



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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John 6:15-24 Study Hints for Discussion

[Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further](#) 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; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the [Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout](#), which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. Why do you think the crowd wanted to use force to make Jesus king?

They knew Jesus was a man of peace who was so humble that He probably would not assert himself to become a political king and raise an army to defeat the Romans; therefore, they wanted to use force to make Jesus their king. They probably also wanted someone who would give them free food, meet all their physical needs, and heal all their diseases.

2. Why do you think Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself?

Jesus did not want them to make Him a king by force, and He did not want to involve His disciples in the volatile situation, so He sent them on ahead. He wanted to be alone with His heavenly Father in prayer and receive the rest that only His Father could give Him.

3. Do you think the disciples right or wrong to leave Jesus and start across the sea to Capernaum by themselves? Why or why not?

The disciples were right to obey Jesus. Because John did not tell us everything we learn from the Gospel of Matthew (there was no need for John to repeat all that he knew Matthew and Mark had written), we might mistakenly think that the disciples went off on their own and left Jesus behind. By sending the disciples on ahead, Jesus knew He would be able to teach them more about himself as their Savior and Lord.

4. What may have the disciples learned after they had gone three or four miles?

They learned that it would have been helpful if Jesus had been in the boat with them, even if asleep, because they knew that if He had been with them, they could awaken Him and He would have quieted the storm. They would soon learn that Jesus loved them so much that He would even walk on water through a storm to protect and save them. They learned more about Jesus' character and nature and gladly welcomed Him into their boat.

5. Why do you think the crowd left for Capernaum to look for Jesus?

The next morning, they were probably even more determined to make Jesus their king, and they may have learned from the disciples and/or Jesus that He had sent them to Capernaum, where they hoped to find Jesus. Or they may have known that Jesus had made Capernaum His home in Galilee and went there to search for Him.

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