

The Global Gospel Discussion Questions

1. Word Became Flesh

Scripture Reference: John 1:1-18

John talks about the coming of Jesus, who will be the true Light of the world.

Question 1: What does it mean to you personally that Jesus is Word? Creator? Life?

Question 2: Some have a hard time grasping the idea that Jesus is God. What has helped you understand, receive, or accept that idea?

Question 3: If we truly understood what it means to be a child of God, how might that change our behavior?

2. Birth of John Foretold

Scripture Reference: Luke 1:5-25

An angel visits Zechariah.

Question 1: In what ways do you find it surprising that Zechariah, a priest, was unsure when the angel told him his wife Elizabeth would have a son?

Question 2: Zechariah's prayer was heard. How can we know that our prayers are heard?

Question 3: How can your family, church, and friends show that they believe and trust in what God says?

3. Birth of Jesus Foretold

Scripture Reference: Luke 1:26-38

An angel visits Mary.

Question 1: What do you think were some of the very real consequences Mary had to deal with due to this miraculous conception?

Question 2: What causes you to believe that Jesus really was born of a virgin? What evidence is there for such a belief?

Question 3: In your community, what would people think and say about a woman who was pregnant without being married, especially if she were known to be a Christian?

4. Mary Visits Elizabeth

Scripture Reference: Luke 1:39-56

Mary goes to visit Zechariah's wife, Elizabeth.

Question 1: What would your neighbors think about a 60 year old pregnant woman shouting about the pregnancy of her teenage relative?

Question 2: What specifically excites you about the pregnancies of Elizabeth and Mary?

Question 3: Mary was confident that God would use her to present Jesus as Savior of the world. What makes you confident that God can use you to do the same?

5. Birth of John

Scripture Reference: Luke 1:57-80

Zechariah and Elizabeth name their son John.

Question 1: How are names for newborn babies chosen and who chooses them where you live?

Question 2: It was John's mission to prepare the people of his day to receive Jesus. What do you understand is your mission as a Christian today?

Question 3: How does John's ministry impact the church today?

6. Joseph Marries Mary

Scripture Reference: Matthew 1:18-25

An angel tells Joseph that Mary's pregnancy is God's will.

Question 1: What would be your response if your fiancée was found to be pregnant and you were not the father?

Question 2: Do you think God still uses dreams to communicate? Why? Why not?

Question 3: What does Joseph's obedience to God in these unusual circumstances teach us about our own obedience even when we don't fully understand?

7. Birth of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Luke 2:1-20

Jesus is born in Bethlehem, and the shepherds come to see Him.

Question 1: Ladies, if you were Mary, what kinds of fears and concerns would you have had on this trip?

Question 2: The shepherds spread the word about Jesus. How did your family or community hear about him?

Question 3: Men, if you were Joseph, what kinds of thoughts would you have had about Mary, the trip, the birth, and the visit of the shepherds?

8. Wise Men Visit Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 2:1-12

Wise men from the east follow a star to Jesus.

Question 1: A star led the wise men to Jesus. What leads you to him?

Question 2: What gifts did the wise men bring to Jesus? What kinds of gifts could we bring to Jesus to honor Him?

Question 3: How would your friends respond to the idea that even though Jesus was only a baby of about two years of age, intelligent and educated men worshipped Him?

9. Escape to Egypt

Scripture Reference: Matthew 2:13-23

Joseph, Mary, and Jesus go to Egypt because Herod wants to kill Jesus.

Question 1: What do you think makes some people respond to Jesus like Herod did and try to get rid of Him?

Question 2: As God protected Joseph and his family, how does He protect us today?

Question 3: Can you describe a time when you believe God took care of you in a difficult situation?

10. Infant Jesus at the Temple

Scripture Reference: Luke 2:22-40

Mary and Joseph take their son, Jesus, to the temple. They meet Simeon and Anna who realize Jesus is the chosen One of God.

Question 1: Simeon says the Messiah is for all nations. Would you share that truth with everyone or only those you see as worthy?

Question 2: Simeon and Anna are both able to see who Jesus is, even as a baby. Why do you think they were blessed with this knowledge?

Question 3: What would you have thought and feared if Simeon had spoken about the sword that would pierce your own soul as he said to Mary?

11. Boy Jesus at the Temple

Scripture Reference: Luke 2:41-52

Jesus sits in the temple among the teachers, listening and asking them questions. However, His parents don't know where He is.

Question 1: Describe how you would have reacted if Jesus had been your child and you could not find Him for three days.

Question 2: Jesus was obedient to his parents. In what ways does this indicate that children need to be obedient to their parents today?

Question 3: Jesus grew, "in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." How can we do the same?

12. John the Baptist's Ministry

Scripture Reference: Matthew 3:1-12

John the Baptist is baptizing people in the Jordan River as they repent of their sins.

Question 1: Has there been a time when you had to explain your reason for baptism? Do you hold baptism in high value?

Question 2: How can we encourage each other to go out into the world to proclaim the grace and mercy of Jesus Christ and make disciples just as John the Baptist did?

Question 3: Repentance is a change of mind that leads to a change of behavior. What do believers need to do today to produce fruit in keeping with repentance?

13. Baptism of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 3:13-17

Jesus wants John to baptize Him in the Jordan River. John doesn't feel worthy, but he does it anyway.

Question 1: If you have been baptized, how did your baptism change the course of your life?

Question 2: Why do you think God gave baptism to us? What does it do for us?

Question 3: How does the baptism of Jesus confirm to all people that He is the Son of God?

14. Temptation of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus eats nothing for forty days in the wilderness, and Satan tempts Jesus.

Question 1: What spiritual battles are being waged within you that need to be addressed and fought?

