

# WELCOME TO ADULT BIBLE STUDY

May 24, 2020

March-May 2020: JESUS THE MESSIAH

## **Unit 21: JESUS AMONG THE PEOPLE**

05/10 – Jesus Reveals His Power (Mark 1)

05/17 – Jesus Reveals His Mission (Luke 4)

***05/24 – Jesus Teaches About New Birth (John 3)***

05/31 – Jesus Teaches About Living Water (John 4)

# ***LAST WEEK'S SESSION AT A GLANCE***

In last week's session we saw Jesus proclaim His mission as the Messiah prophesied by Isaiah and how the people rejected Him. Ultimately, the rejection shown in His hometown of Nazareth would culminate in His rejection by the people at the crucifixion. The way Jesus faced rejection can motivate us to continue to persevere in our mission to proclaim salvation through Christ even when we face rejection, including by those closest to us.

***HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST WEEK'S  
SCRIPTURE PASSAGE...***

## JESUS REVEALS HIS MISSION (Luke 4:16-31)

Luke 4:16-22 – And He rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. *And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."*

Luke 4:23-27 – And He said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown."

Luke 4:28-31 – When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. *And they rose up and drove Him out of the town...so that they could throw Him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, He went away.*

***TODAY...***

# UNIT 21

## JESUS AMONG THE PEOPLE

### Session 3 – Jesus Teaches About New Birth

1. New Birth is a Work of the Holy Spirit  
(John 3:1-8)
2. New Birth Comes Thru Faith in the Son of God  
(John 3:9-15)
3. New Birth is a Gift from God the Father  
(John 3:16-18)

# ***THIS WEEK'S SESSION AT A GLANCE***

We will look at Jesus' teaching on the new birth, which is necessary to be able to see and enter the kingdom of God. New birth involves all three Persons of the Trinity: it is *a gift of God the Father*, through *the work of the Holy Spirit*, through *faith in the Son of God*. The new birth is characterized by obedience and motivates us to share the good news with others. The reconciling role of Christ on the cross makes possible the true and lasting transformation of our hearts through the new birth.

But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

- 1 Corinthians 6:11

## **QUESTIONS TO PONDER**

What thoughts and feelings might you have if you needed a new heart and then received one?

How has the storyline of the Old Testament scriptures demonstrated the need for the new birth?

What are some ways we should respond to God for the gift of His Son?

How does the loving God of the Bible contrast with the ways the world views Him?

# 1. NEW BIRTH IS A WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## (John 3:1-8)

John 3:1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.

John 3:2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

John 3:3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 3:4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

# 1. NEW BIRTH IS A WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (John 3:3-8)

John 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, *unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*

John 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

John 3:7 *Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'*

John 3:8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

*Not many mighty and noble are called; yet some are, and here was one. Not many of the rulers, or of the Pharisees; yet this was a man of the Pharisees, bred to learning, a scholar. Let it not be said that all Christ's followers are unlearned and ignorant men. Bad as things were, there were some rulers well inclined, who yet could do little good because the stream was so strong against them; they were over-ruled by the majority, and yoked with those that were corrupt, so that the good which they wished to do they could not do; yet Nicodemus continued in his place, and did what he could, when he could not do what he would.*

*- Matthew Henry*

## FILL IN THE BLANKS (P. 115)

Regeneration is the miraculous transformation, or the new birth that takes place within an individual through the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit. It is the divine side of conversion, being the work of God within a person's life that causes him or her to be born again, a work that human effort is unable to produce.

*“It is the Spirit who gives life;* the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.”

- *John 6:63*

Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. But *if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.*

- *Romans 8:8-10*

If we live by the Spirit, let us also  
walk by the Spirit.

- *Galatians 5:25*

## 2. NEW BIRTH COMES THROUGH FAITH IN THE SON OF GOD (John 3:9-15)

John 3:9 Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

John 3:10 Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?"

John 3:11 Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony.

John 3:12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?

## 2. NEW BIRTH COMES THROUGH FAITH IN THE SON OF GOD (John 3:9-15)

John 3:13 No one has ascended into heaven except He who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

John 3:14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,\* so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

John 3:15 that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life."

\* Numbers 21:4-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and *the Word was God*. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father*, full of grace and truth.

- *John 1:1-4,14*

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "*You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.*" And Jesus answered him, "*Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.*"

- *Matthew 16:13-17*

For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. *And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith.* Who is it that overcomes the world except *the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?* Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning His Son. And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. *Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.*

- *1 John 5:4-5,10-12*<sup>21</sup>

### 3. NEW BIRTH IS A GIFT FROM GOD THE FATHER (John 3:16-18)

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

John 3:18 Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God."

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent His only Son into the world, so that we might live through Him. *In this is love, not that we have loved God but that He loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.* And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

*- 1 John 4:9-10,14-15*

## FILL IN THE BLANKS

**P. 117 – God Is Love:** The imperfect love that human beings share between one another is a dim reflection, a sign that points to the perfect love that resides within God. The greatest act of love by God toward humans isn't the giving of earthly goods but the giving of Himself in Christ so that we might become reconciled to Him.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it--the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith.

- Romans 3:21-25

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification.

For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, *much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.*

- Romans 5:15-17

*As did Paul, may we make  
this the daily testimony of  
our faith...*

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh *I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.*

- *Galatians 2:20*

# NEXT WEEK

May 31, 2020

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The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the  
love of God, and the communion of the  
Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.

– *2 Corinthians 13:14*