

2016 Fellowships Joint Bible Study (04/2016)

Student's Version

Guidelines

1. Spread out the work over several days. Allow time for the things God is teaching you to sink in.
2. Pray each time before you start. Pray for a humble heart and ask God to help you to understand and apply what you have learned.
3. Unless specified, answer the questions without consulting the Commentary or Internet. The goal is to develop a habit to think and meditate God's Word on your own with the help of Holy Spirit.

John, the disciple Jesus loves, and his brother James

Introduction

In this study, we are going to look at James and John who do not seem to be the right materials for being disciples. Nevertheless, God is graceful and powerful that He can use us with our weaknesses.

The Calling of James and John

Read Mark 1:16-20

What is the relationship of James and John? Who is older?

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What do you learn about their family from these verses?

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What were James and John doing when Jesus called them?

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What was the respond of James and John?

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What do you learn about these brothers' personality from this passage?

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Reflection and Sharing:

Do you have siblings? Are they Christians? If yes, how did you and your siblings believe in Christ?

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Did you have to give up or leave behind something in order to follow Jesus?

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The personality of James and John

Read Mark 9:38-41

John informed Jesus about what incident?

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Why did John report this incident to Jesus?

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Read Luke 9:51-56

What were James and John's reaction when Jesus and his disciples were refused entrance to a Samaritan village?

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Why were they so angry?

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Read Mark 3:17

What nickname did Jesus give to John and James?

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What do you learn about these brothers' personality from these three passages?

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Reflection and Sharing:

When was the last time you expressed anger of people or things related to church/ministry? Why?

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Looking back, do you still think you were right or do you regret?

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The Request of James and John

Read Mark 10:35-37, 42-45

What did James and John ask of Jesus?

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What do you think motivated them to ask Jesus for the favor?

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Read Matt. 20:20-21

What do we learn about their upbringing?

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Reflection and Sharing:

What expectations do your parents has for you? How has that affected you?

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How did Jesus redefine the role of being leader? How is it different from the society?

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If you are the parents, what are the challenges to be a servant-leader at home? How about if you are leaders at church or work or school?

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Imagine how would your home, church or workplace will be different if you and other leaders follow Jesus' model of leadership?

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The Changes of James and John : Read John 3:16; John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:11-12

Which books of the Bible were written by John?

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In your own words, what are the messages John felt deeply about when he wrote these books?

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Read Acts 12:1-2; Revelation 1:9

How did James and John witness for Jesus after His death and resurrection?

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Reflection and Sharing

Love was the one of main messages in John's writings. How had John's personality changed since he first started following Jesus?

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Has you personality changed since you first accepted and followed Christ? How?

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(Bible study leaders: Please finish on time by 8:30PM and join the wrap-up in the sanctuary. Thanks!)