Question 2: Why is Scripture memorization a discipline that needs to be developed in your battle plan against the Devil?

Question 3: What lessons do you learn from Jesus' temptations about overcoming your own?

15. Jesus' First Disciples

Scripture Reference: John 1:35-51

Jesus gathers men together and tells them to follow Him. They are called His disciples.

Question 1: Describe how you came to know Jesus. Was your first encounter similar to Andrew's or Nathanael's?

Question 2: How well do you think Jesus knows you?

Question 3: What actions can people take to respond to His invitation, "Follow me"?

16. Jesus' First Miracle

Scripture Reference: John 2:1-11

Jesus performs a miracle at a wedding. He turns water into wine.

Question 1: What wedding traditions are practiced where you live?

Question 2: How can we help each other remember the endless joy our Lord gives us that is worth celebrating?

Question 3: Has Jesus brought belief in Him into your life? If not, discuss what might be your hesitance?

17. Nicodemus

Scripture Reference: John 3:1-17

Jesus tells Nicodemus about how much God loves everyone.

Question 1: Nicodemus came to Jesus at night. Why do you think some people choose to keep their belief in Jesus hidden?

Question 2: Jesus told Nicodemus he had to start all over to enter the Kingdom. How would you translate that Message for people today?

Question 3: What does John 3:16 mean in your own life? How does it move you? How has it transformed you?

18. Samaritan Woman

Scripture Reference: John 4:1-19

Jesus asks a woman at a well for water.

Question 1: How can we follow the example of Jesus in crossing social barriers such as race and gender?

Question 2: What would you do upon learning that a person you were trying to influence for Jesus was a very immoral person?

Question 3: The living water Jesus offers is eternal life. Why do so many people reject His offer?

19. Jesus Offers Living Water

Scripture Reference: John 4:20-42

Jesus explains about the living water He can give.

Question 1: What does it mean to you to worship “in Spirit and in Truth”?

Question 2: What kinds of rejected people would you be open to allowing Jesus to embrace through you?

Question 3: The Samaritans wanted Jesus to stay with them because they realized He was the Savior of the world. Why do some people want Jesus to stay, but others want Him to leave?

20. Official's Son Healed

Scripture Reference: John 4:43-53

A royal official begs Jesus to heal his dying son. Jesus heals the son and his whole family believes in God.

Question 1: Is there a step of faith Jesus has been urging you to take that you have been delaying? Explain.

Question 2: Relate a time when Jesus wonderfully answered one of your prayers.

Question 3: The royal official was certain that Jesus could heal his son. How can we trust Jesus more to provide the solutions to our problems?

21. Rejection at Nazareth

Scripture Reference: Luke 4:14-30

Jesus teaches where He grew up in Nazareth. The people don't like what He is saying, so Jesus leaves.

Question 1: Share a time when you were rejected in your community by your friends or family.

Question 2: Is there someone you would normally avoid that you need to invite to your home to share this Good News?

Question 3: How is it that the people can be amazed at the teaching of Jesus and soon afterwards want Him out of their lives?

22. Calling the First Disciples

Scripture Reference: Luke 5:1-11

Jesus tells some fishermen to again lower their nets, and they catch many fish. They are amazed, and they leave everything to follow Jesus.

Question 1: What people, experiences, or things prevent people from truly abandoning it all to follow Jesus?

Question 2: How can you encourage a person who is struggling with giving up a relationship, possession, or occupation to continue pursuing Jesus wholeheartedly?

Question 3: What kind of symbolism do you find in this story that you can relate to your own life?

23. Driving Out an Evil Spirit

Scripture Reference: Luke 4:31-37

Jesus commands a demon to leave a man, and the people are amazed by His power.

Question 1: How do we know Jesus is the most powerful Spirit?

Question 2: To what extent do you think demon possession is real?
What kinds of things could open a person up for demon possession?

Question 3: How is Satan attempting to destroy you? How does Jesus come to our rescue?

24. Peter's Mother-in-law Healed

Scripture Reference: Luke 4:38-43

Peter's mother-in-law is sick with a fever, and Jesus heals her.

Question 1: If Jesus had His way and Satan was out of the way, how do you think your life would look?

Question 2: When was the last time you, or someone you know, was really sick?
How did Jesus show kindness during that situation?

Question 3: Why should we not blame all sickness and mental illness on demons, though some of it may be due to demon possession?

25. Leper Healed

Scripture Reference: Luke 5:12-16

A man with leprosy begs Jesus to heal him, and He does.

Question 1: How can we reach out to outcast people like Jesus did to bring them healing?

Question 2: If you were to experience a time when you felt ashamed or like you were an outsider, what would you need most during that time to restore you?

Question 3: What can the Church do to help relieve the suffering of people?

26. Paralytic Healed

Scripture Reference: Luke 5:17-26

Jesus forgives the sins of a paralyzed man and heals him.

Teachers of the law question Jesus and His ability to forgive sins.

Question 1: Who among your friends and family do you need to bring to Jesus for forgiveness and healing?

Question 2: Share a time when you truly felt forgiven by Jesus and what it was like.

Question 3: How does Jesus prove to others that He has the authority to forgive sins and to heal hurting people?

27. Jesus Calls Matthew

Scripture Reference: Matthew 9:9-13

Jesus sees Matthew sitting at a tax booth and says to him, "Follow me." Matthew gets up and follows Jesus.

Question 1: Give an example of a time you followed Jesus with no explanation because you knew He was the Son of God, and you wanted to obey.

Question 2: If you had a friend or relative who thought Jesus could never love him or her, how could you show Jesus to that person?

