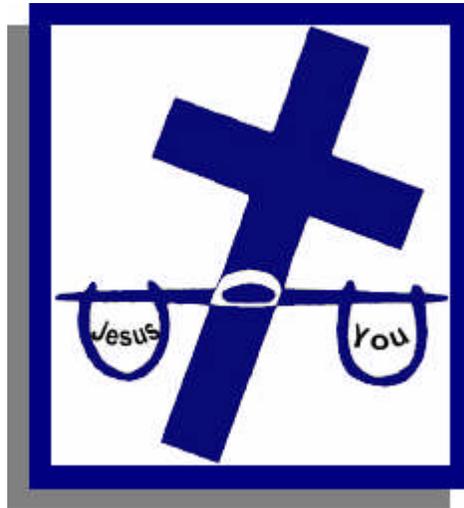


2007 Edition Revised



The Second Teach

By Jerry Botts

*“Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I
am meek and lowly in heart:”*

Matthew 11:29

A Simple Guide to Mentoring and
Maturing New Christians

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THE JESUS STYLE OF TRAINING NEW CHRISTIANS

The training of new Christians is one of the most needed functions within individual congregations of the Lord's body today. About twenty-five years ago, my wife and I made a decision to commit ourselves to a weekly study with every person we led to Christ. It is a one year commitment and we make it to each one the same day they are born again. The study begins in the gospel of Mark, one chapter per week. After Mark we go to the gospel of John and complete that book also, a total of thirty-seven chapters. Study time is about one hour. Extra time is spent with them in some form of personal activity almost every week.

The new Christian reads ahead each week to prepare for the coming study. We encourage them to pick out a meaningful portion of each chapter, a verse or two, and commit it to memory. This is the nuts and bolts of our discipling. This is one way to respond to Jesus' example and instruction to teach after they have obeyed the gospel.

Don't we get excited when we lead one to Jesus? It's the greatest rush in this world!! God's goal for us is to lead that one to fall in love with God, with all their heart. There is a natural feeling of gratefulness on the part of the new Christian toward the one who shared the gospel with them. It's a mixture of admiration and loyalty. There is a temptation on the part of the seed sower to bask in it. In my humanness, I will surely fail in my example sometime, somewhere, many times toward the babe in Christ. The point is, Jesus won't. That is why He must be lifted up and learned about!! That is the purpose of these gospel studies.

We all know there is a real tendency in the church to rejoice with the angels in Heaven because one has been born again. What takes place next is usually a downward spiral spiritually for the new Christian. We hand them a Bible, have a prayer, and hope that they will be at services next Sunday. When they aren't, we wonder which scripture we should have given them so they would be faithful. Why don't people love Jesus like I did when I was converted? They must not have repented or worse yet, their baptism must not have "took"?!? That is not the case!! Let me illustrate. What do we do in our physical families when a new addition arrives??? If the baby dirties their diaper, what then? This is the sixth time today! I've already told that baby, I'm sick of this! Do we throw the baby out? How about; I don't know why the baby is squalling, the table is set, food is prepared and on the table. That baby of ours just lays in there and cries and whines. If he wants to eat, he better just march himself in here right now!! Do we do that with our family? NO! Over and over again we take off that smelly diaper, clean and powder them, and put on a clean diaper. We spoon feed them at THEIR convenience because they don't know any different!! THEY ARE BABIES - this is not a derogatory comment, simply a statement of fact. New converts are called babies by God in His word. They are God's babies, and those older in the faith are called to nurture them with love and patience. That love and nurturing can only be learned at the feet of JESUS!!!

Matthew 11:28-30 is the key to spiritual growth for every Christian. There is a two-fold instruction from the Lord. (1) Take my yoke upon you. (2) Learn of Me. What is the yoke? It is a discipline tool to train. It channels the energy and ability of whoever it's on in a particular direction. The particular direction in this case is Jesus' direction. The spiritual yoke is a disciplining tool to make disciples. Many people put it on and find it burdensome, WHY? Jesus says, "My yoke is easy and My burden is light." The Greek word "yoke" is the word for a double yoke!! "My yoke," Jesus said. Jesus is in the yoke and He invites His followers to get in the yoke with Him. How are mules, horses, or oxen trained to the harness of a yoke? They are joined together with a veteran who knows every inch of that farmland. The young, unbroken colt learns from the veteran. The yoke or harness no longer chaffs. Jesus said, "Learn of Me;" what is that new Christian going to learn? They will learn "I am meek and lowly in heart." Many people put on the yoke but never learn how to be meek and lowly in heart, as our Lord was. Jesus shows us how to live the discipline in our earthly lives and that is the focus of the gospel studies with new Christians. The New Testament is packed with verses that point out this very thing: Philippians 2:5 - Let this mind be in you which was also in Jesus; 1 Peter 2:21-23 - Follow in His steps! Hebrews 1:1-2 - Jesus is the express image of the Father; John 1:1-3, 14 - Word was God, Word became flesh and dwelt among us; John 14:8-9 - Jesus says He is modeling the very nature of God in a human body!

We often emphasize knowing the Book. Jesus IS the Book, chapter and verse in the flesh!! John 8:32 says, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free." Jesus also said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." He shows how to live the truth by the way He lived here on this same planet!! As that new Christian reads and learns of Jesus, I repeatedly stress this very important point. Learning about Jesus and how He related to people then tells us about God today and how He looks upon us. Paul was concerned about this same thing in the Galatians' letter, 4:19, where he writes, "My little children, for whom I labor in travail again until Christ be formed in you." The word "formed" is from the Greek word "morpho" which means transformation!! These are the Christians Paul is writing to and he says, "Christ" is not yet formed in them!! Paul's focus was on imitating Jesus himself and his concern was on Christians doing the same. My focus is on the earthly life of our Lord, for in that life is revealed the very nature of God. How can we learn of Jesus and fall in love with Him? By seeing how He lived among His enemies, followers, etc. and applying that knowledge to our life today. Let's look at Mark 5:21-24, 35-43: What can be learned from Jesus here and applied to our life today? Forget elevation, climate, principal crops, etc. Focus on Immanuel. God with us! In vs. 21 there are great multitudes--a teaching opportunity--Jesus is teaching. In vs. 22-23 Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue in Capernaum, falls down at the Master's feet with a tearful request. When we carefully look at these records of Jesus' life, we can find within them the very things that challenge us today.

For instance, INTERRUPTION, even worse; interruption from serving God! After all, Jesus was teaching hundreds, should He leave? Just for one little girl? It wasn't even a spiritual concern!

Secondly: HARD FEELINGS AND REVENGE. Where was old Jairus when Jesus was confronted by the scribes and Pharisees. In Mark 3:1-7 Jesus heals the man with the withered hand. Did Jairus side with those hard-hearted religionists? Was he one that went out and plotted against the Lord? Regardless, how did Jesus treat Jairus?

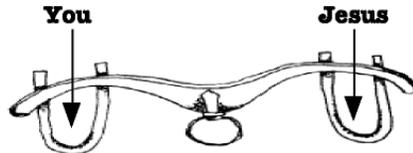
WHAT'S IMPORTANT, teaching great crowds, or one twelve year old girl who was "safe?" Doesn't Jairus realize that Jesus is teaching about a worldwide kingdom? Wonder of wonders!! Jesus goes with the ruler, leaving hundreds for a little child. In vs. 38-43 Jesus enters the house; people are wailing; there is much sadness. Jesus seeks to console and comfort them by saying, "She's not dead, just sleeping." People ridicule Him?!? Put the N.C. in that room!!! A house full of strangers, putting you down big time!! Peter, James and John are seeing this!

You left hundreds of people who were hanging on your every word for this?? You came to heal and comfort and you're ridiculed? My reaction would have been, "Who needs this?!? Come on men we're going back where we're appreciated!" The fruit of my reaction? The laughter wouldn't have stopped; the three apostles would have been led in the wrong direction; the parents faith would be weakened; and the little girl would just get colder and stiffer.

VALUE OF HUMILITY: The King of Kings, Lord of Lords, the Word didn't come to earth to preserve His ego or pride. He was "meek and lowly in heart." His focus was on His Father's will. What does meek and lowly accomplish? He ignores the scorn and gives life to the daughter (read vs. 43). The laughter stops; the apostles learn; the parents are encouraged and GOD IS GLORIFIED!!!!

THE DISCIPLE AND JESUS “LEARN OF ME” PAGE

Matthew 11:28-30 ²⁸ Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. (KJV)
This scripture is the basis for our study. You need to commit it to memory. “My yoke” (Zugos) in Greek, means a double yoke.



Listed below are some key scriptures which will help you learn about JESUS. Write out what each of the passages tells you about your LORD and bring them to class next week.

1. Hebrews 1:1-3
2. John 14:8-9
3. John 1:1-3, 14
4. Colossians 1:13-16
5. Hebrews 4:15-16
5a. James 1:13
6. Hebrews 2:17-18
7. Matthew 26:37-39
8. Hebrews 5:7-8
9. Hebrews 7:25
10. John 13:12-17
11. I John 2:6

MARK CHAPTER 1

New Convert (D.T.) Needs to read this chapter in preparation for study with D.T.

N.C. Needs to memorize a verse in this chapter that is especially meaningful to them.

Points noted in each chapter are definitely not all that can be learned about our Lord!

- D.T. DIG IN!!!

1. Ministry of John (vs. 1-8) Preparation for the coming of the Lord

2. Baptism of Jesus (vs. 9-11) Pleasing God

3. Calling the Four Disciples (vs. 16-20) Answering the call.

4. Jesus Fame (vs. 21-28) Is fame a temptation? Ask NC if fame is good or bad.

5. Peter's mother-in-law (vs. 29-31) Peter's mother-in-law lay sick with fever. Jesus took her hand and the fever left her. What was her reaction? She ministered! Contact with Jesus produces this. Explain to NC that we come to Jesus, He heals us then we begin to serve.

6. The city at the door (vs. 32-34) See also Matthew 8:16-17, Luke 4:40-41. After sunset the Sabbath ended, "the whole city was at the door." What would be your response? Were they bringing gifts? NO! They brought every sick person in the city (almost). DT, Talk to the NC about unscheduled interruptions. How do they handle these? Needy, - Asking, Begging people! What was Jesus' reaction? A blanket healing? Luke 4:40-41 tells us that He laid His hands on every one of them and healed them. Personal care!! He was tired. It had been a long day. We don't know how late into the night He served. Jesus healed the sick, one sick person at a time.

7. Jesus Prayed (vs. 35-39) A long while before daylight, Jesus went out and prayed Why did He need to pray? Didn't He need His rest more? He cast out demons, healed, taught in the synagogue. Why pray NOW? Verse 37 gives an answer and a temptation is identified. Fame! Wouldn't it be better to lease an office and have all the people come to Him rather than travel by foot throughout Galilee? Galilee was 20 miles North to South and 40 miles East to West.. Jesus prayed because He was tempted, just like you and I are! Hebrews 4:15 Jesus' conduit of power came through His dependence upon His Father through prayer. In John 5:30 He says "I can do nothing except by my Father".

8. The leper healed (vs.40-45) "Now a leper came to Him." That phrase seems to say that a leper just strolled up to Jesus one day and made a request. Nothing could be further from the truth! Leprosy required isolation (Leviticus 13:45-46, Numbers 5:1-5). Matthew 8:1 tells us this encounter took place just after the "Sermon on the Mount". It also tells us "great multitudes" followed Him. Luke 5:12-14 tells us the man was "full of leprosy." DT Jesus was MOVED with compassion. We can see a person in need but are we MOVED with compassion to do something about it.

The Bible gives us the bones of the stories about Jesus. We can flesh them out by thinking and meditating on the different situations Jesus was in.

- **D.T.** You need to *dramatize* this story!! Tell of beggars, do we enjoy them? What would the people think who were following Jesus? Jesus TOUCHED him!?! What about that!?! The leper interrupted Jesus after a successful sermon without an appointment.

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. “Are there lepers here in this town?” A leper is whoever is unlovely to you. The desperately poor, the needy, the uneducated, different ethnic backgrounds. None of those earthly circumstances mattered to Jesus.

Isaiah 7:14 “They shall call His name Immanuel,” God with us. When we see Jesus’ love for people, like lepers, we are seeing God’s love for us today! Read John 14:8-9.

