

Study Hints for Thinking Further

International Bible Lessons

Isaiah 61:1-3 & Luke 4:13-21

Sunday, May 11, 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. Name one way that Jesus helps the oppressed today?

Some people feel oppressed by guilt and unforgiven sins that keep them from doing all that they could be doing for God and others. When they trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, and believe what the Bible teaches about His death on the cross for them making their forgiveness and cleansing from sin possible, Jesus will free them from guilt and empower and lead them to serve God and others His way.

2. Name one way that Jesus helps those who mourn today?

When people near death or face the death of someone they love, Jesus can help them as they mourn because He has risen from the dead and has prepared a place in heaven for all who love and follow Him. Where He is they will be, and He is personally with all who mourn and trust in Him.

3. Give one reason why the Bible teaches that Jesus taught and did His work in the power of the Holy Spirit instead of just by himself.

The Bible teaches that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (one God in three Persons) worked together in the creation of the world, and in saving sinners from the eternal consequences of sin and giving them eternal life, and they still work together today to save sinners from sin and to teach, guide, and empower those who believe what the Bible teaches. Christians cannot and will not do the work of Jesus apart from the Holy Spirit indwelling them and working within them.

4. Give one reason why Jesus and the apostles began to teach first in the synagogues instead of just beginning on street corners.

Those in the synagogues should have been the most familiar with God and teaching from the Scriptures. Jesus and the apostles first taught those who should have been

the most prepared and receptive to understand and receive the good news about Jesus as their Messiah. For the apostles, the synagogue should have been the easiest place to begin teaching until the religious leaders excluded them from the synagogues and persecuted them for teaching about Jesus and working miracles in His Name.

5. Why was it important for Jesus and the apostles to teach from the Hebrew Scriptures instead of disregarding the Bible and just teaching their own ideas?

Their Bible, the Hebrew Scriptures, was and is the revealed will and words of God that among other truths revealed the truth about the Messiah that God promised to send. Jesus and the apostles acted and taught consistent with the Bible's teachings and prophecies, which proved that God had sent Jesus as their Messiah and the Savior of all who believe in Him.

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