

Study Hints for Thinking Further

International Bible Lessons

Hosea 6:1-6 and Luke 24:1-12

Sunday, April 20, 2014

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be the answers to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Five Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. How might you describe God’s punishment when God designs it to be discipline for those who are His children? [Hosea 6:1-6]

When God designs His punishment as discipline, He designs it to lead His children to repent of their sins and return to obeying Him according to the Scriptures because they love Him. Sometimes God must punish people because He needs to administer justice, knowing that the person He is punishing will not repent of their sins. God is the great King and Governor of the universe; unfortunately some people will only obey God and refrain from doing horrible acts because they fear His punishment. When people no longer believe in God, or fear God, or love God; then the fear of God and His punishment will not restrain them from doing evil.

2. Compare Hosea 6:1 — “Come, let us return to the LORD; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up,” and Hebrews 12:5-6 — “And you have forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as children — ‘My child, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, or lose heart when you are punished by him; for the Lord disciplines those whom he loves, and chastises every child whom he accepts’” (see Deuteronomy 8:5). [Hosea 6:1-6]

Hosea 6:1 describes God’s punishment as discipline. God sent various afflictions upon His people to lead them to repent. God tore and struck them down. After His discipline had served God’s purpose, He healed and bound up their wounds. Hebrews 12:5-6 teaches that God addresses those who follow Jesus as His children, and He will discipline them as a father disciplines his child. God disciplines His children because He loves them; so He disciplines them for their own good. God’s children must take His chastisement seriously, because His discipline shows that God has accepted them as His children.

3. What is one fact about Jesus' resurrection that you remember from other books of the Bible that Luke does not include in these verses? [Luke 24:1-12]

The Gospel of John reports that John, the disciple that Jesus loved, went with Peter to the tomb; therefore, we have two more witnesses that Jesus' body was not in the tomb and the linen cloths were still in the tomb (see John 20:1-10). Luke's sources may not have mentioned John, and from reading the firsthand account of John we can see how humble John was: he might not have emphasized his presence or told many others about his presence with Peter at the tomb. He may have believed that Peter's going to the tomb was more important for people to know than the additional fact that he had gone to the tomb with Peter.

4. Why do you think the apostles would not believe the women? [Luke 24:1-12]

The women may have been so excited that they may have seemed hysterical to the apostles and the others, who were not presupposed toward believing Jesus could have risen from the dead in spite of what He had told them in Galilee. The apostles were foolish not to believe the women

5. Why do you believe in Jesus' resurrection? [Luke 24:1-12]

I believe in Jesus' resurrection because there are so many different witnesses and ways that Jesus appeared to the apostles and others after He rose from the dead. I believe in Jesus' resurrection because of the dramatic change Jesus made in the lives of all the apostles, including Paul at a later date. I believe in the resurrection because I have seen the wonderful difference that the living Lord Jesus has made in the lives of many people I have known or read about.

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