MARK.CHAPTER 2

- **D.T.** Begin each study period by asking N.C., "Why are we studying the Gospels?" The answer is in Matthew 11:28-30, put on the yoke and learn of Jesus.
 - **MK 2:1-2** They heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered so that there was no LONGER ROOM to receive them, not even near the door and He preached the Word to them. Jesus draws people, His Spirit, His life, His message of hope. 2 Timothy 3:15 Paul is reminding Timothy to model Jesus. This is what God calls us to do today. Model Jesus. Jesus draws people.
1. Healing the Paralytic (vs. 1-12) See also Matthew 9:1-8, Luke 5:17-26. Four men brought a paralyzed man to be healed by Jesus. The crowd was so huge around the house that the men couldn't get close to Jesus. Vs. 4 tells us they uncovered the roof where He was. How did four men get a sick man up on the roof? Stairs up the side of the house is a possibility. People today use an upper level sun deck. Were they hoping for a skylight once they made it to the roof? There was none!! What to do? They made a hole in the roof. This *wasn't* their house!! Luke 4:19 tells us there was tiling and they removed it. Then they made an opening large enough to lower the man on his bed!!
 - **D.T. Tell this story dramatically, for this IS drama!!** How many obstacles confronted them on their mission? They found a solution every time. Nothing kept them from bringing someone to the Lord!! The man lay on his bed before the Lord. Don't you know he is excited? He looks at Jesus expectantly. Jesus' loving eyes return his gaze and Jesus says, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."
 - **D.T.** Ask N.C. "What do you think the man's reaction will be? How often do we, as humans, value the fleshly over the spiritual? Have you ever hoped for a certain gift for your birthday or Christmas, even hinted a little? When that special day finally arrives, you open the package that holds what you have wanted so badly and find something else instead? The gift giver expectantly waits for your reaction. How do you handle it? Now back to the story. Do you think the palsied man was carried there to have his sins forgiven? NO! He was brought to be healed so he could walk! Jesus, the express image of the Father, gives him the very best, something for eternity, not something earthly. Yet--in vs. 11-12 He heals him also. And all were amazed! These weren't just local folks, Luke 5:17 says there were Pharisees and teachers of the law from every town of Galilee, Judea and Jerusalem!! They all glorified God!! Why did they glorify God? A miracle!! True, but what if the four men had stopped their mission when a roof had to be broken up to get to Jesus. Vs. 5 tells us that Jesus saw their faith. Does He see your faith? Absolutely!"
 2. The calling of Matthew (vs. 13-17) Jesus calls a tax collector to be his disciple. Levi, also called Matthew, was joyous. He arranged a banquet for his friends and included Jesus and His friends. They were identified by the religious leaders as sinners. Jesus was criticized for eating with sinners. What was His reaction?
 3. Fasting (vs. 18-22) The religious people fasted. What is fasting? Jesus is criticized for not doing as other religious people do. What was Jesus' reply?
 4. Concerning the Sabbath (vs. 23-28) Jesus is rebuked for dishonoring the Sabbath Day, because His disciples were harvesting some grain from a field to eat. How did Jesus react to their criticism? In every instance of criticism in the chapter, Jesus had the patience and compassion to teach His critics rather than dismissing them in anger. DT Ask, "How do you react to criticism? Remember.... We are discussing "Meek and Lowly at heart".

Four times in this short chapter, Jesus is publicly rebuked and Jesus responded. His response was to teach His critics! He shows us "Meek and Lowly in Heart." Jesus' love did not just reach out to those who loved Him, but to All people, even those who hated Him. Jesus said, "LEARN OF ME" and so we shall!

MARK CHAPTER 3

- **D.T.** Begin each study period by asking N.C., "Why are we studying the Gospels?" The answer is in Matthew 11:28-30, put on the yoke and learn of Jesus.

Jesus enters the Capernaum synagogue AGAIN! With all the fame that He had, why hang around Capernaum? After all, this is where all His opposition was, at least, so far. Always remember that Jesus *is the express image of the Father* (Hebrews 1:3). Therefore, every action of Jesus is actually a reflection of the very nature of God! ! Jesus returned to the "First Self-Righteous Synagogue" because that is God's way: wooing, drawing, encouraging those who are their own worst enemy.

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. "What does that teach us about relationships?"
1. Healing of the withered hand (vs. 1-2) See also Luke 6:1-11. There was a man with a withered right hand. It's interesting that Jesus focused on the handicapped. Why? It tells us something more about God. He is always looking to help. So was Jesus!

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. "How do we help others?"

- a. Must we be recruited?
- b. Do we suspiciously aid others?
- e. Are we eager to aid?

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. "Why do you go to church?" These Pharisees went to see if they could find something to criticize. When that attitude is present, it doesn't matter where we are, the Spirit of Christ is not there.

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. "What can we do to combat such negative feelings?"

- **They (the Pharisees) gave Jesus the silent treatment!** What was Jesus' reply to their disapproval ? In meekness he healed a handicapped breadwinner! The Pharisees reaction was to plan Jesus' death! I know the rest of the people I the synagogues reaction. Pure Joy. Our friend is well again!

- **Ask the NC to read Verse 20. Imagine with the NC how it would feel to have so many people begging for help that you don't have any time to eat.** Now ask them to read Verse 21. Jesus' family is coming to take Him home! Why? Because He has lost His Mind? Jesus is too faithful, too giving, too affected by others hardships. How would you feel if your family reacted to you in this way? Now read Verse 22 These are the same people who were in the synagogue and sought to destroy Jesus. They are telling everyone that Jesus is Satan's helper!. He is casting out demons by the power of Satan.

- Three verses, three different negative problems. The last one is probably the most hurtful. What does Jesus do? He calls the scribes to Him and illustrates how that the things they were saying can't be true. The last verse of Jesus' words to them carries an ominous warning. To call God's power working through Jesus to free people from demon possession as a work of satan as coming from satan, would be unforgivable. I thought God forgives all sins. He does through belief in Jesus as God's Son, but if anyone does not believe in Jesus as God's Son, but rather as Satan's servant, that is blasphemy that cannot be forgiven.

The nature of God is in Jesus! Reasoning, Persuading, Drawing. The Master practices what He preaches in Matthew 6:43-44!

- **D.T. Verse 5** Ask N.C. "Tell me about a time that you helped an enemy." "Why did you help or why didn't you help?" Possibly ANGER?
- **D.T.** Ask N.C. "Isn't anger a sin?" See also Ephesians 4:31, Ephesians 4:26, James 1:12-15. Anger is the threshold of many sins. Don't let the day pass without ridding yourself of it! ! Jesus' anger came because of their lack of mercy toward a fellow human being. Jesus' anger was the same as when he cleansed the temple in John 2:17. It is not an anger born of hatred, jealousy, or greed, but a Love of Right!
- **D.T.** Ask N.C. "Name times when anger *popped up in your* life and what did it accomplish?"
- **D.T.** Ask N.C. "What would be some ways to control anger in your life?"

MARK CHAPTER 4

- **D.T.** Begin each study period by asking N.C., "Why are we studying the Gospels?" Ask N.C. to recite Matthew 11:28-30. Does N.C. have any questions about this chapter? Which verse(s) did they read that spoke to them personally?
1. Sowing the Seed (vs. 1-23) See also Matthew 13:1-23, Luke 8:4-18. Jesus tells the story of the seed sower. It is a story told in parable form. The parable was about a familiar subject to which there was a spiritual application. The disciples of Jesus as well as the great multitudes did not make the spiritual application. The disciples asked Jesus for an explanation. After gently chiding them for not grasping the spiritual truths in the story, Jesus answered them in vs. 15.
 2. Satan takes away the word (vs. 15-17) How can the devil take away the word that is sown in a heart? What is one of the most important words in these verses? ENDURE is a very important word for every Christian because Satan **seeks** to discourage, slow down, distract, and detour every Christian from carrying out the Lord's will for their lives. Spiritual growth is *a must!* 1 Peter 2:1-3 tells every N.C. that if growth is to occur, the N.C. must get rid of some things and to partake of some things. Satan is the greatest soul winner in the world. He works twenty four hours a day to win souls and will do anything it takes to win YOUR soul. He is the ENEMY of God!
 - **D.T.** Amplify the words in 1 Peter 2:1 to the N.C. What do these words mean?
 3. Cares of this world (vs. 18-19) What happens first? Cares, concerns, wealth, and then the desire for other things. No longer simply shelter, food, and clothing, now, other things, enter the mind and vie for the attention of the Christian. What does Jesus mean when He says "a person becomes unfruitful?" What can cause a fruit tree with hundreds of blossoms to bring forth few, if any, fruit?
 - **D.T.** Ask N.C. to make an application.
 4. Acceptance (vs. 20) "Accept it" means "Receive with approval, act upon what is accepted!" But what can a N.C. do? They can tell others what they have just heard and obeyed and urge them to do the same!
 5. Calming the storm (vs. 35-41) The Bible here tells a story about Jesus and His disciples. You've already looked at the parables and studied the explanations Jesus gave about the sower, seed and soil. What spiritual truths can you see on this adventure at sea? This story is also found in Matthew 8:23-27 and Luke 8:22-25.
 - **D.T.** Ask N.C. "What might the sudden storm represent?"
 - **D.T.** Ask N.C. "Which were the most important words that Jesus spoke here?" Mark 4:39. Work together to transfer Jesus 1st century words to a 21st century setting in your lives. What would we label the words of the frightened disciples? (Prayer!)

**Think of Jesus' patience and compassion toward these fainting followers, whose words contained sarcasm and faithlessness! Be encouraged in your own life and prayer time by Jesus' meek and humble answer.
"Peace, be still! " Was He just talking to the elements?"**

THINK ABOUT IT!

MARK CHAPTER 5 (Part 1)

- **D.T.** Begin each study period by asking N.C., "Why are we studying the Gospels?" Ask N.C. to recite Matthew 11:28-30.

1. The Demoniac (vs. 1-23) See also Matthew 8:28-34, Luke 8:26-39. Imagine yourself in that boat with Jesus. You've just arrived on the eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee as the bow gently scrapes upon the sandy shore. Suddenly, you and your shipmates hear loud wailing and look up to see a completely naked man with wild eyes running purposely towards you, his rattling chains clanking behind him. His flesh is scarred and bleeding from self-inflicted wounds. His long hair is grossly matted and tangled, his bushy beard smudged with the remnants of food and dripping saliva. Your heart freezes with terror! Then, to your utter amazement, Jesus steps out of the boat!! Can't you just hear Peter, Andrew, James and John yelling to Him as they try putting back into the water, warning Him of the danger, pleading with Him to get back in the boat before this maniac kills Him?!? But Jesus remains, standing calmly, as the crazed man drops to his knees, skidding the last few yards to Jesus' feet. Don't we mainly think of Jesus as a great teacher, wise, kind, gentle and giving? Do we ever think of him as courageous, manly, or fearless? Yet, here He stands, quietly waiting as this deranged, hideous, barely human creature rushes toward Him. I'm afraid I would have put the oars in reverse and headed out of harm's way long ago !! But Jesus "*sees the unseen*," a spiritual soul in torment, and frees the demoniac from Satan's soldiers! FEAR must be conquered by FAITH in GOD, so Jesus served!

- DT Jesus asked Legion what his name was. Jesus was personal. In Verse 13 the Spirits had to ask permission to leave. Jesus had control over the spirits.
- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. "What three things changed in Legion's life when he was freed from the demons?" Verse 15 Elaborate on these! Sitting, clothed, and in his right mind. Where did the clothes come from? Did Jesus have a suitcase when He got out of the boat?

In essence, Legion worships Jesus on his knees on the beach. But he was naked! Where is Jesus' focus, on Legion's soul, not his suit (birthday suit). How often are we distracted from ministering to the unseen spirit because of a person's appearance?

2. The swine herders ran to tell everyone what had happened and the citizens arrive. They see a familiar sight behaving in an unfamiliar way. Legion is sitting peacefully, smiling as he listens to Jesus telling him about the coming kingdom of Almighty God! The herdsmen and citizens were greatly afraid and begged Jesus to leave. Had the herders seen the turbulent storm on the sea from their vantage point on the coastal heights? Had they also seen the instantaneous calm, then a boat miraculously appear when it should have been lost at sea? Whatever the case, their fear caused them to reject Jesus and He made His way back to the boat. Imagine what Legion's reaction would be to this? He went from living in a cemetery to abiding in Jesus!! His heart was broken!! His hero was rejected!!

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. "What would you have done with Legion?"

3. I know what I would have done!! I would have taken him with me and shown him off to all the people in Galilee! Legion begged, with tears streaming down his face, to go with me. I'd probably make a huge banner stating, "I've tamed everything on land and sea!" That would spruce up my credentials! Legion could shine my sandals, run my errands, be my footstool. I could use some recognition after taming the fiercest beast on the east coast. But Jesus was *never* about pride and ego. He was *always* about His Father's work! (John 4:34) So, Jesus directs this new disciple to go tell his friends what great things God has done for him. How

long do you think that took? How many friends could a demon possessed man have? Legion did what Jesus told him to do. Then he went everywhere else in his country (Decapolis was made up of Ten Towns) and told everyone he could all that Jesus had done for him and about His amazing compassion!