Question 3: Jesus came to call sinners and minister to the sick. How do you think the Church has abandoned and/or fulfilled His mission?

28. New Cloth and Wineskins Parable

Scripture Reference: Matthew 9:14-17

Jesus tells a story to explain when the time will be right for His disciples to fast.

Question 1: In what ways is your life as a follower of Jesus "new and improved" from your old life?

Question 2: How can we balance a life of joyful celebration with Jesus and a serious commitment to be against evil and sin?

Question 3: Describe some ways Jesus has brought celebration into your church, your family, or your own personal/spiritual life.

29. Lame Man at the Pool Healed

Scripture Reference: John 5:1-15

Jesus heals a lame man, but Jesus doesn't let the man know it is Him.

Question 1: To what extent do you think disabilities and ailments are caused by sin?

Question 2: The Jewish leaders objected to healing on the Sabbath. What would influence you in times when you don't feel like helping someone? Why?

Question 3: What reasons can you think of for why some people don't want to accept the help of Jesus?

30. Lord of the Sabbath

Scripture Reference: Luke 6:1-5

Some teachers of the law accuse the disciples of sinning on the Sabbath.

Jesus responds to them by saying, "The Son of Man is the Lord of the Sabbath."

Question 1: A main purpose for the Sabbath was rest. In what way can Jesus bring rest into an area of your life that is needlessly wearing you out?

Question 2: How can following the rules and maintaining your status in life stretch your ability to follow Jesus?

Question 3: In what ways do Christians sometimes give preference to religious rules over human needs?

31. Healing on the Sabbath

Scripture Reference: Luke 6:6-11

The teachers of the law get angry when Jesus heals a man on the Sabbath.

Question 1: The religious leaders placed tradition and regulation above human need. In what ways does the Church sometimes do this today?

Question 2: Describe some ways you could do good even if your culture did not approve.

Question 3: If you had been in church the day Jesus healed the man's withered hand, what would your reaction have been?

32. Twelve Disciples Chosen

Scripture Reference: Luke 6:12-16

Jesus chooses twelve of His followers. These men are known as the twelve disciples.

Question 1: Where is it hard in your daily living to follow Jesus?

Question 2: Jesus prayed all night before choosing His twelve disciples. Describe a time when you prayed a very long time before making an important decision.

Question 3: What is the value of Jesus choosing diverse men from diverse backgrounds to become the leaders in His Kingdom and what example does that leave the Church today?

33. Beatitudes

Scripture Reference: Matthew 5:1-12

Jesus teaches the crowds and His disciples about who is blessed.

Question 1: Why are the teachings called the Beatitudes difficult to understand?

Question 2: Share a time when you applied one of the principles in the Beatitudes and reaped a blessing in your own life.

Question 3: What would your group of Jesus followers look like if we lived like these teachings were true?

34. Salt and Light Parable

Scripture Reference: Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus talks about salt and light in order to teach the crowds about how they should live.

Question 1: What would it look like for your family to live as salt and light?

Question 2: What keeps you from letting your light shine before others sometimes? What are some baskets that hide your light?

Question 3: What can we do to be salt and light to the world around us?

35. Adultery and Divorce

Scripture Reference: Matthew 5:27-32

Jesus teaches about the sin of adultery and the consequences of divorce.

Question 1: How can we walk alongside those who are dealing with adultery or divorce and still honor Scripture?

Question 2: What does adultery or divorce mean to your family?

Question 3: In light of the Scripture, what kind of things do you think Jesus is asking you to do?

36. Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reference: Matthew 6:1-15

Jesus teaches us how to pray.

Question 1: How can we know that God hears the prayers of people?

Question 2: Where and how did you learn to pray?

Question 3: How would our prayers be different if we concentrated more on the relational aspect of our conversations with God rather than just requesting what we want?

37. Fasting

Scripture Reference: Matthew 6:16-24

Jesus teaches about fasting and that our heart will be found in what we treasure.

Question 1: Describe what you believe is involved in biblical fasting.

Question 2: What value do you think fasting can have for Christians?

Question 3: What do you think are some real dangers of hoarding money and material possessions for selfish purposes?

38. Worry

Scripture Reference: Matthew 6:25-34

Jesus tells us not to worry because He will take care of all of our needs.

Question 1: Explain worry by giving an example, and then explain to what extent worry can actually change things.

Question 2: Since God is generous to supply the grass of the fields with beautiful wild flowers, which disappear, what is the value of worrying over what He will do for us?

Question 3: How strongly do you believe that if you seek God's Kingdom and His righteousness, everything you need will be given to you as well?

39. Wise and Foolish Builders Parable

Scripture Reference: Matthew 7:24-29

Jesus tells us that we need to build our life around Him.

Question 1: What should be the rock foundation of our lives? What is the sand upon which some build their lives?

Question 2: How can we lay a more secure foundation for our Christian lives? Be practical, even confessional with this.

Question 3: The difference between the wise builder and the foolish builder was that although they both heard the words of Jesus, only the wise builder followed them. What can you do to be sure you not only hear but also do what Jesus says?

40. Widow's Son Raised

Scripture Reference: Luke 7:11-17

Jesus raises a young man back to life, and everyone watching is amazed.

Question 1: How do you think you would have responded if you had witnessed the miracle of Jesus raising this boy from the dead?

Question 2: What do you think your own resurrection will be like, both the experience and your body?

Question 3: Jesus felt great compassion towards this woman whose only son was dead. How can the Church display great compassion towards those who have loved ones who have died?

41. Anointing of Jesus' Feet

Scripture Reference: Luke 7:36-50

A woman washes Jesus' feet with her tears and anoints them with oil. He forgives her sins.

