



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

John 21:20-25 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 Peter was concerned about the future of John?

Peter and John seemed to always do things together, from fishing to running to Jesus’ tomb. Perhaps he wanted to know if they would continue working and following Jesus together and if John would die in the same way as Jesus said he would die—as a martyr.

2. When Peter asked about the future of John, how did Jesus answer him?

Jesus told him that it was no concern of his and he was to concentrate on following Him wherever He led him.

3. Can you think of one or more ways Peter and John differed as Apostles?

Peter was continually active in leading and going forth as an Apostle, healing people, raising them from the dead, and leading the way to welcome Gentiles into the Church. He told Mark many of the events and teachings that Mark recorded in his gospel, and he wrote two letters. It appears that John became a leader of churches he and others established near Ephesus. Jesus gave John the gift of writing many important books in the New Testament, and the vision that became the Book of Revelation.

4. Why do you think John wrote about the circulating rumor?

John wrote to teach the truth and to make certain that the truth about Jesus' life and teachings were true as he had experienced them. While he had the opportunity, he wanted to make certain that he could correct any rumors that began because some misunderstood what the Lord Jesus had told Peter and John the morning after they went fishing. At some point, the incident and Jesus' words became misunderstood and became a rumor. John's attention to these types of details gives us even more reason to trust what he wrote with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

5. What do you think was the most important declaration that John made about his gospel?

John's gospel told the truth and what he wrote could be trusted as true. John wanted people to believe in Jesus because what Jesus said and did was true. Believers can tell others that they believe Jesus is Lord and Savior because they learned the truth about Jesus and His teachings.

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Contact: P.O. Box 1052, Edmond, Oklahoma, 73083 and lgp@theiblf.com.