A maniac became a minister! Isn't that the exact same thing Jesus has done for us?

MARK CHAPTER 5 (Part 2)

- **D.T.** Begin each study period by asking N.C., "Why are we studying the Gospels?" Always look for things written in each chapter that will help you learn about Jesus. This chapter has two great stories from Jesus' life *that* teach us much about His nature. We must incorporate His nature into our lives! The stories of Legion and Jairus' daughter are the two major stories in this chapter with the account of the woman with an issue of blood in between. Although her story deals mainly with her faith, there are also things in this story to be learned about Jesus. DIG IN!

1. Jairus' daughter (vs. 21-43) See also Matthew 9:18-26, Luke 8:49-56. Jesus has returned from the eastern shore of the sea. A great multitude has gathered and He is teaching them. Could the apostles contain themselves after all they had just experienced? Surely there were rumors flying and excitement enveloping this huge crowd! Jesus was probably answering questions and telling them about the coming kingdom of God. The people were enthralled by His teaching! Then came Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue in Capernaum. He was a ruler, yes, but more than that, a doting father with a dying twelve year old daughter! The word says he fell at Jesus feet and begged for his daughter's life. The Bible says "So Jesus went with him." Powerful, huh? Why is that so powerful?

Reason #1: Interruption! He came unannounced. He just barged in *as* Jesus was teaching hundreds of people, maybe even thousands! How do we typically deal with interruptions? Impatiently? Rudely? Resentfully?

Reason #2: Add to the interruption some past history (Mark 3:1-6). This was at the synagogue in Capernaum where Jairus is a ruler. He is almost certainly sitting with the other rulers and teachers of the law that we read about in Luke 5:17, who were in town to check out this new prophet from Nazareth. Jairus almost certainly would side with his contemporaries in their disapproval of doing good on the Sabbath. Now he has the nerve to come and disrupt Jesus while He is teaching a Bible class to ask for a favor!?

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. "What would your reaction be to such a person? Wouldn't you want a little more groveling and begging at your feet before you relented? Maybe a request like, "Say pretty please?" How difficult it is for us to serve other's who have shown hardened hearts towards us, yet love and humble service is the example shown to us by Jesus. Imagine the reaction of the crowd to Jarius' pleas. They had most likely been there in the synagogue in Chapter 3. Jarius and the leaders marched out refusing to answer Jesus, but planned to destroy Jesus, yet Jesus goes with Jairus. Tucked between Jaiuses pleas and Jesus raising his daughter is the story of the woman with an issue of blood for 12 years.

- **The Bible often gives us the bones of a story and we must flesh it out. I believe that this woman may have had a friend or two at the lakeside where Jesus was teaching. The friend may have heard the exchange between Jaruis and Jesus and took off to Tell the sick friend that Jesus was going to come by her house. The friend may have said something like, "Get up! Jesus is coming!" After losing blood for 12 years, the woman must have been very weak, but she had a friend to help. The sick woman thought, "If only I could just touch His clothes I will be well." Into the crow they go. Her trembling hand touches Jesus' robe and instant strength flows through her. Jesus STOPS! Why?**

- **D.T. ask the N.C. Why? To IDENTIFY HER! She was declared unclean according to the Old Testament because of her hemorrhaging. She hadn't been to church for 12 years! Jarius may have been the one who had to declare her unclean. Jesus always displays compassion that shows great sensitivity. The huge crowd and Jarius now know she is healed of her affliction. Jesus tells her that her faith was the reason she was now well, He says nothing about His power. Imagine the excitement in Jarius! Twelve years and no cure, now because she touched Jesus she is well. He must have been thinking, "my daughter will certainly be healed! Then the bad news--- "She is dead."**
2. As Jesus enters the home of Jairus, the mourners are already assembled to lament the death of the daughter. Jesus seeks to comfort the friends and family by saying she's only sleeping, Matthew, Mark, and Luke all record *the* same wording in the King James Version, saying, "They laughed Him to scorn." This was loud, derisive, pointing the finger laughter! Do you like to be laughed at? In a room full of strangers? I would have left in a huff, taking Peter, James and John with me!!! I would have gone back to the crowd I left, where I'd be appreciated! Would my choice stop the laughter? No! Would it help the apostles mature spiritually? No! Would it help the parents? Not Plus, the little girl would be getting colder and stiffer!! But Jesus wasn't about pride and ego. He wouldn't let ridicule deter Him from carrying out His Father's will, instead, He went into the other room and said, "Little girl, arise," and she did!! He told the parents to tell no one. Not me! I would've marched that child back into the other room and made sure all the scoffers ate lots of crow with egg on their faces. Not Jesus, "meek and lowly in heart," He and His disciples left by the back door, I'm sure!!

MARK CHAPTER 6

- **D.T.** Review. Select four of the scriptures listed on the "Disciple and Jesus, Learn of Me" page. Discuss with the N.C.
1. Returning *Home* (vs. 1-6) See Matthew 13:54-58. Jesus returned to His hometown. As He taught in the synagogue, many who knew Him and His family were critical of what He taught and had miraculously done. They simply couldn't believe that this man with the questionable birth could *be the Messiah*. They rejected Him along with His relatives and immediate family (vs.4; Mark 3:21-32). Can you imagine how you would feel if this happened to you? You have your disciples with you and they are hearing all of this trash talk too. On top of that, Jesus was prevented from doing any "mighty works" here because of their unbelief. It *was* an unexpected reaction to Jesus, He marveled!) Did He quit? Not Verse six tells us that He went on to all the surrounding villages teaching. Ignore Satan, serve God!! Verse 5 Jesus could do no mighty works there. D.T Ask new Christian why Jesus could not do any mighty work there. Batteries run down, loss of power? No faith there? Verse 6 Jesus marveled at their lack of faith. He was rejected. He didn't quit doing what He had come to do. Jesus kept on. Meekness is not weakness. It is POWER UNDER CONTROL.
 2. Sending out the twelve (vs. 7-13) See Matthew 10. The twelve were sent on a missionary journey with no supplies?? They were utterly successful(t The triumphant return of the apostles in verse 30 (Luke 9:10-17). Excitement! Desire to share with Jesus! Crowds everywhere-asking, demanding, needy. Jesus holds an exclusive *devo* for Himself and the apostles at a deserted place on the north shore of the sea. The people saw them leave by boat and knew where they were headed, *the crowds followed along* the shore, crossed the Jordan *river*, and were waiting for Jesus when He arrived. He was thronged by thousands, His plans for quiet time fell apart. The crowd milled about like sheep and Jesus became: (1) Angry (2) Discouraged (3) Tired and hungry (4) Compassionate? Even though He had not had time to eat (vs. 31) or prayerfully meet with His disciples (vs. 34) Jesus ignored His physical desires that He might minister to the people's spiritual needs. Jesus, "meek and lowly in heart", put His Father's work first, others second, and self last!) But the disciples had not yet learned this. They were put out by the constant demands of the people and so they had a business meeting and asked the Lord to send the people away. The thousands there had no food, so Jesus told the apostles to feed them, They had to be so shocked and confused *by the Lord's directive! They didn't* have the money or the desire and there were only five loaves and two small fish among them all, according to Andrew (John 6:8-9). "Tell them to sit down in groups of fifty," said Jesus. "What?? You can't be serious, Lord," replied the twelve. Jesus thanked His Father for what they had and gave out ten half-loaf portions to ten of the apostles and one fish each to the remaining two.
- **D.T.** Imagine you as one of the twelve! Dramatize it!! Thousands of people-collective stomach growling from hunger-the murmur of the crowd-babies crying-you're approaching the first group of fifty-they are expectant-you have a half loaf. Would your mind be serene?!? Wouldn't you be dreading the coming contact? Maybe thinking, Riot! Jesus always sought to grow His disciples taller and stronger spiritually!! They had just come from a great missionary effort, having taken nothing with them and having been provided with all that was needed. They had cast out demons and healed the sick. All of that came from God! I Wouldn't God provide now? Different situation but same GOD!!

Jesus: (1) "What do you have?" (2) "Thank God for it." (3) "Use it to glorify God!" D.T
Apply this to you and N.C.

The twelve baskets full of bread pieces tell of the providence of God. Twelve baskets, Twelve Apostles, Maybe 12 Keepsake baskets for a reminder to the Apostles. The last part of this chapter is also recorded in John 5:1-21. It tells us that because of the miraculous feeding of the crowd, they wanted to make Jesus king. Jesus sent His followers away by boat and prayed all night on a mountain for strength. In Matthew 14:22-23 when Jesus came down from the mountain and walked on the sea, Peter did too! Dig into Jesus reaction to Peter when he started to sink, Was Jesus meek and lowly in heart? How was it demonstrated?

MARK CHAPTER 7

- **D.T.** Begin each study period by asking N.C., "Why are we studying the Gospels?" Ask N.C. to recite Matthew 11:28-30. Encourage N.C. to write down any questions they may have that are generated by their weekly chapter study. At the end of your chapter, seek to answer those questions.

1. Traditions (vs. 1-13) See also Matthew 15:1-20. Jesus had visitors from the big city! High ranking visitors, intimidating people! These visitors found fault. They accused Jesus of not teaching His disciples to live their lives according to the elder's traditions! What's a Savior to do? Jesus found fault too!! The difference was, Jesus' fault finding was prompted by the word of man. "Meek and lowly in heart" Jesus called these religious leaders "hypocrites!" They had abandoned God's commandments for men's customs! What a difficult situation. Our Lord is accused by religious leaders with regard to eating without first washing their hands. Jesus accuses them of "washing their hands" of their responsibility to help their aging parents who were in need.. Jesus cuts through the hardness of human hearts to teach about what His Father truly treasures, PEOPLE, and how to treat them. We, too, must learn how precious ALL people are to God and love them as He does, even if we are being falsely accused by those whose character is not genuine.

D.T. Look at verse 24, "but He could not be hidden?" Point Should this not also be true in our lives as Christians? Although, at times, we are worn out, etc., Jesus' Spirit living within us should still shine forth to serve others as we are needed. The Lord's Spirit in us cannot be hidden either'. We see from Jesus' travel to Tyre that He needed to rest and pray. Luke 5:16 tells us that Jesus often withdrew from great crowds to pray and meditate upon His mission. So should we,

2. Intrusion (vs. 24-30) See Matthew 15:21-28 It seems that no sooner had He arrived than a needy person came begging for help. She was not a Jew, she was a Gentile. She fell at His feet in front of the apostles and begged for her daughter's health. Can you imagine the courage it took to do that? She, a woman, barges into a house, uninvited and humbles herself before a group of strangers!! To top that off, Jesus doesn't answer her pleadings (prayer). Evidently, she began to ask the apostles for help. She never quit asking (prayer), The disciples pleaded with Jesus to send her away, "she won't stop asking" (prayer). He told them that He was only sent to the lost sheep of Israel. She reentered the house, worshipped Jesus and said, "Lord, help me" (prayer). Jesus told her it would not be good to take bread from the children and give it to the little dogs. Her reply was the essence of faithfulness. Don't give me a loaf or even half a loaf, just give me the crumbs that fall from the children's table!! Jesus described her faith as great (Greek word Megas) without end. Nowhere else is (megas) faith alluded to by our Lord. Her daughter was freed from Satan. Jesus broke down fences dividing people, whether by race, gender or economic level, etc. When we see Jesus' response to this woman, we can know how God will respond to us in the 21st century. She was a foreigner, a woman, probably a widow, who was very poor, but very rich in faith. Immanuel loved and blessed her family! In Verse 29 Jesus gives her the answer she desperately wanted. "Go your way: The demon has come out of your daughter. In Matthew 15:21-28, Jesus told here, "Great is your faith." Jesus wants us to have this kind of faith. To be meek and lowly of heart.