Question 1: Is your attitude more like the man in the parable who was forgiven 500 denarii or the one forgiven of 50?

Question 2: What evidence have you seen that the principle "people forgiven much, love more" applies to the church today?

Question 3: How radical are you willing to be in order to openly express your faith in Jesus?

42. Kingdom of Heaven Parables

Scripture Reference: Matthew 13:44-53

Jesus tells us that Heaven is a treasure that we should seek.

Question 1: What treasure do you need to give totally to Jesus to be a more faithful follower of Jesus?

Question 2: Compared to the man and the merchant, how valuable is the Kingdom of Heaven to you?

Question 3: How have your friends, family and church demonstrated that the Kingdom of Heaven is a treasure to be eagerly sought after?

43. Calming the Storm

Scripture Reference: Matthew 8:18,23-27

The disciples are amazed when Jesus controls the sea and wind and ends a storm.

Question 1: Why do we have such a difficult time trusting in Jesus?

Question 2: Why does it sometimes seem that Jesus is asleep when storms darken your life?

Question 3: Does having faith mean we should never be afraid? Why or why not?

44. Demoniacs Healed

Scripture Reference: Matthew 8:28-34

Jesus casts demons out of two men and tells the demons to go into a herd of pigs.

Question 1: What is a demoniac?

Question 2: Why do you think that some people want Jesus to leave them alone?

Question 3: The demons recognized Jesus as “Son of the Most High God.” How do people recognize Jesus in your culture?

45. Woman and Jairus' Daughter Healed

Scripture Reference: Luke 8:40-56

Jesus raises Jairus' daughter back to life, and a woman who touches Jesus is healed because she has faith.

Question 1: Have you ever had someone announce to you the death of a loved one? Describe how it happened and how you felt.

Question 2: What does Jairus risk in coming to Jesus? What did/would it “cost” you to become a follower of Jesus and ask for His help in your life?

Question 3: How can we help people who are as desperate as Jairus and the bleeding woman to seek out Jesus as the answer to their situation?

46. Two Blind Men and a Mute Man Healed

Scripture Reference: Matthew 9:27-34

Jesus gives two blind men their sight, but He tells them not to tell anyone about it. Then Jesus heals a mute man.

Question 1: In what areas of your life do you need to more fully put your faith in Jesus?

Question 2: In what ways might Christians still be partially blind or dumb spiritually?

Question 3: Why do you think some people are amazed at Jesus while others ridicule Him?

47. Lord of the Harvest

Scripture Reference: Matthew 9:35-38

Jesus travels and preaches the Good News about the Kingdom of Heaven, and He heals many people.

Question 1: In your community, who is part of the harvest and who are the workers?

Question 2: How can you be one of the workers who are responsible for the harvest?

Question 3: What does the Church need to do to become more involved in harvesting?

48. Blind and Mute Man Healed

Scripture Reference: Matthew 12:22-25,38-45

When Jesus heals a demon possessed man, the Pharisees think He is doing it by the power of Beelzebul, but that is not true. Then the experts in the law ask Jesus for a sign.

Question 1: What potential reasons are there for people who refuse to believe even after Jesus has offered them a sign?

Question 2: What do you think the church you attend believes about the power of Jesus to heal?

Question 3: What real difference does the power of Jesus make in your daily struggles against evil?

49. Sower Parable

Scripture Reference: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Jesus tells a story about a farmer to show that there are different results from hearing about the Kingdom of Heaven.

Question 1: How do life's worries, life's riches, and life's pleasure keep people from accepting the Word of God?

Question 2: What can you do to make sure you are "good soil"?

Question 3: Since the seed is the Word of God and the soils represent the hearts and minds of people, what does this parable indicate is the responsibility of the Church?

50. Weeds, Mustard Seed, and Leaven Parables

Scripture Reference: Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus tells stories to explain the Kingdom of Heaven.

Question 1: What would Jesus call weeds in your life that may decrease your spiritual growth?

Question 2: In what ways can impatience and intolerance of unbelievers harm our mission as Christians?

Question 3: Where in the lives of Christians have you seen "mustard seed faith" (something small making a great impact) at work?

51. Twelve Disciples Sent Out

Scripture Reference: Mark 6:7-13

Jesus sends His disciples out and gives them the power over unclean spirits and to heal.

Question 1: What can we learn from the instructions Jesus gave the twelve disciples?

Question 2: What could you, or would you, be willing to do to help share the Message of Christ?

Question 3: By what methods can the Church effectively preach the need for repentance to those where you live?

52. Death of John the Baptist

Scripture Reference: Matthew 14:1-12

Herod makes a promise that ends with the death of John the Baptist.

Question 1: John stood for what was right in the face of opposition. Is there something God is calling you to do, even in the face of sacrifice? Explain.

Question 2: Herod acted to please the crowd. Are there actions the Church does sometimes for the same reason?

Question 3: Do you think following Jesus is worth sacrificing your life? Why or why not?

53. Feeding of the Five Thousand

Scripture Reference: John 6:1-13

Jesus feeds 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish.

Question 1: How does feeding the people under these conditions give you hope for the present and promise for the future?

Question 2: How has Jesus stretched your limited resources far beyond what you could have imagined?

Question 3: Jesus was testing Philip. When and how has He ever tested you?

54. Jesus Walks on the Water

Scripture Reference: Matthew 14:22-33

When the disciples are in a storm, Jesus walks on the water toward their boat. Peter tries to walk out to meet Jesus on the lake.

Question 1: If you could experience a miracle involving Jesus and a natural wonder, what would the miracle look like? Who would be there? What would be the result?

Question 2: Was there a time when Jesus rescued you from a stormy situation and your faith failed?

