

“HE DWELT AMONG US”

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

LESSON 9

Chapter 8

“The people who sat in darkness saw a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” Matthew 4:16

The study of **John, chapter 8** is a study in contrasts: judgment vs. mercy; light and darkness; truth and lies; man’s judgment vs. God’s witness; and children of God vs. children of Satan. Before you begin, pray that the Lord will continue to teach and guide you in His truth and into His path of “light.”

DAY #1 Read John 8:1-29. *Pray before you start your lesson each day.*

Read through again and record the important facts. Also look for and highlight the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Contrasts or opposites: | Light/dark.....etc. |
| 2) Terms of conclusion or condition: | Therefore, finally, because....etc. |
| 3) Expressions of time: | Next, after, until.....etc. |

Title:

DAY #2 Read John 8:1-11 JESUS, COMPASSIONATE AND WISE

- 1) In **chapter 7**, we read about a lengthy debate Jesus had with the Jewish leaders. In **verse 7:53**, we learn that at the end of intense discussions everyone went to his own house. You can imagine they went home to relax or even discuss the day with family members or neighbors. Jesus had no house. He retreated to a quiet location, a hill with a grove of olive trees that overlooks the city of Jerusalem.
 - A. Read and ponder **John 8:1**. Describe how you think Jesus might have spent His evening and why.

 - B. State how this could be an example *to you* after a stressful day of challenges.

- 2) Read **John 8:1-6**. Answer the following questions, adding your own thoughts and insights to your answers.
 - A. Who brought the woman to Jesus?

 - B. What was her sin? According to the law of Moses, was her sin worthy of death? Why or why not? You may refer to **Leviticus 20:10** for your answer.

 - C. What were her accusers' real motives in bringing her to Jesus?

- 3) Since the accusation of the woman was a test, intended by the Pharisees for Jesus to fail, the results could not have been more surprising. F.B. Meyer beautifully summarized this incident, "*It reveals in our Savior's character a wisdom so profound, a tenderness to sinners so delicate, a hatred of sin so intense, an insight into human hearts so searching that it is impossible to suppose the mind of man could have conceived....*" Record the answers found in **John 8:6-11**.
 - A. Why do you think Jesus knelt down instead of confronting these men eye to eye? Do you learn anything from His way of dealing with these men?

 - B. Why do you think the oldest were the first to leave?

 - C. Pause and prayerfully ponder this amazing account. What was Jesus teaching us through His actions? What lessons are important to *you* personally and why?

4) What can we learn from this account? Is Jesus lenient with sin? Does this teach that it is not important to deal with sin? The scriptures listed below give us insight and understanding. Describe how they apply to this incident.

A. **John 3:17**

B. **I John 1:8-9**

C. **Luke 7:47**

D. **John 8:11**

DAY #3 John 8:12-29 JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

1) From **John 8:12**, we discover the benefits of “following Jesus.” Those who chose *not* to follow Jesus are actually choosing to live a life in darkness. Compare the dark and light as shown in these scriptures:

Darkness

Light

A. **Proverbs 4:19**

A. **Proverbs 4:18**

C. **Psalm 107:10-12**

C. **Psalm 107:13-14**

B. **I John 2:11**

B. **I John 2:10**

D. **John 3:20**

D. **John 3:21**

“I am the light of the world. He (she) who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.” John 8:12

- 2) One way to reinforce and remember what we learn is to share it with someone else. Taking the principals and insights from the scriptures on light and darkness, write a short paragraph of how you would describe these truths to an unbeliever.

- 3) What is the serious consequence of refusal to believe in Jesus as stated in **John 8:24**?

- 4) *Personal, sharing is optional.* Read **John 8:29** several times. In this verse, Jesus states His commitment to pleasing the Father. Will you follow Him in this, choosing to please the Father in all that *you* do and say? What are the benefits? Share your thoughts and heart on this.

DAY #4 **Read John 8:30-59**

Record the important facts, characters, events, ideas, times and contrasts. Give a title to this section.

Title:

DAY #5

- 1) Read **John 8:30-36**. Jesus tells us the qualification for discipleship.
 - A. Explain the meaning of “abide in My word” (New King James version). You might want to look up the word “abide” for more understanding. In your explanation, give practical examples of how this can be done in everyday life.
 - B. From the dictionary, write out a definition of “disciple” as it applies to **verse 31**.
 - C. *Personal, sharing is optional* Are you a disciple of Jesus? Why or why not? How can you personally put into practice the actions that this title implies?
- 2) **John 8:32** is a wonderful verse to commit to memory. Write it out on a 3x5 card and place it where you will see it often. Pray for an opportunity to share it with someone else. When we use scripture to minister to or encourage others, *we* remember it.

“And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

- 3) **John 8:32-36** with **Romans 6:16-18** explain the type of freedom that Jesus offers. After reading the verses below, describe this freedom. How does truth set us free from the bondage of sin?

“And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered Him, ‘We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can you say, “You will be made free”?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.’”

“Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness? But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness”

John 8:32-36

Romans 6:16-18

“Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.” John 8:36

DAY #6

- 1) The Jews claimed Abraham as their father, and so he was *physically*. But they were not like Abraham. Abraham was a man of deep faith and trust in God. His actions showed this. What do you learn as you read **John 8:39-44**? How did their actions show a connection with their true spiritual father?

- 2) **John 8:51** states the promise, “Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death.”
 - A. Share the added clarification you gain as you read **John 11:25-26**.

 - B. What comfort do you gain from the fact that Jesus is the one speaking? He says “*to you*” and “*most assuredly*.”

- 3) Jesus told them, “*Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.*” **John 8:56**. In the scriptures, Abraham is often used as an example of one who had faith. Abraham looked *forward* to the fulfillment of the promises of God. We look forward also, to the promise of eternal life.
 - A. What is the “blessed hope” as stated in **Titus 2:13** and **I John 3:2**?

 - B. What are we to do as we wait for that hope and promise to be fulfilled? Read **I John 3:3** and share your thoughts.

- 4) Jesus said to them, “*Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.*” **John 8:58** The “I AM” denotes absolute eternal existence, not simply existence prior to Abraham. The Jews understood by this statement that He was claiming to be Yahweh of the Old Testament.
 - A. Explain their reaction in **John 8:59**.

 - B. What is *your* reaction? Do you understand and believe that the same gentle Savior who walked this earth, and forgave ruined sinners (**John 8:3-11**) is the mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace? Do you honor Him like you do? Or do you pick and choose which of His words

you will remember and obey? Pause and prayerfully worship Him for all that He is! He is “I AM.”

- C. *Optional background reading* God told Moses “I AM.” If you have the time, read of this in **Exodus 3:13-15**.