


Day 1

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

*Who Is Jesus?*

<sup>21</sup> Once more Jesus said to them, "I am going away, and you will look for me, and you will die in your sin. Where I go, you cannot come."

Q1. To whom is Jesus speaking?

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Q2. Where was Jesus going?

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Q3. Why would the Jews "die in their sin"?

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<sup>22</sup> This made the Jews ask, "Will he kill himself? Is that why he says, 'Where I go, you cannot come'?"

Q4. Why did the Jews think He would commit suicide?

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<sup>23</sup> But he continued, "You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world.

Q5. What did Jesus mean by the phrase "You are from below"?

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Q6. What did this imply about Jesus' origin?

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## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

### John 1:1-3

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning.

<sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

### Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup> Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death -- even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.


Q7. If you were in the audience listening to Jesus, what might you have been thinking?

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## Day 2

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

<sup>24</sup> I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am the one I claim to be, you will indeed die in your sins."

Q8. Did Jesus' use of the phrase "I am" carry any special significance?

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### Exodus 3:13-15

<sup>13</sup> Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

<sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

<sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob — has sent me to you.'

"This is my name forever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation. . ."

## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

Q9. Who was Jesus claiming to be?

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Q10. Why did He warn them, "you will indeed die in your sins"?

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Q11. Does this apply to our family members, our close (or distant) relatives, our friends, our neighbors?

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<sup>25</sup> "Who are you?" they asked.

"Just what I have been claiming all along," Jesus replied. <sup>26</sup> "I have much to say in judgment of you. But he who sent me is reliable, and what I have heard from him I tell the world."

Q12. Will the Jews be judged? If yes, by who?

Judged? Yes? Who?  
No?

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Q13. Who sent Jesus? Who is "reliable"?

Who sent?

Reliable?

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### John 5:22-23 & 27

<sup>22</sup> Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, <sup>23</sup> that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him . . . <sup>27</sup> And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

### Matthew 7:26-29 [The Message (MSG)]

<sup>26-27</sup> "But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don't work them into your life, you are like a stupid carpenter who built his house on the sandy beach. When a storm rolled in and the waves came up, it collapsed like a house of cards."

<sup>28-29</sup> When Jesus concluded his address, the crowd burst into applause. They had never heard teaching like this. It was apparent that he was living everything he was saying — quite a contrast to their religion teachers! This was the best teaching they had ever heard.

### Matthew 28:18

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. . ."

## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

<sup>27</sup> They did not understand that he was telling them about his Father. <sup>28</sup> So Jesus said, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am the one I claim to be and that I do nothing on my own but speak just what the Father has taught me. <sup>29</sup> The one who sent me is with me; he has not left me alone, for I always do what pleases him.”

Q14. (Verse 28<sup>a</sup>) To what does this refer, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man”?

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Q15. When they “have lifted up the Son of Man”, they “will know that I am the one I claim to be”; to what does Jesus claim to be?

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Q16. In verse 26, Jesus said, “what I have heard from him I tell the world,” and then again in verse 29, He essentially repeats it by saying, “I always do what pleases him.” Are Jesus’ Words a lesson for us?

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<sup>30</sup> Even as he spoke, many put their faith in him.

## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

### Day 3

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

### *The Children of Abraham*

<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.

<sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Q17. Verse 31: How would you summarize Jesus' teaching?

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Q18. Verse 32: "Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free"; what is the "truth"? And how will "the Truth set you free"?

Truth?

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Free?

Q19. Verse 32: "The truth will set you free"; are the Jews in bondage? If you answer "yes", to what are the Jews in bondage? [Refer to John 8:34 (↓)]

Bondage? Yes? To what?  
No?

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Q20. Verse 31: Jesus remarked "to the Jews who believed Him". Is this relevant to us today? Are we, who believe in the saving grace of our Lord Christ Jesus, His disciples?

Relevance?

His disciples?

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<sup>33</sup> They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?"