Question 3: How can understanding that Jesus can rescue us in scary, stormy times strengthen our faith in Him?

55. Feeding of the Four Thousand

Scripture Reference: Mark 8:1-10

A crowd is with Jesus for three days and has nothing to eat, so Jesus feeds them with seven loaves of bread.

Question 1: In what way is God asking you to act in faith that He will provide?

Question 2: What can we do to grow our trust in God's faithfulness?

Question 3: How does an honest look at the local church indicate an embarrassing level of unbelief?

56. Peter's Confession of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Mark 8:27-30

Peter says that Jesus is the Christ.

Question 1: What do you believe about Jesus?

Question 2: Who do people say Jesus is?

Question 3: What does Jesus want you to tell others about Him?

57. Transfiguration of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Luke 9:28-36

Jesus is praying and begins to shine like a bright, white light. Moses and Elijah talk with Jesus.

Question 1: What would be your response to a person who claims Jesus is just a moral teacher like many other religious leaders? What do you think Moses and Elijah would say to that person?

Question 2: Share a time when you experienced Jesus in an unusual way.

Question 3: When it comes to listening to Jesus, why do you think so many people can't hear Him?

58. Demoniac Boy Healed

Scripture Reference: Luke 9:37-43

Jesus casts an unclean spirit out of a boy, and everyone is amazed by God's power.

Question 1: Think about a time when you had real faith in God and did what He asked you to do. What were the results?

Question 2: Describe a time when you stepped out on faith, attempting to accomplish something for God and failed. What do you think was the cause of the failure, and how did you feel at the time?

Question 3: Based upon Jesus' teaching about prayer and faith, how do you think most Christians would handle a battle with a demon?

59. Restoring Christian Relationships

Scripture Reference: Matthew 18:15-22

Jesus tells us how to confront sin and how we are to forgive.

Question 1: What changes do we need to make in order to avoid sins and be at peace?

Question 2: Are the people around you quick and direct when resolving conflict, or do they go indirectly to the problem?

Question 3: Describe how one should go about confronting another who has sinned.

60. Woman Caught in Adultery

Scripture Reference: John 8:1-11

Jesus spares a woman caught in adultery from being stoned to death.

Question 1: What do you think Jesus would say to sinners today? How does that differ from what we often say?

Question 2: What is the main principle taught in this story, and how could it be applied today?

Question 3: How does the way Jesus accepts you "as you are" free you to change rather than reinforce your bad behavior?

61. Man Born Blind Healed

Scripture Reference: John 9:1-17

Jesus heals a blind man to show God's power.

Question 1: Do you know anyone who has been seriously sick or physically crippled who was told this indicated sin in their life? What would Jesus say?

Question 2: The disciples ask, "What caused this man's blindness?" The focus of Jesus is on how to help the blind man. What does the Church need to learn from this exchange?

Question 3: It would not have been easy for the blind man to do what Jesus told him. How has your faith been challenged to follow the instructions of Jesus?

62. Pharisees Question the Man Healed by Jesus

Scripture Reference: John 9:18-41

The Pharisees question the healed man and his parents.

Question 1: In the face of fierce opposition and dire consequences, the once blind man testifies strongly about Jesus. How has your faith been challenged to stand strong in such a situation?

Question 2: Though being confronted clearly with who Jesus is and what He does, why do you think so many people still refuse to believe in Him?

Question 3: Faith in Jesus can lead to exclusion from some groups. Have you experienced such a time?

63. Good Shepherd Parable

Scripture Reference: John 10:1-17

Jesus tells a story about a shepherd. Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

Question 1: What are the advantages of being in Jesus' flock?

Question 2: How is the Church, which includes you, like a flock of sheep?

Question 3: Since Jesus is the Good Shepherd, how has He cared for and nourished you?

64. Good Samaritan Parable

Scripture Reference: Luke 10:25-37

Jesus tells a story about a Samaritan to answer the question, "Who is my neighbor?"

Question 1: What would it cost you to live like this good Samaritan?

Question 2: Who is your neighbor? Name specific people and how you are going to act like Jesus would to them.

Question 3: What kinds of people in need does the Church tend to overlook?

65. Mary and Martha

Scripture Reference: Luke 10:38-42

Jesus tells Martha that listening to Him is the most important thing in life.

Question 1: Why is working hard for Jesus sometimes not what He wants us to be doing?

Question 2: Are you more like Mary or Martha? Why?

Question 3: What do we miss by being overly concerned with performance rather than relationships? What steps can we take to correct this?

66. Stopped Woman Healed

Scripture Reference: Luke 13:10-17

The ruler of the synagogue is angry because Jesus heals a woman on the Sabbath.

Question 1: What tensions between caring for people and keeping religious rules does the Church experience today?

Question 2: How could you imitate the caring compassion of Jesus for hurting people, even publicly?

Question 3: Jesus puts a priority on helping people over helping animals. How would you describe your priorities in comparison to His?

67. Prodigal Son Parable

Scripture Reference: Luke 15:11-32

Jesus tells a story about a son who asks his father for his share of the wealth.

After the son wastes the money, he returns home, and his father joyfully welcomes him back.

Question 1: The father describes the younger runaway brother upon his return home as “dead but now alive,” and “lost but now found.” How do these descriptions apply to those who have rejected God, but have now accepted Him?

Question 2: How has God been like this father to you?

Question 3: If you were to compare yourself to the two brothers in the parable, which one do you identify with and why?

68. Unjust Servant Parable

Scripture Reference: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus teaches that we cannot serve two masters. We cannot serve both God and money.

Question 1: What are you supposed to do with your wealth according to this story?

Question 2: Jesus called the manager shrewd because he prepared for the future. How can we be shrewd in preparing for eternity?

