

International Bible Lesson

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further

Joshua 24:1-3, 13-15, 21-24

Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all the **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 Discussion and 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. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

1. How did the leaders and people know that Joshua’s words would be important to them?

He began with these words: “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel.”

2. What seemed the biggest problem the Israelites faced?

They kept foreign (or false gods) in their households.

3. What are some of the first truths Joshua told the Israelites?

He reminded them of what the LORD had done for them and their ancestors that showed His love and faithfulness to them.

4. What are some of the commands Joshua gave the people?

(Joshua 24:14) “Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.”

(Joshua 24:15) And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

(Joshua 24:23) He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your heart to the LORD, the God of Israel.”

5. How did the people respond to Joshua’s efforts to renew the people’s side of God’ covenant (agreement) with them?

(Joshua 24:21) And the people said to Joshua, “No, but we will serve the LORD.”

(Joshua 24:24) And the people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and his voice we will obey.”

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