Q21. Why was it important to the Jews that they were "Abraham's descendants"?

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## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

<sup>34</sup> Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin.


Q22. Someone could say, "I am a good person and I do not sin very often; therefore, I am not a slave to sin". How would you answer this person?

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### Day 4

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

<sup>35</sup> "Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.

Q23. Scripture states that there is a difference between a slave and a son. Why does the slave have "no permanent place in the family"?

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<sup>36</sup> "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Q24. Verse 36: Who is set "free"?

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Q25. Verse 36: How does the Son set us "free"?

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### **Ephesians 1:13-14**

<sup>13</sup> And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. *Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,* <sup>14</sup> who is a *deposit guaranteeing our inheritance* until the redemption of those who are God's possession -- to the praise of his glory.

## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

<sup>37</sup> “I know you are Abraham’s descendants. Yet you are ready to kill me, because you have no room for my word. <sup>38</sup> I am telling you what I have seen in the Father’s presence, and you do what you have heard from your father.”

Q26. Why did the audience "have no room for [Jesus'] Word"?

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Q27. In verse 31, Scripture states, "To the Jews who had believed Him. . ."; why might these Jews want to kill him? Are verses 31 and 37b in conflict?

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Q28. Verse 38: Jesus states that He speaks of that which He has seen in His Father's presence. How would the Jews have interpreted this statement?

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<sup>39</sup> “Abraham is our father,” they answered.

“If you were Abraham’s children,” said Jesus, “then you would do the things Abraham did.

Q29. What were some of “the things Abraham did”?

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 The Genesis 22 (↓) passage is but one example.

### Genesis 22:1-19

<sup>1</sup> Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

<sup>2</sup> Then God said, “Take your son , your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about. ”

<sup>3</sup> Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. <sup>5</sup> He

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said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you. ”

<sup>6</sup> Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, <sup>7</sup> Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?”

“Yes, my son?” Abraham replied.

“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

<sup>8</sup> Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

<sup>9</sup> When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. <sup>11</sup> But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

<sup>12</sup> “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

<sup>13</sup> Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> So Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the Lord it will be provided. ”

<sup>15</sup> The angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven a second time <sup>16</sup> and said, “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, <sup>18</sup> and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

<sup>19</sup> Then Abraham returned to his servants, and they set off together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.

<sup>40</sup> “As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. <sup>41a</sup> You are doing the things your own father does.”

Q30. Verse 41<sup>a</sup>: Who is the “father” to whom Jesus refers? And why did Jesus tell the religious leaders, “You are doing the things your own father does”?

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<sup>41b</sup> “We are not illegitimate children,” they protested. “The only Father we have is God himself.”

Q31. If God was their Father, how would they have acted?

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## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59


**Matthew 22:37-40** [The Message (MSG)]

<sup>37-40</sup> Jesus said, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence.’ This is the most important, the first on any list. But there is a second to set alongside it: ‘Love others as well as you love yourself.’ These two commands are pegs; everything in God’s Law and the Prophets hangs from them.”

**James 2:14-17** [The Message (MSG)]

<sup>14-17</sup> Dear friends, do you think you’ll get anywhere in this if you learn all the right words but never do anything [actions]? Does merely talking about faith indicate that a person really has it? For instance, you come upon an old friend dressed in rags and half-starved and say, “Good morning, friend! Be clothed in Christ! Be filled with the Holy Spirit!” and walk off without providing so much as a coat or a cup of soup — where does that get you? Isn’t it obvious that God-talk without God-acts [actions] is outrageous nonsense?

### Day 5

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

### *The Children of the Devil*

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me.

Q32. Jesus is claiming to be Who? Or what?

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<sup>43</sup> “Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say.

Q33. Why were the religious leaders unable to hear what Jesus said?

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## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

### Acts 28:27

For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise, they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn, and I would heal them.'

### Hebrews 3:7-9

<sup>7</sup> So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice, <sup>8</sup> do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert, <sup>9</sup> where your fathers tested and tried me and for forty years saw what I did.