Question 3: What is the problem in attempting to serve two masters?

69. Rich Man and Lazarus Parable

Scripture Reference: Luke 16:19-31

Jesus teaches that anyone who repents before they die will go to Heaven.

Question 1: The rich man wished his brothers would learn the Truth about God so they wouldn't enter Hell like he did. Who are the people that you wish knew the Truth about God now?

Question 2: What does this story teach about Heaven and Hell?

Question 3: How does this parable insist that our present financial management has eternal consequences?

70. Lazarus Dies

Scripture Reference: John 11:1-23

Lazarus, a friend of Jesus, dies.

Question 1: What false sense of hope does our world have about death and the life to come? What scares you the most about dying?

Question 2: How does the postponed response of Jesus to Mary and Martha's request help you to understand your own prayer life?

Question 3: The disciples understood the risk in following Jesus into dangerous territory. How would you respond if Jesus called you to do something risky?

71. Lazarus Raised from Death

Scripture Reference: John 11:24-45

Jesus raises Lazarus back to life.

Question 1: Jesus knew what He was about to do; why did He still weep outside the tomb?

Question 2: How does the response of Jesus to the death of Lazarus and Mary's weeping help you to trust Him in a faith-stretching situation you may someday face?

Question 3: How can you use this remarkable incident to help people in your community accept Jesus as the only One who can give them true life?

72. Ten Lepers Healed

Scripture Reference: Luke 17:11-19

Jesus heals ten lepers and only one comes back to say, "Thank you."

Question 1: Who would be considered to be outcasts like lepers today?

Question 2: As one of the "nine," how would you rationalize not going back to thank Jesus?

Question 3: How and what do you genuinely thank Jesus for today?

73. Little Children Blessed

Scripture Reference: Luke 18:15-17

Jesus tells us that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to the little children.

Question 1: In what ways can we do a better job in helping the "little children" come close to Jesus?

Question 2: How do you think one can receive the Kingdom of God like a little child?

Question 3: The disciples seemed to be irritated by the interruption and distraction these children were causing. How does this sometimes happen in church services today, and what can be done to remedy the situation?

74. Rich Young Ruler

Scripture Reference: Matthew 19:16-26

Jesus tells a rich young ruler that he must give everything he owns to the poor to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

Question 1: What is keeping you from being the fully devoted follower Jesus wants you to be? Is it money, a relationship, a job, a question, or a guilty past?

Question 2: What do you think is the value of good works and keeping the commandments of Christ? Does these help us to gain eternal life?

Question 3: Why is Jesus so tough on riches?

75. Death and Resurrection Prophecies

Scripture Reference: Luke 18:31-34

Jesus talks about His own death, but His disciples do not understand.

Question 1: How can we understand the will of God?

Question 2: How do you try to better understand what Jesus is trying to tell you?

Question 3: If you were one of the disciples, how do you think you would have responded to and interpreted these predictions?

76. Blind Beggar Healed

Scripture Reference: Luke 18:35-43

A blind man cries out to Jesus for mercy, and Jesus heals him.

Question 1: How can we show more practical consideration and support for the disabled, elderly, children, foreigners, minorities, etc.?

Question 2: If Jesus were to ask, "What do you want me to do for you?" What would be your response?

Question 3: The faith of the blind beggar absolutely convinced him that Jesus could give him back his sight. How strong is your faith when you are confronted by seemingly impossible situations?

77. Zacchaeus

Scripture Reference: Luke 19:1-10

Jesus visits the home of a tax collector, Zacchaeus.

Question 1: How far will you go to be sure you can "see" Jesus?

Question 2: What could we do to communicate the love of Christ better to the rich elite who are lost like Zacchaeus?

Question 3: Jesus came to seek and save the lost. What did you come for?

78. Triumphal Entry

Scripture Reference: Matthew 21:1-11

Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey, and the people shout, "Hosanna!"

Question 1: What are the practical differences between establishing an earthly kingdom and a heavenly Kingdom? Of which kingdom do you really want to be a part? Why?

Question 2: How would it change our perspective of what it means to be a Christian if we viewed Jesus as King just as much as we view Him as Savior?

Question 3: How might you have reacted if you had been there to watch Jesus riding into town?

79. Fig Tree Cursed and Temple Cleansed

Scripture Reference: Mark 11:12-23, 27-33

Jesus curses a fig tree. He drives out people that were buying and selling goods in the temple, and then the experts in the law challenge the authority of Jesus.

Question 1: If Jesus were to cleanse the Church today (not just your local church but the universal, or at least national church), what do you suppose He would attack?

Question 2: What does this story tell you about what really angers Jesus, and how does that relate to the religious practices of the Church today?

Question 3: What does this event show you about Jesus?

80. Widow's Offering

Scripture Reference: Mark 12:41-44

A poor widow puts all of her money in the offering.

Question 1: What did Jesus like about how the widow gave?

Question 2: How do you decide what you will give to Kingdom work?

Question 3: Why do you suppose it is true that poorer people give a greater percent of their money for charity than richer people do?

81. Ten Virgins Parable

Scripture Reference: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a story encouraging His followers to always be ready because His return will be unexpected.

Question 1: What do we need to do to be ready for the bridegroom?

Question 2: What are you willing to do so that when the day comes you will be ready for the bridegroom?

Question 3: If you had a more keen awareness of the reality of the return of Jesus and believed it would happen very soon, how might you re-prioritize your activities?

82. Final Judgment of the World

Scripture Reference: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus talks about Judgment when He will forever separate those who believe in Him from those who don't.

Question 1: If you knew Jesus was coming today, what would you do to get ready?