MARK CHAPTER 8

- **D.T.** Review. Select four of the scriptures listed on the "Disciple and Jesus, Learn of Me" page. Discuss with the N.C.
1. The Multitudes (vs. 1-9) See also Matthew 15:32-39. There is almost always a constant crowd around Jesus. He was a people person. He showed His love for them by His interest in their spiritual and earthly *welfare*. Remember: *when* we see Jesus and His concern for people, all kinds of people, we are seeing God lovingly looking at us!! What a blessing! Jesus is concerned about *food for these people* who have attended a three day gospel meeting with the Lord. Note vs. 2-3. Jesus doesn't direct His disciples to "give them something to eat." It seems that the Lord wanted to see if they had retained anything from the feeding of the five thousand. *He was* constantly nurturing spiritual growth in the twelve. Their answer to Jesus' concern was to say almost exactly what they had said in chapter 6, "How can one satisfy these people with bread here in the wilderness?" What can we learn about Jesus here? PATIENCE! Although a wonderful lesson had been demonstrated by the Lord in chapter 6, using what they had, five loaves and two fish, it seems that it wasn't retained by the twelve. How could they not have learned? How soon we forget the wonderful blessings that God has given to us.
- **D.T.** Regarding patience, often the first thing a N.C. does is tell those they love most about what they have just learned and obeyed! Those who are closest to them are often the most critical (Mark 6: 1-4). The N.C. must also learn patience with people. It is obvious that the twelve remembered the former miracle, for they answered correctly when Jesus questioned them regarding it (Mark 8:17-19). Although they remembered the facts, they failed to grow in understanding. How often does a lack of patience produce a breach between *friends*? *Jesus was* extremely patient. D.T. Give an example in which your patience was tried.
2. The Christ (vs. 27-38) See Matthew 16:13-28. *Jesus* asks for a *report* of who people think He is. After a number of responses, Peter declares Him to be the Christ. Matthew 16:16 adds "the Son of the Living God," to Peter's confession. Jesus told the twelve of His impending death at the hands of the chief priests and scribes and of His resurrection. Then Peter took Him aside and rebuked Jesus saying, "Far *be* it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You " Peter is rebuking Jesus?!? Jesus' response was to address Peter by a different name, Satan! ! One minute this apostle is receiving the keys to Heaven and the next minute the key giver calls him Satan. Why was Jesus so *swift* and extreme in His response to Peter? Wasn't Peter just expressing his desire to protect his Master from death? Wasn't he just showing his devotion? Jesus' reply tells us differently! Peter's mind was on the things of man rather than the things of God. At best, avoiding the cross was born of Peter's love for Jesus, at worst it was because the twelve were expecting an earthly kingdom in which they would be big shots, unless their leader was killed! ! Jesus says in Matthew that Peter's unasked for advice was a stumbling block, a temptation! To avoid the cross would void God's will for mankind. That's *why* Jesus called the people to Him and said, "Whoever desires to follow Me, must deny their self, take up their cross, and follow Me." Jesus' cross was to die on, and so is ours! The Father's will took precedence *over* Jesus' will. Reread verse 35. Crosses are for one purpose: FOR US TO DIE ON, THAT JESUS' SPIRIT MIGHT BE MANIFEST IN OUR EARTHLY BODIES!

MARK CHAPTER 9

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. each week for any questions they may have. If you can't answer them right now, write them down, and let them know you will answer them and be sure you do.
1. The Transfiguration (vs. 1-10) See Matthew 17:1-8 and Luke 9:28-37. Jesus takes three of his apostles with Him up on a mountain to pray. Jesus prayed--the apostles slept. Peter, James, and John woke up to the sounds of a conversation going on between Jesus and two men. They thought the men were angels until Jesus called them by name: Moses and Elijah!! Their mouths dropped open as they saw the faze of their Teacher, it was shining as the sun and His robe shimmered and sparkled like newly fallen snow!! The three were astonished as their eyes drank in the gloriousness of this scene. Peter has an idea! "Let's build a worship site for You, Lord, and Moses and Elijah too ! Immediately the apostles were enveloped by a dense foggy cloud. Were they struck blind? Yes! Then a voice thundered from the midst of the cloud with a message, "This is my beloved Son, hear Him!" The cloud lifted and Jesus stood alone!
 - **D.T.** Emphasize the honor and recognition bestowed on Jesus by His Father. What did Jesus do with the attention He surely had from the apostles? They had seen the New Testament conversing with the law (Moses) and the prophets (Elijah)! After telling them, again, of His coming death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus instructed them not to tell anyone what they had seen and heard! Jesus came down from the mountain and continued to serve! On the other hand can you imagine the swelled heads these three apostles had? "Meek and lowly" was not on their minds! Vs. 39 tells us the twelve were arguing among themselves on the way back to town about who among them was the greatest? Can you guess what might have been said? Pride goes before a fall and they all fell on betrayal night! Later in his life, Peter recounts the glorious scene in 2 Peter 1:16-18, "We" is his word of choice, not "me!!"
 2. Powerless disciples! (vs. 14-29) Down from the mountain they meet a crowd around the other apostles. A father had brought his son to be freed from demon possession, but the nine couldn't cast the demon out, Jesus sighs and chides them for their miniscule faith. The father of the *boy admits* it and asks for help with his unbelief! His statement was a confession, the only one, and his prayer was answered!! Why couldn't the apostles do *what Jesus did?* Mark 6:7 and 13 tells us that Jesus gave them the power to cast out unclean spirits, which they did?! Why not now? Jesus reply is simple--no prayer!! The disciples couldn't *do now what had* been done before because their focus was NOW on SELF rather than on bringing glory to God. Heartfelt prayer is a statement of ones continuing humility and dependence on God for EVERYTHING. They were so full of themselves, there was no room for God's Spirit!!
 3. A little child (vs. 33-35) Using a little child, Jesus teaches them how true greatness is gained. Greatness is not discouraged by the Lord, it is encouraged! Go for it!! Be the servant of all! That is exactly what Jesus did. He gave His all in service to all of humanity. He gave up: His heavenly throne and all that entails, His power to all who had a need, His hands to the nails, His head to the cruel crown of thorns, His body to the Roman scourge, His blood for you and me. All that Jesus gave and still gives is humbly and lovingly given. He serves us in Heaven today!! Read Hebrews 7:25, True service toward God is born out of humility of heart, love of God, and above all else, an awareness of our total dependence on Him in order to faithfully serve His creation here on Earth.

MARK CHAPTER 10

- **D.T.** Begin each study period by asking N.C., "Why are we studying the Gospels?" Ask N.C. to recite Matthew 11:28-30. Does N.C. have any questions about this chapter? Which verse(s) did they read that spoke to them personally?

Jesus returns to Judea and crowds gather to Him on the east side of the Jordan and Jesus teaches them.

1. Blessing the little children (vs. 13-16) See also Matthew 19:13-15, Luke 18:15-17. Jesus is approached by many parents bringing their children for Him to bless. Jesus' reaction is so foreign to many adults. He who had the weight of the world on His shoulders has time for little children?!?
Question: What does Jesus' actions tell us about God? Jesus not only welcomes the children, He was very displeased with His disciples for attempting to shoo them away. He has time for children: to hold and hug them, teach, and bless them. Immanuel (God with us) has time to personally serve children. It must be an important ministry to God!! If Jesus showed displeasure at His apostles' treatment of little ones, then the same must be true today when God sees adults ignoring the spiritual needs of children.
2. The rich young ruler (vs. 17-22) See also Matthew 19:16-22, Luke 18:18-27. The rich young man came running to Jesus wanting Heaven for himself. Jesus tells him to keep the commandments. He says, "Which ones?" Which ones? Are commandments from God to be picked through as if some were more sacred than others? Jesus names six commandments and the man says, "I've always kept those"! A bold statement made in ignorance. Jesus saw his eagerness. He loved him and so He told him to liquidate his holdings and give all to the poor. "Take up your cross and follow Me and you will have treasure in Heaven!" What an invitation! He knew the main thing the young man lacked was the common thread running through the six commandments Jesus finally gave him. All six deal with how we are to treat our fellow man!! He wanted him to see what those commandments really meant. The apostles left boats, nets, tax office, homes, etc., for a life journey with Jesus. This was an invitation to that man to do the same! ! But he loved goods more than God. Self was pampered and the needs of people around him were ignored. Truly loving God is to love His creation made in His image: people! Jesus gave up all that He had everlastingly enjoyed to live as a human on Earth and give His all for mankind.
3. The peril of wealth (vs. 23-31) See also Matthew 19:23-26, Luke 18:24-27. The disciples are astonished at Jesus' remark about rich people. (That includes us!) Why were they confused? Because they equated wealth with righteousness. They thought that rich people were rich because they were favored by God. So if rich people couldn't go to Heaven, how could the disciples? What Jesus tells the twelve who left all is what He promised the rich young man, He just adds a little more detail. The young yuppie needed to have wealth in hand in order to follow Jesus. He reasoned that if he gave it all away, all he would have left was GOD! He failed to realize that Jesus' promises were far richer than money in the bank!
4. The blind beggar (vs. 35-52) Jesus is headed toward Jerusalem. As He walks through Jericho a blind beggar cries for help. Jesus' disciples tell the man to quit yelling or else!! The blind man yells louder! Jesus stops and asks the man the same question He asked James and John earlier. (vs. 36) The brothers wanted supremacy, Bartimaeus wanted sight. The beggar could "see", even though he was blind; the brothers were "blind", even though they could see! Even on His death march to Jerusalem and the cross, Jesus served people! His "meek and lowly heart" never wavered in His loving loyalty to God, the Father.

MARK CHAPTER 11

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C., "Why are we studying the book of Mark?" Take two scriptures from the "Learn of Me" page and review with N.C. what they teach about Jesus.

1. **Triumphal Entry (vs. 1-6)** See also Matthew 21:1-9, Luke 19:29-40. Jesus and the disciples have arrived just outside of Jerusalem. Our Lord has just a few days left before He is killed on a cross. He sends two disciples to carry out a task. Keep in mind that the two are strangers from Galilee, far from home. Jesus tells them to go into the village and right away you'll see a colt tied, loose it and bring it to Me. If anyone asks, "Why are you doing this?" tell them, "The Lord has need of it." They will then let you go with the colt!

D.T. Help the N.C. by being his partner on this errand. Dramatize!! Put some flesh on the bones of this story! What would you two be thinking about as you walked toward the village to "rustle" a colt? Imagine yourself driving to a ranch and loading up a steer and telling the rancher, "The Lord needs it! !!" That in essence is what the Lord said to do. Walk into a strange village, take a colt, without permission that doesn't belong to you! ! So many things could go wrong. The "what ifs" abound!). The point is, they went and spoke as Jesus commanded, and they were successful! What we can transfer to the 21st century is: obedience to Jesus will, ultimately, always produce a victory.

2. **The temple cleansed (vs, 15-19)** See Matthew 21:12-17, Luke 19:45-48, John 2:13-17. Jesus enters the temple at Jerusalem. He saw men bartering, buying and selling, money-changers and peddlers of all sorts. He clears them all out and restores the temple to what it was to be, a house of prayer! Result: immediately, there was room for the blind, lame and children to pray and praise God. We are to be God's temples of prayer (1 Corinthians 6:19). Our temple can become cluttered with the worldly and be transformed into a den of thieves! The thieves in our temple steal time, talent and attention from God's work to use for worldly purposes. We must allow Jesus to cleanse our temple of distractions that we would be a temple where hurting, lost people again receive needed attention. Jesus' body was that kind of temple!! The morning after the temple cleansing, Jesus is confronted by the chief priests, scribes and the elders. They had huddled the day before to figure out a way to destroy Jesus! Now they ask Him by what authority did He do what He did in the temple? These men very likely profited from all the buying and selling, for they were the law when it came to temple use. They were greedy, unbelieving, vengeful plotters who hated the Lord. What was the answer from Jesus, the "meek and lowly?" Refer to Luke 7:24-30, 20:1-8. They had rudely interrupted Jesus as He taught the gospel, yet His answer was one of compassion and love?!? He countered their question with another question to bring them to their spiritual senses. He gave them a choice, heaven or men, truth or fiction, right or wrong! These "leaders" were not led by God, but by two evil elements, pride and fear! If they admitted John's baptism was right, they would be admitting they were wrong for not being baptized, pride! If they stated that John was a fraud, which is what they believed, they would be stoned, fear! They chose to lie and say they didn't know. Jesus then dismissed their question and continued His Bible class!! Meek and lowly does not mean doormat! Although Jesus truly loved these men who were His enemies, He didn't allow them to bully or intimidate Him. He continued with His father's business. So must we!!

