



International Bible Lesson  
Uniform Sunday School Lessons Series  
L.G. Parkhurst, Jr.

## The Only Reason to Become a Christian

### April 15, 2018

### John 21:15-25

*“This is the disciple who testifies to these things and who wrote them down. We know that his testimony is true” (John 21:24).*

Why should someone become a Christian? Christians can think of many lasting personal benefits for becoming a Christian; benefits beyond what we can even begin to imagine now that will only increase throughout eternity. As we read the New Testament, we learn how Jesus Christ made these benefits possible for His followers by His death, burial, and resurrection. Unfortunately, some people believe in God only for the benefits, and they remain selfish and self-centered, thinking only of themselves and of what God will give them in the future. Satan accused Job of trusting in and honoring God only for the benefits, but Job showed Satan that he served God because God was worthy to be glorified. In John’s gospel, we learn the best reason to become a Christian. The best reason to follow Jesus is because Christianity is true, and because Christianity is true the followers of Jesus turn from selfishness and self-centeredness to God-centeredness, to loving God supremely, to obeying God, and to loving others as Jesus Christ has loved them. From the way John’s gospel concludes with these words by one who knew John, “his testimony is true,” we know the greatest, most important, and the only real reason for becoming a Christian — because Christianity is true. Thinking further, John used the words true and truth far more than any of the other gospel writers. Depending on the translation, in John, John’s Letters, and Revelation, John used the word “true” or “truth” 82 times. Dr. Francis Schaeffer concluded: “There is only one reason, and not two, for becoming a Christian, and that is because Christianity is true.”

## Thinking Further

1. What is one fact about Jesus’ resurrection that you remember from other books of the Bible that Luke does not include in these verses or in his book?
2. Why do you think the apostles would not believe the women?
3. Why do you believe in Jesus’ resurrection?
4. In addition to the eyewitness accounts they had heard about Jesus having risen from the dead, what other important evidence did Jesus give these two people in His efforts to convince them that He was alive?
5. Why do you think Jesus did not appear to all the disciples until after the women and the two who saw Jesus on the road to Emmaus reminded them of what the Bible taught and what Jesus had taught them earlier?

— © Copyright 2017 by L.G. Parkhurst, Jr. Permission Granted for Not for Profit Use. Contact: P.O. Box 1052, Edmond, Oklahoma, 73083-1052 and [lgp@theiblf.com](mailto:lgp@theiblf.com).