Question 2: Whom do we need to feed, clothe, take in, or visit in the name of Jesus?

Question 3: What are you doing to fulfill the expectation of practical benevolence? Are you comfortable with your level of involvement with the least and the lost?

83. Plot to Kill Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 26:1-5

The chief priests plan to arrest and kill Jesus.

Question 1: How did religious leaders not recognize Jesus?

Question 2: When the Sanhedrin gathered to talk about arresting Jesus, what kinds of things do you think they said about Him? How did they justify arresting Him?

Question 3: Why do you think some people just want to get rid of Jesus?

84. Mary Anoints Jesus' Feet

Scripture Reference: Matthew 26:12-13; John 12:1-8

Mary anoints Jesus' feet with oil and wipes His feet with her hair.

Question 1: Why is this story so important that it should be told wherever the Gospel is preached (Matthew 26:13)?

Question 2: What would you be willing to do to honor Jesus as lavishly as Mary did if you could?

Question 3: Why do you think some people consider going all out to glorify Jesus is too far?

85. Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 26:14-16

Judas goes to the chief priests and agrees to betray Jesus for thirty silver coins.

Question 1: Is there a big enough temptation in your life that you can even imagine what Judas must have been thinking? Explain.

Question 2: Since Satan influenced Judas, a close follower of Jesus for about three years, to betray Jesus, how easily do you think he might influence you?

Question 3: Why do some people prefer to sell out rather than be His follower?

86. Jesus Shows Humility

Scripture Reference: Matthew 26:17-20; John 13:4-15

Jesus washes the feet of His disciples.

Question 1: If a group of Christians chose to live like this, how would it affect their marriages, families, and friends?

Question 2: What impresses you about Jesus washing the disciples' feet?

Question 3: How can you put this teaching into practice in at least one relationship at your home, work, or church this week?

87. Last Supper

Scripture Reference: Matthew 26:31-35; Mark 14:22-26; John 13:21-30

Jesus eats His last supper with His disciples.

Question 1: How do you think you would have responded when Jesus said one of your close associates would betray Him? Are you capable of betraying Jesus?

Question 2: If you knew ahead of time that someone would betray you, how would you treat that person? Compare that to how Jesus treated Judas.

Question 3: Why is it possible for Satan to enter into a follower of Jesus and influence him/her in serious sin?

88. Vine and Branches

Scripture Reference: John 15:1-8

Jesus teaches us that if His followers are a part of Him, they will bear fruit.

Question 1: How do you make sure you are attached to Jesus?

Question 2: As a branch on the vine of Jesus, how would you describe the fruit being produced in your life?

Question 3: How do you think God prunes us so that we will bear more fruit?

89. Prayer in the Garden

Scripture Reference: Matthew 26:55-56; Mark 14:37-42; Luke 22:39-44, 47-51

Jesus prays for God's will in the Garden. Judas betrays Him, and Jesus is arrested.

Question 1: How could we adopt the perspective of Jesus in prayer rather than Peter's?

Question 2: God answered by not providing another way even though Jesus prayed three times. How would you react if God's answer to your repeated prayer is, "No?"

Question 3: How difficult is it for you to agree with God that not your will but His should be done in your life?

90. Trial of Jesus Begins

Scripture Reference: Matthew 26:57-68

Jesus is questioned by the Jewish leaders.

Question 1: How do you decide when to keep silent about your faith and when to talk about it?

Question 2: What do you think was Peter's reason for following at a distance and how do we sometimes do the same thing when it comes to following Jesus?

Question 3: What lessons can we learn from Jesus about dealing with injustice under God's sovereign hand?

91. Denials by Peter

Scripture Reference: Matthew 26:69-70; Luke 22:58-62; Matthew 27:1-7

Peter denies that he knows Jesus three times, and Judas hangs himself.

Question 1: What makes the difference between someone like Judas and someone like Peter? How can we know which path we are taking?

Question 2: What do you think caused Peter to deny so strongly his association with Jesus? What could cause you to do the same?

Question 3: In what ways can Christians deny that they know Jesus today?

92. Jesus Before Pilate

Scripture Reference: John 18:28-38

Jesus is questioned by Pilate.

Question 1: Why is the identity of Jesus the central question to Christianity?

Question 2: Since Jesus clearly stated that His Kingdom is not of this world, how would you describe what His Kingdom is?

Question 3: Pilate asked, "What is truth?" How do many people answer this question? How do you answer?

93. Mocking of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 27:19-21; Mark 15:6-10; John 19:1-3

The crowd wants Barabbas released instead of Jesus, and Pilate has Jesus flogged.

Question 1: What happens when people get the identity of Jesus wrong?

Question 2: How does it make you feel that Jesus went through these trials and torture when He could have used His great powers to escape?

Question 3: Why do you think people still choose to accept people of questionable character over Jesus?

94. Pilate Tries to Release Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 27:24-26; John 19:4-14

Pilate believes Jesus is innocent, but the crowd wants Jesus to be crucified.

Question 1: Why do you think Pilate so desperately wanted to release Jesus?

Question 2: Why do you think so many people prefer to crucify Jesus rather than consider Him as their king today?

Question 3: Pilate made a decision based on ambition and fear rather than what was right. Has that ever happened to you? What did you do to correct it?

95. Jesus Led Away

Scripture Reference: Matthew 27:27-31; Luke 23:26-29, 32

Jesus and two other criminals are taken to be executed.

Question 1: If you had been Simon of Cyrene, what thoughts would have been running through your mind as you helped Jesus to carry His cross?

Question 2: If you had been in the crowd that watched Jesus on His death march, what would your reaction have been?

Question 3: Why do you think so many people view Jesus more as a criminal type today rather than a king?