MARK CHAPTER 12

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. to quote Matthew 11:28-30. Ask if they have any questions about this chapter and write them down, answer them at the end of the study session.
1. The vineyard (vs, 1-12) See also Matthew 21:33-46, Luke 20:9-19. Jesus stirred up a hornet's nest among the elite leaders. First a triumphal entry into Jerusalem with great crowds praising Him and call Him, "the King who comes in the name of the Lord" (John 19:38). The Pharisees yelled at Him from the crowds, "Rebuke Your disciples!" Jesus reply was "If these people kept silent, the stones would immediately cry out." Then Jesus cleaned out the temple of God, ridding it of the merchants making a profit from religion and called them thieves!! After refusing to answer them at the end of chapter 11, Jesus tells a prophetic parable regarding the nation of Israel in general and the leaders in particular. They are incensed instead of being instructed because the parable taught the truth about their selfishness which would deny even the Messiah recognition in order that they would retain their positions!
 2. Paying taxes (vs. 13-17) See also Matthew 22:15-22, Luke 20:20-26. They next send some of their wisest comrades to trip Jesus up publicly so they can kill Him! ! They use flattery to try and deceive Jesus into thinking He was admired of them. They state four truths about Jesus and all are true: 1] He is true because He is truth (John 14: 6), 2] He is not fearful (that is what care means here, 1 John 4:18), 3] He is not intimidated by men (Proverbs 29:25), 4] He came to teach truth. So He doesn't respond to the flattery, He answers their questions with the loving heart of God, for He is the exact image of His Father. The question is a trap! Shall we pay taxes to the Roman Empire or not? Jesus lets them know He knows their intent in asking the question. "Bring me a denarius," says the Lord. They do and Jesus asks a question of them! They answer and Jesus draws a powerful conclusion. They asked their question about taxes to trap the Teacher. Jesus response is to teach them what a follower of God looks like. Their question was posed to hurt Him, His was said to save them. He asks them to tell whose picture and message are on the coin. They answer correctly. Caesar's image and words are stamped indelibly into the coin. It is not a temporary image made with pencil or paint, it's not wording that will wear off in a month or two! The message and image on the denarius of Caesar can be read today if seen in a museum. Jesus' spiritual point was God's picture and words should be indelibly stamped on their hearts and on ours as well. The coin was Caesar's, the Christian is God's because in each case we see in them, coin or Christian, the likeness of their leader. The "meek and lowly One" lovingly seeks to patiently teach His enemies even as they conspire to kill him AND HE KNEW IT!!!
 3. The widow's mite (vs. 41-44) See also Luke 21:1-4. Is God interested in our giving? Notice vs. 41 in particular. Jesus sat opposite the treasury to see HOW the people put money in! What's that mean? Consider 2 Corinthians 9:7, "the Lord loves a cheerful (hilaros) giver!!" The Greek word hilaros is the same word we get our English word hilarious from. That should give us a good idea of the demeanor we should have as we give our lives in service to God!!

MARK CHAPTER 13

- **D.T.** Cross references: Luke 21:5-38; Matthew 24:1-44. Look up the references and give them to the N.C. to use in personal study before you study with them. Always ask the N.C. if they have read the cross references. Encourage them to do so each week. Ask if they have any questions about this chapter.
- Mark and Luke's gospels record two questions asked of Jesus. Matthew records three questions. Jesus told the apostles that the great buildings and the temple they admire were going to be destroyed in their lifetime.
- They asked: 1. When will these things be?
 2. What will be the sign of your coming?
 3. What will be the sign of the end of the age?
- The destruction of Jerusalem is a documented historical fact. It, took place in the lifetime of the apostles. It was God's final affirmation to the Jewish people that the old law and its statutes were taken out of the way and nailed to the cross. (Colossians 2:14; Romans 7:4) The temple of stone was replaced by the temple that houses the Holy Spirit, the heart of each Christian. The Levitical priesthood was replaced by Jesus, our high priest and the Ten Commandments were replaced by the new testament of Jesus. (Hebrews 9:11-17)
- What can we learn about Jesus from this prophetic chapter? Jesus said, among other things:
 1. Take heed that no man fool you (vs. 5) Where does deceit come from? Satan and company! ! Make sure that you are fully wearing the armor of God. (Ephesians 6:10-18)
 2. Watch out for yourselves (vs. 9) How am I to "watch out for myself"? Through study and remembrance of the scriptures, and humbly relying on God through prayer each day.
 3. Do not worry (vs. 11) Worry creates the darkroom for developing negatives. Reliance on God brings renewed vitality and courage in the face of difficulties.
 4. Be Ready! (vs. 33) Be ready to meet your Savior eternally at any time!!
- In giving these warnings as well as others in this chapter, Jesus shows His love for His church. Jesus' words of caution to His followers then mirror God's concern for us today!

MARK, CHAPTER 14

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. Why are we studying the gospel of Mark?

1. The Anointing at Bethany (vs. 3-9) See also Matthew 26:6-13, John 12:3-8. Lazarus' sister, Mary anoints Jesus with expensive oil because she is thankful for her brothers return to life. She is sharply criticized in vs. 5!!

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. How do we generally respond to criticism? Positively or negatively?

Jesus defends her!! In fact, Jesus states that her sacrifice will be recorded in Holy Writ for all the world to know of!!? What did she do? Vs. 8 tells us that she did what she could do!!! Jesus recognized her sacrifice of love and thankfulness. Jesus encourages us to do what we can for Him. If criticized, God will defend us and the works of faith we carry out in His name.

2. The Betrayal (vs. 16-19) See also Matthew 26:20-25, Luke 22:21-23. Jesus declares at the Passover meal one of the apostles will betray Him to His enemies.

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. .about their reaction? Why such a reaction? Why didn't Jesus openly identify Judas? Was the Lord affording him an opportunity to repent? In fact, didn't they all betray Him that very night? (vs. 50)

3. Gethsemane (vs. 32-42) See also Matthew 26:36-46, Luke 22:39-46. Jesus is troubled, deeply distressed and sorrowful, He fell to the ground and prayed, "Take this cup away, nevertheless, not what I will, by what You will!"

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. What is the cup Jesus is talking about? Was Jesus afraid to die? To suffer? To be crucified? Is that why "in agony, His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground?" (Luke 22:44)

Jesus was facing the supreme test of His trust and dependence in His Father. It was not a crucified death that troubled Him, it was something far more terrifying!! Eternally, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit had been bound together as one in spirit and truth. But the Son was about to become sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21) and endure a never before separation from His Father because of our sin!! That separation was what troubled Him so deeply. His cry from the cross, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me!" signals that separation. Jesus throughout His life and ultimately in His self-sacrifice on the cross for our sins, identifies with all of us. Not only was He tempted in all points as we are, but He also, as our sacrifice, experienced and endured the unknown, as we do, in His death. Ours is a separation of flesh and spirit; His, a separation because He was covered with all the sins of every person who had or would live on this planet!!

MARK CHAPTER 15

D.T. Ask the N. C. if they have any questions. Ask what passage in this chapter meant the most to them.

1. Betrayal (Verses 1-6) See also Matthew 27:1, Luke 23:1, John 18:28. Thru out the betrayal night of our Lord, people He would soon give His life for were accusing and reviling Him. He went through Eve trials at different times that night. When the chief priests accused Jesus of many things in front of the Jewish high council, Jesus did not answer. Even Pilate was later mystified by the Lord's thundering silence and he asked, "Why don't you answer?" Jesus reply was further silence.

D.T. Ask the N.C., "When we are accused wrongly, how easy is it for us to remain un-defensive? Is this a virtue?"

The tendency we struggle with is to not only defend but also attack the accuser. The Lord could have easily done both and been fully righteous in the doing!! Jesus withstood the temptation to defend and accuse because of the strength He had received that night through prayer. (Luke 22:42-43) He will do the same for Christians today. This is "meek and lowly in heart" at its highest level,

2. Indignities (vs. 29-31) Consider the words that indicate disrespect for Jesus in these three verses. blasphemed, wagging, "aha", "save yourself", mocking, "descend now", reviled. The only way to withstand the temptations of anger, revenge and accusation is to have a profound trust in God and a desire for His approval above the approval of people here on Earth, This scene is proof positive that even the most righteous in the land (council, priests, scribes - vs. 1) can be wrong!!
3. The entombment (vs. 42-46) See also Matthew 27-57, Luke 23:33, and. John 19:38-42. Nicodemus makes his final appearance in the scriptures after Jesus' death. He had come to a live Lord "in the night" (John 4), here he shopped for myrrh and aloes at the market in broad daylight (John 19). He bought a hundred pound weight, the amount traditionally used for a king's burial. Don't you know people asked what king had died? Nicodemus joined another secret disciple, Joseph of Arimathea, in taking Jesus' body from the cross, In "broad daylight!! Both men were members of the Jewish high council, In John 7:48-52, Nicodemus is recorded as speaking up in a discussion about the Lord and whether He was the Christ. Nicodemus was ridiculed for his efforts. In John 12:42 it tells us that many of the council members believed Jesus was the Messiah but were afraid to openly confess Him. Mark 15:43 tells us that Joseph "took courage" and asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Can you imagine the scene as these former secret disciples, in full view of the public eye, carried the bleeding body of Jesus into the tomb and laid the sacrifice for their sins on a stone slab!?

D.T. Imagine with the N.C. what that scene in the tomb would be like!! Two leaders, led by fear 'til now, looking at the lifeless corpse of the Lord thru tear filled eyes. "Why? If only. Maybe we should have, all of these thoughts and more must have filled their minds as they looked at the lacerated body of Jesus, dead from hundreds of wounds. Reverently, they prepared His body and from that day forward we never read again of these two men.

MARK CHAPTER 16

- **D.T.** This chapter is a record of our faith's foundation! Jesus rose from the dead!!! He lives!!! Emphasize the fact that Jesus' words all came true! The followers of Jesus doubted, but the Lord did not forsake them. He encouraged them and sent them on a world wide mission, the same one we are involved in today!! See that although they doubted, they overcame Satan's whispers and devoted themselves to kingdom work! ! !
1. The Resurrected Lord (vs. 1-20) See also Matthew 28, Luke 24, John 20. From the dawn of the day till dark, the disciples of Jesus, for the most part, were mourning instead of making merry. The devoted women who came to the tomb, came to complete the burial customs. "Who will roll away the stone?" they wondered. This indicated they were coming to see the dead rather than the risen! ! The disciples were mourning and weeping (vs. 10). The report of the Lord's resurrection was not believed. In Luke 24:13-35 we see two followers walking down from Jerusalem to Emmaus. They were also disappointed until they met someone on the road who talked with them of the scriptures concerning the Messiah. They asked Him to eat with them and as the stranger broke the bread, they realized it was Jesus! Maybe they saw the wounds in His hands as He broke the bread!! ! The two went back to Jerusalem that night with their eyewitness report, but they were not believed either. Peter was named by the angel in the tomb as one to personally tell the good news, but he also discounted the story.
- **D.T.** How difficult is it to believe, when there are so many witnesses? Why this doubt? Hadn't Peter, James and John seen Jairus' daughter raised from the dead? Hadn't they seen Moses and Elijah, who had been dead for centuries, conversing with Jesus? Hadn't they seen the widow's son raised up at Nain? Jesus said He would arise from the dead on the third day!! Unbelievable! Read Matthew 17:20. Jesus also said those words, but He must've meant something else?!? Unbelievable! We base the totality of our Christian faith on the resurrection of our Lord from the dead!
 - **D.T.** Help this N.C. to see the true power of a deep and abiding faith. Jesus has all the power and authority in Heaven and earth. He gave every Christian. a mission to go and tell of Jesus' sacrifice, His resurrection and our salvation because of Him. There is no greater accomplishment a human can complete than to tell another of God's salvation offered to all of mankind. Jesus said, "...I am always with you, even to the end of the age." WOW!! That's unbelievable!!!

JOHN CHAPTER 1

- Ask N.C. to recite Matthew 11:28-30. Any questions about this chapter? There is so much in chapter one. Remember to limit yourself to a one-hour session. Read the chapter, each one reading five verses at a time.

1. "In Him was life"?? (vs. 4-5) Ask N.C. "What does that mean"? By this time they should be able to see the spiritual rather than the earthly meaning.

Hint : ... "that life was the light"....

... "shines in the darkness"

- Remember the Star War movies? Darth Vader was always seeking to recruit Luke Skywalker to the Dark Side!! It was a battle of wills! Wills are not seen, but the results of wills are seen. In John 1: Men loved darkness rather than light. Jesus' life is mankind's spiritual light.
2. "The Word became flesh" (vs. 14) Where did Jesus dwell when He came to earth as a man? Where was he born? Where was his dwelling place?
 - He dwelt AMONG us, because he loved us and wanted to be with His creation. So does God the Father!!! And so should God's children! That's us!!!
 3. "I tell you the truth"...(vs 51) What is Jesus telling these men in this verse?

JOHN CHAPTER 2

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. for their favorite scripture from this chapter. Any questions? Pray together before study,

1. Jesus' first miracle. (vs. 1-11) Cana was the location where Jesus' first miracle was done, It was not planned! He was 30 years old, had some followers and an invitation to wedding festivities.

