

Week 1

An Introduction

Over the next few weeks, the goal of our study will be to focus on the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is central to the narrative of all of scripture and is certainly worthy of our study. There are several directions we could go with this study (and we will not exclusively use this method every week) but we have decided to look at prophecy in the Old Testament related to the coming Messiah and investigate how it is fulfilled in the New Testament.

Our hope is that this study will help us to see how vital the person of Jesus Christ is to the plan of God, as well as push us into further study of Jesus' importance and character. Each week we will also present some questions that will guide us into application. How does Jesus' life, ministry, and example change my own life? How should it?

In this first week's study we will introduce our topic and seek to answer the questions together, in the following weeks you will get the most out of the study by taking the time to answer the questions before your group meeting where you can then share and discuss together.

1. Read together Proverbs 30:1-4. Take some time to discuss some potential significance in this passage to our study.
2. Read together John 20:30-31. What does this passage tell us about the importance of Jesus Christ.
3. Read together John 17:1-5. What does this passage tell us about the importance of Jesus Christ.

4. Read together 1 John 5:20. What does this passage tell us about the importance of Jesus Christ.
5. Several of the passages we have looked at have mentioned eternal life. What is significant about this that it would be mentioned so often?
6. Take some time for any further discussion. (Further thoughts you may have or further questions from your small group leader.)

Week 2

Jesus' Birth

1. In our study this week we will look at some prophecies surrounding the birth of the Messiah and the fulfillment of God's plan. Take some time to study through the pairs of verses below. List how we can see the prophecies fulfilled and any additional items of note. (Use additional sheets if required)
 - a. (Genesis 12:1-3) (Acts 3:17-26)
 - b. (Genesis 28:14) (Luke 3:23-38, Focus on 34)
 - c. (Genesis 49:10) (Luke 3:23-38, Focus on v. 33)
 - d. (2 Samuel 7:12-13) (Matthew 1:1, and Luke 3:23-38, Focus on v.31)
 - e. (Isaiah 7:14) (Luke 1:34-35)
 - f. (Hosea 11:1) (Matthew 2:14-15)
 - g. (Micah 5:2) (Matthew 2:4-6)

2. Several of the verses that we looked at talked about the promises that God made to Abraham concerning his offspring.
 - a. In what general ways do we see these promises fulfilled? How do we see them met specifically in the person of Jesus Christ?

- b. Part of Christ's purpose in coming was to be a blessing to the world. As followers of Christ what are some ways that we can follow Him in this purpose?
3. Several of the verses that we looked at talked about a future king whose throne would never end.
 - a. What fulfillments do we see of this currently and in the future?
 - b. Jesus Christ is our King. How does this impact our lives?
4. Take some time for any further discussion on the significance of the birth of Christ. (Further thoughts you may have or further questions from your small group leader.)

Week 3

Jesus' Ministry

1. In our study this week we will look at some prophecies related to Jesus' ministry. Take some time to study through the pairs of verses below. List how we can see the prophecies fulfilled and any further things of note (Use additional sheets if required)
 - a. (Genesis 3:15) (1 John 3:8)
 - b. (Exodus 12:5) (Hebrews 9:14)
 - c. (Psalm 8:5-6) (Hebrews 2:5-9)
 - d. (Psalm 40:6-8) (Hebrews 10:5-10)
 - e. (Psalm 78:1-2) (Matthew 13:34-35)
 - f. (Isaiah 6:9-10) (Matthew 13:13-15)
 - g. (Isaiah 8:14-15) (1 Peter 2:7-8)
 - h. (Isaiah 9:1-2) (Matthew 4:12-17)
 - i. (Isaiah 35:5-6) (Luke 4:16-21)
 - j. (Isaiah 42:1-4) (Matthew 12:15-21)
 - k. (Isaiah 61:1) (Luke 4:16-21)
 - l. (Isaiah 53:3) (Luke 4:22-29)
 - m. (Zechariah 9:9) (Matthew 21:8-10)
 - n. (Zechariah 11:12-13) (Matthew 27:6-10)

2. Jesus' Ministry was divisive, and it was prophesied to be so! (See e, f, and g above). Matthew 10:34-39 is another passage that gives some context to this idea. Take some time to consider this aspect of Christ's ministry from these passages (and others you might find) and why it is important.