96. Crucifixion of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 27:33-34; Mark 15:25; Luke 23:33b-34; John 19:19-24

Jesus is nailed to a cross at Golgotha.

Question 1: The first words of Jesus from the cross focused on the forgiveness of His persecutors. What, if anything, does this teach us about dealing with those who persecute us?

Question 2: How would you explain the necessity of the crucifixion of Jesus to someone who showed interest in understanding it?

Question 3: The soldiers were more interested in the things of Jesus rather than Jesus himself. How do people display a similar attitude today?

97. Jesus on the Cross

Scripture Reference: Mark 15:29-32; Luke 23:39-43; John 19:25-29

While on the cross Jesus is mocked, and one of the criminals talks with Jesus.

Question 1: When did the real meaning of the death of Jesus begin to make sense to you?

Question 2: What truth do you find in the statement of the chief priests, "He saved others, but He can't save Himself?"

Question 3: The only disciple at the cross was John. The others had fled for their lives. Where do you think you would have been on that dreadful day and why?

98. Death of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 27:51-53; Mark 15:33-35, 39-41; Luke 23:46
Jesus dies, and the temple curtain is torn in two pieces.

Question 1: What were the various responses to the death of Jesus at the cross? How do various people react today to His death? How do you respond to His death?

Question 2: How would you explain the necessity of the death of Jesus to a non-believer?

Question 3: How does His death affect your life and lifestyle?

99. Burial of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Mark 15:42-45; John 19:31-34, 36-37, 39-42
Jesus was buried in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea.

Question 1: Does your fear of others and your love for Jesus sometimes conflict?

Question 2: Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus were “secret disciples” to Jesus. Why do you think they kept their commitments hidden? Was that a noble thing to do? When should Christians not let their commitment be known and why?

Question 3: In spite of past failures and fears, what do you think you could do to show your love for Jesus?

100. Guard at the Tomb

Scripture Reference: Matthew 27:62-66; Mark 15:47; Luke 23:55-56
Pilate sends soldiers to guard the tomb.

Question 1: What evidence in this story leads you to believe it is a real event rather than a religious myth?

Question 2: The Pharisees and the chief priests wanted to make sure Jesus remained in the tomb. What makes people want to guard against Jesus breaking into their lives today?

Question 3: What is the greatest risk you could take because of your faith in Jesus?

101. Resurrection of Jesus

Scripture Reference: Matthew 28:2-4; Mark 16:1, 4-7; Luke 24:9-11; John 20:3-10
Mary Magdalene and Mary go to the tomb where Jesus is buried, and an angel tells them that Jesus has risen from the dead.

Question 1: How is the resurrection of Jesus different from your former religion or beliefs?

Question 2: If you had lived in that day, what evidence would you have needed to convince you that Jesus did rise from the dead?

Question 3: What causes you to either believe or doubt that the body of Jesus actually did resurrect?

102. Appearance to Mary Magdalene

Scripture Reference: John 20:10-18
Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene and sends her to the disciples to tell them what He said.

Question 1: Mary immediately obeyed after His appearance to her. As a community or group, how do we need to respond to this story?

Question 2: If you had been in Mary's position, how do you think you would have responded when Jesus said your name?

Question 3: Mary thought the body of Jesus had been moved. Why do you suppose she didn't think He had resurrected? Why do you think many people think that way today?

103. Appearance on the Road to Emmaus

Luke 24:13-35

Jesus appears to two disciples who are talking about His crucifixion and resurrection.

Question 1: Where was your "Road To Emmaus" experience, the place where Jesus surprised you? What happened?

Question 2: These two on the road finally had their eyes opened to who Jesus really was. How can we help others to have that same opportunity?

Question 3: Tell of a time in your life when you were as excited about Jesus as these two were. What would it take for you to be that excited again? Would you run to tell others about Him?

104. Appearance to Thomas and the Disciples

Scripture Reference: John 20:19-31

Jesus appears to His disciples and shows them His hands and side.

Question 1: Why is faith without sight important and superior to faith based on sight?

Question 2: Are you a person who easily doubts, or a person who easily believes? Choose one and explain why.

Question 3: If Jesus were to confront you right now as He did Thomas, in what way(s) would He confront your own unbelief?

105. Jesus Restores Peter

Scripture Reference: John 21:1-17, 24-25

Some of the disciples are fishing, and Jesus helps them to catch many fish. Then Jesus talks to Peter.

Question 1: Do you relate to Peter in this incident? Was there a point in your life when you felt like you needed to be reinstated as a disciple of Jesus? Explain.

Question 2: What is the closest you have come to doing something so wrong that you thought God would never want to speak to you again? What did you discover about God in that experience?

Question 3: What are some ways for people who consider themselves to be terrible failures to reconfirm their love for Jesus and to accept His unconditional love for them?

106. Great Commission

Scripture Reference: Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus sends His disciples to share the Good News with the world.

Question 1: How are we to make disciples? What are you doing personally to help complete this assignment?

Question 2: In what ways can we fulfill the Great Commission in the context of family, work, community, relatives, and friends?

Question 3: How realistic do you think it is that we can fulfill His orders to go to the entire world in our lifetime?

107. Jesus' Ascension

Scripture Reference: Luke 24:44-53; Acts 1:9-11

Jesus helps His disciples to understand His teachings, and then He goes up to Heaven.

Question 1: If you had been on that hillside the day Jesus ascended, what would your response have been?

Question 2: After the body of Jesus ascended into Heaven, His followers were tasked with being His hands and feet. In what ways can we be His "body" on a daily basis?

Question 3: How eagerly are you looking for the return of Jesus in the same way he went into Heaven?

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