- Was Mary's concern (vs. 4) because the bride or groom were relatives? We aren't told. When asked by His mother to help, Jesus said, "My hour has not yet come". Whatever these words meant, Mary was not deterred from her concern. What can we learn about "meek and lowly" from the Savior and the miracle He did? What can we learn about God the Father, whose nature is revealed in the life of Jesus?
- Miracles are magnificent! They are meant to be witnessed by multitudes. Miracles point crowds to the King! But here in Cana, who knew? Thank about it! Well let's see; Mary, she already knew, a few servants and some disciples, that's it. Jesus' actions here, in an obscure village points our hearts to a Savior and a Father who are majestic in minor things. The embarrassment of a wedding couple avoided, the concern of a peasant mother, and it was that way to the end of His life, washing twenty-four feet in an upper room in the garb of a slave.

THIS WEEK FIND A WAY TO SERVE OTHERS IN THE SAME WAY.

JOHN CHAPTER 3

- D.T. Ask N.C. Why are we studying in the Gospels? Any questions?

- 1. You must be born again. (vs. 1-21) Evidently Nicodemus had seen some of the miraculous signs Jesus had done while in Jerusalem (2:23). He was convinced that Jesus was sent by God, and he said so to the Lord. Notice Jesus' focus! ! He ignored the recognition and took Nicodemus right to the spiritual need of every person, REBIRTH!
 - o Our Lord's "Meek and Lowly" heart centered on His Father's will, not on personal need for recognition. Wasn't Nicodemus' reply about reentering his mother's womb comical? Jesus' didn't laugh, instead He treated this fearful believer (he came by night) with dignity. He transferred Nicodemus' thinking from earthly to spiritual. (vs.5ff)
 - o Jesus is constantly patient with this Jewish leader, who should understand more clearly and comprehensively, being a "teacher of Israel." Seeing Jesus' patience with Nicodemus GIVES US REASSURANCE AS TO GOD'S PATIENCE WITH US!!

- 2. The light. (vs. 18-21) Ask N.C. "What is the light that Jesus is speaking of? " What is the "darkness men love" that Jesus is speaking of? (Refer to John 1:9-12)

- 3. "He must INCREASE, but I must DECREASE." (vs. 30) This is our calling too!! What does John mean?

JOHN CHAPTER 4

- D.T. The record of Jesus and his conversation with the woman at the well is one of the greatest demonstrations of the spiritual virtues Jesus modeled that we might learn about and imitate.
1. Samaria. (vs. 4-5) Why did Jesus need to go through Samaria? I believe it was the urging of God's Spirit within Him because of His constant communication with His Father through prayer. Jesus felt the urgings of His Father's Spirit. He was watchful and sensitive to those feelings within. The same type of declarations were made by Jesus in the temple when He was 12 years old (Luke 2:49); When He met Zacchaeus (Luke 19:5); and when He healed the blind man (John 9:4). His work was programmed by urgency rather than convenience. He recognized the opportunities of the moment, afforded Him by the Spirit, and seized them with enthusiasm.
 2. Jacob's Well. (vs. 6) We find Jesus sitting by Jacob's well because He was tired, it was lunchtime and His disciples had gone to Sychar to bring back lunch. A woman approaches to draw water and Jesus responds to the OPPORTUNITY? It's noon in the desert and very hot, Jesus is pooped out and hungry. All of these conditions can blind us to opportunities because self cries out for solace. Jesus asks for a drink and "Meek and Lowly in Heart" turns a bitter woman into a messenger for God!!!
 - Consider this conversation with the Samaritan woman carefully:
 - WHAT IS HER RESPONSE TO JESUS' REQUEST FOR A DRINK? She accuses Him of being prejudiced against her gender and nationality!!
 - D.T. Ask the N.C. How would you respond to her question? What would our natural inclination be toward such an attitude?
 - Jesus ignored the insult and brought God into the conversation!! Her reply? Ridicule!! No bucket? No rope? No brains! Jesus focuses on the spiritual message: LIVING WATER!!
 - D.T. Ask the N.C. What would your reaction be to ridicule from a stranger?
 - The woman asked for this living water that Jesus spoke about. Jesus calls her to confession. She hedges with the truth. Jesus compliments her for the little bit of truth she told and she sees a prophet. She tries to start a religious debate (vs. 20). Jesus' reply stirs her to ask about the Messiah??? Incredible!! "Meek and Lowly in Heart" has prompted her to think that maybe this just might be the Savior and Jesus confirms it!!
 3. Lunch (vs. 27-37) The disciples bring back lunch and Jesus tells them, "I have food to eat that you know nothing about."
 - D.T. Ask the N.C. What Food? Answer: vs. 34.

Summary: Our commitment to Jesus MUST compel us more than gratification of the flesh.

Result: A two-day gospel meeting created by a request for a drink of water.

JOHN CHAPTER 5

- D.T. Ask N.C. "Why are we studying the gospel of John? Answer: Matthew 11:28-30. Instill within them the importance of memorizing these verses.
1. Healing (vs. 1-15) Notice where Jesus goes! Does He look up the high priest and pay His respects? Drop in on the Jewish high council and glad hand the members? No! When Jesus comes to the big city of Jerusalem He goes to the same people He always has, the hurting! The 38 year old invalid needed a miracle, but he was looking at the city water instead of the Living Water! !
 - Ask the N.C. "Why do you suppose Jesus asked the man that question in verse 6?"
 - Because there was a great multitude of sick people gathered there, the question would be heard and hope would swell in the hearts of the ill toward God. Jesus also deliberately cured the man on the Sabbath. Why? To start a controversy? No. That people might see and know that God worked through Him to heal this man. There was no sin in doing good on the Sabbath or even carrying your bed, which God's Son told Him to do!!
 - Then Jesus vanished in the crowd, but later found the man in the temple, and admonished him to live in a Godly way, lest something worse than 38 years of illness would "come upon you". What could that be? AN ETERNITY AWAY FROM GOD!!!
 2. Jesus' persecutors questioned Him. Consider Jesus' reply in Verse 19 and Verse 30. He emphatically states that He can do nothing of Himself, He is empowered by His "meek and lowly heart" submitting to the Father's direction! ! The Savior uses the conduit of prayerful submission to His Father for direction and strength in His public ministry.
 - If prayer was a continuous spiritual exercise in Jesus' life, how strong should prayer be in our lives as His disciples? So often we are so busy we have no time left to pray. That was not true in Jesus' life. Let me give you one instance of many, Luke 5:15-16. Even though great crowds were assembled for instruction (hear) and healing (church work), Jesus withdraws (quietly separated) Himself in solitude to pray for spiritual strength and renewal.
- Schedule time each day for 15 minutes of prayer with God. You will be amazed at the spiritual vitality it will give you! !

JOHN CHAPTER 6

- **D.T.** Ask N.C: Why are we studying Jesus' life in the gospels of Mark and John? It is very important to reemphasize this purpose again and again, even as this chapter reveals in (vs. 63). A N.C. is a newborn spiritually and easily distracted from the focus of these studies, so repetition is necessary.
1. The sixth chapter brings more of Jesus' teachings about the nature of God rather than teaching through miracles. Here we find the feeding of the five thousand again as well as Jesus' four-mile walk on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus recognizes that thousands were seeking Him for earthly bread not Spiritual food (vs. 26). Jesus tells them to work for the meat that gives eternal satisfaction (John 4:34).
 - **D.T.** Ask N.C: How many people today who seek and embrace the Lord do so for the earthly rather than the Heavenly rewards? That was going on even when Jesus was here on Earth!
 - The people understood what Jesus said because (vs. 28) confirms it! It involved "Them" or "WE" and God's work! Jesus answers them and they revert to typical human thinking by asking for a sign. Hmmmm. Let's see. Maybe a sign like more bread! !
 2. Consider Jesus' patience in the face of repeated requests for earthly goods. How could they not understand? How can we not understand? (vs. 38) Jesus tells the crowd that He is not there to do anything except carry out His Father's will.
 - **D.T.** Ask N.C: Is that statement only applicable to our Lord? The thousands wanted to make Him King. (vs. 14-15) His reply was an all night prayer session with the Father for strength to resist this huge earthly temptation.
 3. Jesus' instruction to the complainers (vs. 41) and the filled to capacity synagogue in Capernaum, was exactly what we are doing in these lessons each week. (vs. 57)
 - (vs. 66) What did rejection produce in Jesus' heart? Continued focus on pleasing His Father rather than men! (vs. 51) Think on these words from Jesus' lips!

JOHN CHAPTER 7

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. What are we to learn from Jesus? The most difficult situation Christians often encounter is rejection, in its many forms, from their families (vs. 3-10). As you read this conversation between Mary's eldest (Jesus) and His younger brothers, what tone of voice would you give to the words spoken to Jesus by His siblings (Psalms 69:8)? Think of the stressfulness of these days in Jesus' life.
1. A Lack of Faith (vs. 1-9) In the sixth chapter (vs. 66) many followed Him no more. Now, His own family are revealed again as unbelievers (Mark 3:21). Surely Jesus knew it! What was His reaction to all of this disappointment and stress? Why didn't Jesus go with His brothers to Jerusalem? What good, spiritually, can come from hanging out with unbelievers? Jesus finds controversy surrounding Him at His arrival to the Festival. Some think He is good, others think He is bad.
 2. Honoring God (vs. 10-31) The Jewish leaders doubted His qualifications to teach (vs. 15). Notice Jesus' reply. What is our natural tendency when questioned? **DEFENDING OURSELVES!** Jesus points toward His Father. They marveled and Jesus directs them Heavenward! Further on in verse 18, Jesus only seeks glory to be given to God! Why don't these religious people get Jesus' message? Verses 34-36 give us the reason why people, then and now, miss the message.
 - **D.T.** Ask the N.C. Why do people miss Jesus' message?
 3. Taking Sides (vs. 40-53) Here is a two thousand year old example of what causes conflict among Christians. Are the people correct who said, "He is the Christ" in verse 41? Yes, they are! Are the people correct in verse 42 who state that the Christ will be born in Bethlehem? Yes they are! What is the problem? Why can't they agree? They don't know the Word as they should (vs. 52). Isaiah 9:1 states that out of Naphtali and Zebulun will a great light shine, referring to and prophesying of Jesus of Galilee which was Naphtali and Zebulun in Isaiah's day! !

JOHN CHAPTER 8

- **D.T.** Ask if the N.C. looked up the cross references given in this chapter. These references, many times, give extra details of a particular incident in Jesus' ministry. Does the N.C. have access to a complete concordance? Emphasize the fact that a concordance is a necessary tool for comprehensive Bible study. (Note) They may not know what a concordance is or what they cost! You can also, if they have access to the internet, point them to the many free resources available to them at the click of a mouse.

1. Quiet Time with God (vs. 1-2) Why did Jesus go to the Mount of Olives? Most Bible scholars agree that the first verse should have been the last verse of the previous chapter. The previous chapter had been filled with challenges to Jesus' claim to be God's Son. Belief and disbelief resulted in confrontations between the people. Insults were uttered, then everyone went to their house (vs. 53). Everyone except Jesus, who went to the olive orchard! Prayer is dependent submission and through prayer Jesus renewed His spiritual strength. His communication with our Father empowered Jesus (John 5:30). In like manner we too will always gain spiritual renewal! Did Jesus pray all night? We aren't told, but the text tells us He arrived at the temple "very early". Notice the reaction of the people when they saw Him. "They came to Him" wanting to hear about God. What a crowd to buoy the heart of our Lord as He sat and taught them.
2. To throw the Stone (vs. 3-11) The enemies of Jesus are relentless in their desire to disprove His claims to be God's Son. The enemy drags a woman "caught" in adultery into the "midst" of Jesus' Bible class! Imagine the scene! The Pharisees and scribes had one motive in mind, finding a reason to accuse Jesus! Imagine the plight of the woman brought before the Lord. Imagine her humiliation "in the midst" of a crowd in the temple. The Pharisees spoke of killing her and had their stones with them. She must have been terrified. She was a pawn in their scheme. She was expendable. She was a disposable item. Their question, (vs. 5) seemed to demand a yes or no answer, but Jesus gave them neither! He thought and then He wrote on the ground. What was written? Maybe Leviticus 20:10, where the Bible states both the adulterer and the adulteress are to die. Where was the man? Then He spoke to the men assembled and told the sinless man to cast the first stone. Jesus, the meek and mild, used their own guilty consciences instead of anger to convict them of their own sinfulness.

Think of the impact on the large crowd that Jesus had been teaching (James 1:19). I wonder if the woman in Luke 7:37-50 could have been the woman accused in this chapter? There are many other situations in this chapter, explore them in light of the "learn of Me" demeanor.