Q34. Does God harden a heart? Or does the person harden his/her own heart?

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### Hebrews 4:7

Therefore, God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."

Q35. What is the result of a hardened heart?

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### Ephesians 4:17-18

<sup>17</sup> So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. <sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

<sup>44</sup> "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. <sup>45</sup> Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! <sup>46</sup> Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? <sup>47</sup> He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

Q36. As you read through these verses (44-47), what phrase or thought is strongest to you?


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## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

### Day 6

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

### *The Claims of Jesus About Himself*

<sup>48</sup> The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?"

Q37. Who are the Samaritans? And are the Jews and Samaritans friendly?

Samaritan characteristics?

Friendly? Yes

No?

Q38. What did Jesus state about the Jews in verse 44 (↑) . . . and what are the Jews now claiming about Jesus?



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## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

<sup>49</sup> “I am not possessed by a demon,” said Jesus, “but I honor my Father and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup> I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup> I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.”

Q39. Verse 51: What does Jesus mean when He states, “he will never see death”?

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Q40. How must a person do to “never see death”?

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<sup>52</sup> At this the Jews exclaimed, “Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that if anyone keeps your word, he will never taste death.

Q41. What is meant by the phrase, “he will never taste death”?

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<sup>53</sup> “Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?”

### **Exodus 3:6**

Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

### **Exodus 3:15**

God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob — has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation.

## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

Q42. In verse 53 (↑), the Jews said that “Abraham . . . died” (and by implication all of the other prophets of God). What do the preceding four passages (Exodus, Matthew, and Mark) state or imply about Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? Are they dead? Or alive?

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### Matthew 22:23, 29-33

<sup>23</sup> That same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] with a question. . .

<sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.

<sup>30</sup> At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven. <sup>31</sup> But about the resurrection of the dead — have you not read what God said to you, <sup>32</sup> ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”


<sup>33</sup> When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

<sup>54</sup> Jesus replied, “If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. <sup>55</sup> Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and keep his word. <sup>56</sup> Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad.”

Q43. These are religious leaders. Why did Jesus state, “My Father, whom you claim as your God . . . you do not know him”?

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 Note to verse 56 (↑): there appears to be no passages in Scripture from which verse 56 is quoted. However, the inference in the historical narrative of the Old Testament demonstrates that prophets did “see. . . My day . . . and was glad”.

### Exodus 3:14

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM”; and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

### Isaiah 41:4

“Who has performed and accomplished it, Calling forth the generations from the beginning? ‘I, the Lord, am the first, and with the last. I am He.’”

## Lesson 13: John 8:21-59

### Isaiah 43:10

“You are My witnesses,” declares the Lord, “And My servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe Me And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, and there will be none after Me.

### Isaiah 46:4

Even to your old age I will be the same, and even to your graying years I will bear you! I have done it, and I will carry you; and I will bear you and I will deliver you.

### Isaiah 52:6

Therefore, My people shall know My name; therefore in that day I am the one who is speaking, ‘Here I am.’”

<sup>57</sup> “You are not yet fifty years old,” the Jews said to him, “and you have seen Abraham!”

<sup>58</sup> “I tell you the truth,” Jesus answered, “before Abraham was born, I am!”

Q44. Is there significance in Jesus’ stated “I AM!”? [See questions following verse 24 (↑) on pages 2&3]

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<sup>59</sup> At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.

Q45. What was the Jews’ rationale for picking-up “stones to stone” Jesus?

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### Leviticus 24:13-16 [The Message (MSG)]

<sup>13-16</sup> Then God spoke to Moses: “Take the blasphemer outside the camp. Have all those who heard him place their hands on his head; then have the entire congregation stone him. Then tell the Israelites, Anyone who curses God will be held accountable; anyone who blasphemes the Name of God must be put to death. The entire congregation must stone him. It makes no difference whether he is a foreigner or a native, if he blasphemes the Name, he will be put to death.

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