this book is on Jesus and the superiority of Christ. We investigate Melchizedek, the disciples on the road to Emmaus, Nicodemus, the criminal on the cross who asks to be remembered by Jesus, and others.</p>