JOHN CHAPTER 9

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. "How is the yoke? What is the best thing you have learned from your partner in the yoke so far?"
- **D.T.** *Anytime* that you can spend with a new Christian away from feeding them (studying with them) will help their growth spiritually.
- THIS CHAPTER HAS IT ALL! Verse 59 of the previous chapter has Jesus hiding Himself and leaving the temple because the Pharisees had taken up stones to kill Him. At a time when self preservation should have been uppermost in His mind, Jesus sees a blind man begging, a man born blind from birth.
- **D.T.** Ask N.C. What did Jesus see when He saw? His disciples see the blind beggar too. What do they see when they saw? Two radically different views are revealed!
 - The disciples asked a religious question out of idle curiosity.
 - Jesus' answer was focused on compassion for the beggar and thus glory toward the Father!
- Meditate on these words. **"I must work the Works of Him Who sent Me while it is day. The night is coming when no one can work."**
- 1. Jesus' declaration has a direct link to the blind beggar! God's Spirit works today as then, in human lives directing us to see spiritual opportunities for service to others that God would be glorified. His eyes anointed, the beggar was led to the pool of Siloam to wash and "he came back seeing". Can you imagine his joy? He had never seen blue sky, parents and siblings, land with its mountains, trees and flowers. In fact, he had not seen Jesus either.
- 2. The Lord was not strengthened by accolades, He drew His strength from honoring His Father (the blind see) and moving on, seeking more opportunities to do the same. I love the heart of the now seeing former beggar in his reply to the self-righteous Pharisees. His reasoning is straight from a heart of thankfulness and faith. He probably wasn't welcome at the synagogue before and certainly not after this verbal exchange. (vs. 34)
- 3. I love verse 35 "Jesus heard" and "when He had found him." That is what Jesus is all about and we are yoked to Him.
- **D.T.** Ask N.C. Are there people around you that you can draw toward God? When the blind man was first seen by Jesus and the disciples, he begged for money. When he met Jesus the second time, (vs. 36), he begged to know, "Who is He, Lord that I may believe in Him?"

The beggar was found by the Son of God. So are people today through Christians!

JOHN CHAPTER 10

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. if they have any questions regarding this chapter. Encourage them to read through this chapter more than once and have paper and pencil ready so they can note anything that puzzles them.

o In this chapter, Jesus brings to our minds the illustration of a shepherd and his sheep. How many ways can you find, in Jesus description of the Shepherd, that He serves the sheep?

The Good Shepherd and His Sheep

(vs. 3-4)

- "They hear His voice"
- It is a familiar voice that the sheep are unafraid of.
- He calls them by name, not by number. He knows them.
- He leads them. He doesn't drive them.
- He goes before them. He faces any danger first.
- The sheep follow Him, know His voice, He speaks to them to calm and comfort them- "the sheep whisperer"?

(vs. 9-10)

- He saves them
- Leads them to good pastures where they can grow strong.
- They receive the abundant life through His shepherding.

(Verse 11)

- He gives His life for the sheep

(Verse 15)

- He lays down His life on purpose, for the flock.

(Verse 28)

- I give them eternal life and they shall never perish.

(Verse 29)

- No one can take them from Me! Protection!

- D.T. Emphasize the strength of a meek and lowly heart Shepherd.

JOHN CHAPTER 11

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. "Why are we studying in the gospels?"
- **D.T.** Ask N.C. "Name something you have learned about Jesus that has become a part of your life."
- **D.T.** What is the most difficult aspect of God's nature to imitate in your life?

o The last chapter tells us that Jesus escaped those attempting to seize Him and went East into the same wilderness where John had preached and baptized.

1. Lazarus, Jesus' friend, became very ill and his sisters sent for Jesus to come and heal him. In verse 4, Jesus declares that Lazarus' sickness will bring glory to God through His Son. Jesus returns to Judea after a two-day delay, declaring that Lazarus is dead. Arriving at Bethany, they found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.
2. Jesus and Martha have a religious discussion (vs. 20-27). She declares that if Jesus had come sooner there would have been no funeral. Jesus tells her that her brother will rise again. She agrees (vs. 27) ! She also declares "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God." Two declarations of faithfulness? Martha declares in verse 22 "I know," verse 24 "I know," and verse 27 "I believe." But when Jesus told men to take away the stone (vs. 39), it was Martha who said, "There is going to be a big stink around here!"
3. Just like Martha we know and we believe. Yet Martha's declarations of faith, and ours too, fade in the face of "*reality*." Where was faithfulness in the family cemetery? Only in Jesus' heart as He prayed publicly (vs. 41-42). Yet He did not condemn or criticize Martha and company for their weak belief. His was always a ministry of encouragement (vs. 40).
4. The former limited belief that Martha had was discarded. Her belief after Lazarus' rising grew dramatically because that is God's desire. Can you see God's compassion toward His creation?
5. "Jesus wept." Why? The "EXPRESS IMAGE" of the Father demonstrated through the tears that He shed shows us how much God loves and understands us in spite of our spiritual feebleness !

JOHN CHAPTER 12

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. "Do you have any questions on this chapter?"
 - **D.T.** Ask the N.C. "What two things does Jesus tell us to do in Matthew 11:28-30 after we come to him?"
- 1 After raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus returned to the wilderness because of the many threats on His life. Six days before Passover Jesus came to Bethany to see Lazarus and his sisters (vs. 1-8). During the dinner, Mary took a pound of oil of spikenard, kneeled behind Jesus and anointed His feet. She bowed low and wiped His feet with her hair. The ointment she used was worth a years' wage for the average worker. The disciple, Judas, murmured against her, calling the anointing a waste of expensive spikenard! She had used it all, nothing held back, because of her gratefulness to Jesus for Lazarus' rising. Jesus accepted her worship of thankfulness and by her example we know that Jesus looks to us for the same heartfelt action.
 2. Some Greek converts to the Jewish faith had traveled to Jerusalem for the Holy days (vs. 20-21). They had a question. It is the question asked in the 21st Century as well. They said, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus!" They weren't drawn to physical good looks, or strength, they were drawn to Jesus by His meek and lowly heart.
 3. Jesus told His followers, "You are the light of the world." Ephesians 6:8 reads: "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light." In John 12:36, Jesus said, "While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become children of light." That is what learning of Jesus is all about! Just as the moon reflects light imperfectly from the sun, Christians are to reflect the nature of Jesus, imperfectly, to the world around them.
 4. Consider Jesus as a seed, a single seed (vs. 24-27). Seeds are planted. Out of the hull of the seed comes a wondrous plant. From that plant comes hundreds, even thousands of seeds. Jesus' earthly body was likened unto a seed in these verses. His sacrifice has produced millions and millions of seeds, which in turn are sacrificing themselves in service to God rather than Satan, and more seeds are produced. On the other hand a seed unplanted will always remain as a seed although it was created to produce a crop!

**"If anyone serves Me let them follow Me, and where I am,
there my servant will be also." John 12:26**

JOHN CHAPTER 13

- **D.T.** Make sure you emphasize the "meekness and lowliness of heart" modeled by Jesus in this chapter. Remember, seeing Jesus love and serve people shows us God's love and service toward people today.

1. In the upper room Jesus and His disciples ate the Passover commemorating the mercy and salvation of God toward the Israelite nation enslaved in Egypt. After supper, Luke 22:24 tells us that the apostles were arguing among themselves about which of them was the greatest. Doesn't sound very "meek and lowly in heart" does it? Jesus, hearing their boastfulness, arose, stripped off His outer garment and tied a towel around His waist. On His knees, Jesus began washing each apostles feet. Slave work being done by God's only begotten Son!
2. Jesus knew that His Father had given Him all (vs. 3). He knew He had come from God and was going aback to Him. Time to relax, have a lemonade and let these immature squabblers fight it out. Was that Jesus' choice? He washed Judas' feet just as tenderly as John's, and the other ten. I can imagine their shame and embarrassment. They should have washed Jesus' feet. He was the Master. He was the master example for every Christian. Verse 17 is critically important to understand! **HAPPINESS IN CHRIST COMES THROUGH DOING NOT SIMPLY KNOWING!**
3. The new commandment (vs. 34-35) "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

- **D.T.** Meditate on these verses (34-35) and ask the N.C.: "What is the quality of the love we are to have for one another?"

o Answer: AS JESUS LOVED US. How did He love us?

- **D.T.** Ask N.C.: "What will be the direct result of this quality of love?"

o Answer: **All will know you are Jesus' disciples! Not a building, sign or habitual ritual. Your discipleship will be proven by loving others as Jesus did.**

JOHN CHAPTER 14

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. to define meekness and lowliness of heart. Ask them for an example of Jesus modeling these virtues from past studies.
 - **D.T.** Ask N.C. for words that are the opposite of meekness and lowliness of heart.
- o In the last few days of our Lord's earthly life, He spends much time reassuring and counseling the apostles.
1. It seems very possible that once again the apostles are making an earthly application to spiritual statements made by Jesus (vs. 1-21). Jesus says in verse 4, "Where I go you know and the way you know." Thomas' reply is, in essence, "No, we don't!" How could they not know? Jesus told believers in John 8:32, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free. " In verse 6, Jesus tells them, "I am the way, the TRUTH and the life ! " Knowing Jesus in all His displayed virtues and imitating Him in ones personal life is the way, truth, and life, leading to the Father!
 2. The powerful statement in verse 9 tells us that the demeanor of our Lord is the demeanor of our God! We as God's children are to reflect that same demeanor to one and all in the way we think, talk and act.
 3. Look again at the "meek and lowly", wholly human Jesus (vs. 10-12). He says, my words are from the Father's authority, not mine. The works are done by His power not mine. Then he makes an astonishingly humble statement! "He who believes in Me, and the works that I do, He will do also, and greater works than these He will do, because I go to My Father." The apostles understood this after Jesus was risen, and beginning in Acts 2 they boldly told the gospel. The impact of their living and preaching was so huge that their enemies declared in Acts 17:6, "THEY HAVE TURNED THE WORLD UPSIDE DOWN!"
 4. Jesus again warns them of the ruler of the world coming (vs. 30). Who is Jesus speaking of? Additional scriptures: John 12:31, 16:11, 2 Corinthians 4:4, and Ephesians 6:10-12.

JOHN CHAPTER 15

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. What is the purpose of a yoke?
 - **D.T.** Ask N.C. How difficult is it for you to stay in the yoke?
- o Identify with them by sharing your own struggles with wearing Jesus' yoke. Let them know that Jesus understands and will continually strengthen their faith as they communicate with God through prayer.
1. Jesus reveals His purpose for His followers to the twelve (vs. 1-8). Our purpose is to be fruitful. It is not seminars, workshops, sermons, etc. that will produce fruit in our lives, it is God! In chapter 14:23, Jesus said, "If ANYONE loves Me, he will keep My Word, and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him ." It is God living in us through our obedience to His instruction for earthly living that brings faithfulness! His instruction IS JESUS! In Verses 1-8 Jesus tells us He is the Vine. The Vine gives strength to the branches and the branches produce fruit. You can't miss being fruitful if you are living in Jesus and He is living in you (vs. 4) !! How can God be glorified by Christians? (vs. 8) BEAR FRUIT!
 2. What is this fruit That Jesus speaks of? It is the outward manner of living as a Christian. (Galatians 5:22-24) These are not fruits plural, but fruit singular. These virtues together compose the fruit of the Spirit of God. When people see this nature exhibited in a human life they are drawn to that person, drawn as people were to Jesus. They saw these very virtues in His relationships with others, all others, even His enemies !
 3. The Lord elaborates on the "new" commandment given in the thirteenth chapter (vs. 9-13). Through this loving of others (selflessness) comes great joy. JESUS' JOY! Laying down one's life for friends is an example of the love we are called to. It doesn't mean martyrdom only, but a life of service toward others rather than self. That's a "meek and lowly in heart" life that produces much fruit to God's glory!

JOHN CHAPTER 16

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. Does the N.C. have any questions about this chapter?
 - **D.T.** Ask N.C. What do they love most about Jesus?
1. Jesus continues to instruct and encourage the apostles (vs. 1-4). Jesus tells them these things so they will not fall away. Persecution will come upon them by those same people who are the enemies of Jesus. They have not known the Father? How can that be? They could read, they had the Old Testament scriptures that foretold of the coming Messiah, yet didn't know Him? It was their Messiah, yet they didn't know Him? It was their preconceived ideas that clouded their vision. It was their self-serving dreams of restored earthly grandeur to their nation that blinded them to the very nature of God. That nature was revealed in the Son who came to this Earth to show us God!
 2. The Holy Spirit was the promised Helper to the apostles (Acts 2:1 FF). Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would bring to their remembrance the things that He had taught them (John 14:26). Jesus also said that the Holy Spirit would give them power to perform miraculous signs. "These signs will prove to the people who hear your teaching that you were sent by God." (Mark 16:17)
 3. "We believe," the apostles said, yet Jesus tells them that they will run away from danger and desert Him. In spite of what He knows will take place, He still loves and encourages them. "I have overcome the world." (vs. 33)
- o See Jesus and those He has trained, then see God and Christians today. We, as well as they, were weak and faulty, yet they are, and we are God's own!