3. Several of the verses we looked at talked about Jesus' humbling and His rejection.
 - a. In what ways did Jesus exemplify humility in His coming and His ministry? How can we/should we follow Christ's example of humility?

- b. Matthew 7:13b says “broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it”. When Noah was calling for people to join him on the ark he was laughed off. Jesus Himself was rejected by many and even many of his followers abandoned Him. Take some time to think about the rejection that can come with following Christ. What areas do you find challenging and how do you endure and find encouragement through them. What lessons can we learn from Christ in this area?
4. Take some time for any further discussion on the significance of the ministry of Christ. (Further thoughts you may have or further questions from your small group leader.)

Week 4

Jesus' Claims

1. In our study this week we will look at some of the claims that Jesus made during His ministry. Take some time to study through the verses below. List the claims that Jesus made and any further things of note (Use additional sheets if required)
 - a. (John 8:54-59, focus on v.58) (Exodus 3:13-14)
 - b. (John 5:14-18) (Philippians 2:5-7)
 - c. (Mark 2:1-12)
 - d. (John 6:35)
 - e. (John 8:12)
 - f. (John 10:9)
 - g. (John 10:11)
 - h. (John 11:25)
 - i. (John 14:6)
 - j. (John 15:1)

2. Jesus claimed to be God and was often accused of implying that He was equal to God. Jesus demonstrated and claimed to have authority over what only God has authority. Several beliefs and viewpoints claim that Jesus was simply a great teacher or a good man. Why is it so important to not miss the truth that Jesus is God? What impact does it make on the gospel? How does/should it impact my own life?

3. Several of the claims we studied show that Jesus claimed to be sufficient for our needs. Many of the claims also portray Jesus as the only way to have these needs truly met. Write down some thoughts on these claims.

(Some potential questions to get you started)

- Have you found this to be true in your own life?
- How might you answer someone who challenges you that Jesus is not the only way to God/salvation?
- How does this impact my thinking/lifestyle?

4. Take some time for any further discussion on the significance of the claims of Christ. (Further thoughts you may have or further questions from your small group leader.)

Week 5

Jesus' Roles

1. In our study this week we will look at some of the roles (titles/offices/ongoing ministries) of Jesus. Take some time to study through the verses below. List the role of Jesus that is mentioned and any further things of note (Use additional sheets if required)
 - a. (Deuteronomy 18:15-16) (John 5:45-47)
 - b. (1 Samuel 2:35) (Hebrews 4:14-16)
 - c. (Psalm 9:7-10) (Acts 17:30-31)
 - d. (Jeremiah 31:31-34) (Hebrews 7:6-7)(1 Corinthians 11:23-26)
 - e. (Revelation 1:9-20)

Week 6

Jesus' Death and Resurrection

1. In our study this week we will look at some of the prophecies regarding Jesus' death and resurrection. Take some time to study through the verses below. List the any things of note (Use additional sheets if required)
 - a. (Exodus 12:21-27) (1 Corinthians 5:7)
 - b. (Numbers 21:4-9) (John 3:14-18)
 - c. (Job 19:23-27) (John 5:24-29)
 - d. (Psalm 22:1,7-8,15-18) (Matthew 27:32-43) (John 19:28-37)
 - e. (Psalm 16:9-11) (Acts 2:25-32)
 - f. (Isaiah 25:7-8) (Hosea 13:14) (1 Corinthians 15:54-57)

2. All throughout our study over the last several weeks we have looked at many prophecies that were given in the Old Testament that we see fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. What significance does this hold?

3. A major theme in Christ's ministry and in the prophecies regarding Him has been eternal life. How does/should eternal life and Christ as it's source impact our lives today?

4. Easter is just around the corner. Think about how some of the things you have studied in the past few weeks impacts the way that you will celebrate this year. What are some things you can share with family or others that you will be talking with?

5. Take some time for any further discussion on the significance of the death and resurrection of Christ. (Further thoughts you may have or further questions from your small group leader.)