JOHN CHAPTER 17

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. What is the greatest privilege a Christian has on Earth? Answer: Prayer. What does prayer, that is from the heart, produce? It produces humility and dependence on God. This prayer is more the Lord's Prayer than the one used to teach disciples how to pray.
 - **D.T.** I have made a few notes on this prayer. I know you can find many more teaching points, so dig in!
1. To me, Jesus makes a remarkable statement in His prayer (vs. 6,8). He states that the apostles "have kept the Father's word? Say what? Jesus knows they are going to desert Him (16:32)! They have boasted to one another about their greatness (Mark 8:33-34, Mark 10:37, 41). Still to come, is Peter the keeper of the keys', triple betrayal in Mark 14:66-72. Yet, Jesus states they had kept God's word! Jesus models to us the love and forgiveness of our Father. The apostles followed the Lord imperfectly and so will we, yet in verses 6 and 8 we are reassured of the compassion and understanding of our High Priest, JESUS!
 2. "Sanctify them" Jesus prayed (vs. 17-19)! What does sanctify mean? To sanctify is to set apart for a particular purpose. As a sanctified person, a Christian's purpose is to bring glory to God through their thoughts, words, and actions. A Christian's thoughts, words, and actions come from a heart filled with God's Holy Spirit. Jesus prays in John 17:19 that He sanctified Himself so that His followers would learn how to sanctify themselves. (Matthew 11:28-30)
 3. Jesus' prayer is for a unified body of believers (John 17:11, 20-21), so unified that we would be as close as the Father and His Son. "Meek and lowly in heart" is the key. Jesus never insisted on His rights! He never complained that people weren't fair to Him. He never complained of being homeless or rejected or misunderstood. His constant focus was on His Father's will, not His.
- o Unity is altogether possible if Christians are truly sanctified! (Luke 22:42)

JOHN CHAPTER 18

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. to recite Matthew 11:28-30.

o What a chapter to see Jesus, meek and lowly in heart, before the envious high priest. (Matthew 27:18)

o From the garden where Jesus prayed so fervently to His Father, through His betrayal, the mock trials, His scourging, and crucifixion, He displayed a calmness and gentleness that our spirits must absorb. His was a peace that looked beyond the here and now to His homecoming (Hebrew 12:2). No wonder this same verse instructs us to "look" to Jesus. The next verse again tells us to "consider" **Him** who endured.

- **D.T.** Take the time with the N.C. to search out and answer the following question. Then note Jesus' reaction. How many times in this chapter was Jesus dishonored physically or with words? I count eight times that Jesus was dishonored. Are there more? Check Luke and Matthew for more.

1. Verse 5
2. Verse 12
3. Verse 17
4. Verse 22
5. Verse 25
6. Verse 27
7. Verse 30

8. Verse 40

o Discuss how Jesus managed to remain so peaceful and loving in the face of all He was subjected to, from the garden, betrayal, and then to the cross.

JOHN CHAPTER 19

- **D.T.** Ask N.C. to compose an essay on what Jesus means to them personally. Give them a week to complete.

o Place yourself in the sandals of our Lord! Jesus is experiencing the same feelings, emotions, and rejection you and I have all felt. Consider the intensity of the Jewish rejection of Jesus (vs. 1-7).

– Verse 1: "He was scourged" by a Roman soldier. The Roman method of scourging required the stripping of clothing and then tied in a bending posture to a pillar. The scourge was made of leather thongs and weighted with sharp pieces of bone or lead, which tore both the back and the chest. An early writer witnessed the suffering of many Christians who died under the scourging.

– Verse 2 : They wove a crown of thorns and put it on Jesus' head. They put a robe of purple around His shoulders.

– Verse 3 : They made fun of Jesus and slapped Him.

– Verse 6 : When the Jews saw Jesus, they yelled, "crucify Him" over and over.

– Verse 7 : They said Jesus was a liar about His origin.

o These Romans (Gentiles) and Jew's worldwide were the reason Jesus was giving His life on the cross. It was for their sin! Not His! Think of the anguish, the betrayal, the aloneness He felt and yet He lovingly and willingly gave Himself for us all!

1. Now let's consider two of Jesus' followers (vs. 38-42). Joseph was a secret disciple! He was joined by another secret disciple named Nicodemus. A disciple is one disciplined by their leader. They are disciplined by the leaders example. There was never anything secret about Jesus ! These men believed but kept it to themselves because of fear. Jesus was fearless because He depended on God the Father. Joseph and Nicodemus were educated, wealthy, and respected. They had a lot to lose if it was known they were Jesus' disciples.
2. Luke 23:50-51 tells us that Joseph did not consent to the council's decision and deed, Did he abstain, or vote "no"? Mark 15: 13 tells us that Joseph took courage! Amen! This is the virtue that God calls us all to, COURAGE. Courage in the face of discouragement, disapproval, heartbreak and any other road blocks Satan erects to impede our spiritual growth.

Thank you Jesus for your "meek and lowly heart" that strengthens every Christian!

JOHN, CHAPTER 20

- **D.T.** In prayer give thanks to God for His unspeakable gift, a sympathizing Savior who lovingly died for us and serves, even now, as our intercessor before God's throne of grace.

o In this chapter Mary Magdalene comes to the tomb before sunrise, but not before the Son rose!

- 1 Mary looked in the tomb, and saw that Jesus was missing! Someone had nabbed the corpse and she was frantic! The "other disciple" believed, the scripture says. Believed what? That someone stole Jesus' body? Then we have this incredible verse nine, that says they didn't understand He must rise from the dead. Say what? Peter and John went home. Mary stayed and was blessed. Can you imagine her surprise when she saw two men (angels)? She said, through her tears, to a third man, "tell me where He is and I will take Him away ." Jesus answered "Mary," and she knew it was her Lord. She hugged Jesus with all her might, then left to give the apostles Jesus' message. His message to them is to us also, as Jesus ascended, so shall we!
 2. Consider the scene at the tomb, a heartbroken disciple is comforted by a listening Lord. Now transfer that from the first century to the twenty-first. God's sympathetic nature is revealed by our Lord and Mary (vs. 19-29). That same day Jesus visits the apostles. In the midst of them, He shows His hands, feet, and side. They saw and believed and Jesus' peace was with them. It is in knowing that Jesus rose, that we know we will conquer death through Him as well. That gives us peace in whatever the devil throws our way on Earth.
 3. Thomas wasn't there. He missed the assembly! Eight days later, Thomas shows up. Jesus again says, "Peace to you." Then He encourages Thomas to confirm His resurrection by examining Jesus' wounds. See the "meek and lowly of heart" right here? He engages Thomas. Jesus doesn't wait for Thomas to ask Him! Thomas was encouraged in his disbelief to become believing. That is the exact act He did before the other ten apostles!
- o Jesus then gives us a boost down through the ages. We weren't in that upper room. We thrust no fingers into Jesus wounds. Nevertheless we believe, and Jesus praises us in our belief. Amen!

JOHN CHAPTER 21

- **D.T.** Ask the N.C. to quote Matthew 11:28-30, then explain what Jesus is instructing His followers to do.

1. The Bible never tells us that Peter was forgiven by Jesus (vs. 1-14). Peter's repentance does. Jesus doesn't ask Peter to turn in his keys because of his betrayal either (Luke 22:62). It seems that Peter, like us, was unforgiving of himself for his failure to live up to his boasts of bravery and his cowardly denial of knowing Jesus the night of His betrayal (Matthew 16:19). I believe in this chapter that we have a demonstration of the lengths God will go to encourage and bless a single soul on Earth. In Verse 3, Peter says, "I'm going fishing and so he did." His heart was heavy, hurting, and his shame was deep! They fished all night and caught nothing. A hundred yards from their boat, a solitary figure on the beach asks if they have caught any fish? Their response is an impatient, No! The person directs their nets to be cast on the other side of the boat and they net 153 fish. John says, "It is the Lord," and Peter swam to shore. Peter remembered the last time this happened three and a half years before. Peter had not come to Jesus, so Jesus went to him. Peter was never the same from that day forward. Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love Me more than these? Fish? Nets? Boats? Peter told Him that he did and Jesus gave him his calling (Matthew 18-20).

o When we see Jesus and Peter we are seeing God and us!

GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES!

Second Teach Training Methods

Second Teach is best administered by selecting several couples from the congregation that will teach a part of the total curriculum. The Rocky Mountain Church of Christ uses four to eight couples to teach the program. Our Associate Minister that is in charge of the Maturity Ministry starts the series by teaching the scripture page and chapter 1 of Mark. Other couples in the congregation take turns teaching succeeding chapters of Mark and John.

Benefits of this training:

- The New Convert is grounded in Jesus
- The New Convert immediately builds relationships with four to eight couples in the congregation
- No student ever misses a single lesson as each student receives individualized instruction at his or her pace
- No student ever starts in the middle of the curriculum
- Mature Christians in the congregation meet our new converts and build relationships with them and other couples in the 2nd teach program
- 2nd teach involves many couples in the congregation
- All training sessions on in the homes of either the new convert or the teacher which promotes hospitality, fellowship and love

A sample of the MS Excel record sheet that is used to coordinate the program is presented on the next page. The initials on the sheet represent various couples in our congregation.

A complete set of Second Teach CD's (Scripture Page – John 21) may be ordered from the Rocky Mountain Christian Institute by contacting Jerry Botts at jpbotts@bresnan.net or Dick Subry at Dsubry@Rockymountainchristian.org. Please send \$25.00 for shipping and handling to the address given to you in the return e-mail.

Second Teach Record Sheet

Mark

	Script Page	Ch 1	Ch 2	Ch 3	Ch 4	Ch 5a	Ch 5b	Ch 6	Ch 7	Ch 8	Ch 9	Ch 10	Ch 11	Ch 12	Ch 13	Ch 14	Ch 15	Ch 16
Batchler, Kim	7-Mar JB	14-Mar JB	18-Apr SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Dennison, Justin	4-Dec JB	10-Feb JB	17-Feb SS	24-Feb WB	9-Mar DS	16-Mar RJ	23-Mar JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Ellis, Rhonda	JB	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Hammond, Bret and Jamie	17-Nov JB	23-Nov JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Harvord, Denny and April	1-Mar JB	8-Mar JB	19-Mar SS	22-Mar WB	29-Mar DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Hue, Trampus	5-Mar JB	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Jones, Andy	10-Jan JB	15-Jan JB	20-Jan SS	6-Feb WB	16-Feb DS	26-Feb RJ	5-Mar JB	11-Mar SS	20-Mar WB	25-Mar DS	6-Apr RJ	15-Apr JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Johnson, Brian	18-Apr JB	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Millnen, Marilyn	25-Sep JB	25-Sep JB	30-Sep SS	5-Oct WB	7-Oct DS	9-Oct RJ	14-Oct JB	4-Nov SS	13-Nov WB	3-Dec DS	6-Dec RJ	10-Dec JB	30-Dec SS	8-Jan WB	4-Feb DS	13-Feb RJ	24-Feb JB	19-Mar SS
Nina, April	20-Nov JB	21-Nov JB	2-Dec SS	10-Dec WB	28-Dec DS	8-Jan RJ	10-Jan JB	15-Jan SS	5-Feb WB	24-Feb DS	5-Mar RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Pallester, Lauri	16-Oct JB	18-Oct JB	16-Nov JB	1-Dec JB	15-Dec JB	18-Dec JB	15-Jan JB	8-Feb JB	4-Mar JB	6-Mar JB	10-Mar JB	JB	JB	JB	JB	JB	JB	JB
Parter, John	26-Jan JB	1-Feb JB	4-Feb JB	9-Feb JB	16-Feb JB	23-Feb JB	23-Feb JB	1-Mar JB	8-Mar JB	15-Mar JB	22-Mar JB	19-Apr JB	JB	JB	JB	JB	JB	JB
Planden, Jim	6-Feb JB	15-Feb JB	29-Feb SS	5-Mar WB	18-Mar DS	25-Mar RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Poster, John	12-Mar JB	19-Mar JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Smith, Edward and Mary	25-Sep JB	29-Sep JB	5-Oct SS	8-Nov WB	9-Nov DS	16-Nov RJ	23-Nov JB	11-Jan SS	12-Jan WB	25-Jan DS	1-Feb RJ	8-Feb JB	16-Feb SS	28-Feb WB	7-Mar DS	19-Mar RJ	28-Mar JB	SS
Stafford, Jim	10-Mar JB	15-Mar JB	22-Mar SS	31-Mar WB	14-Apr DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
Thompson, John and Mary	18-Mar JB	25-Mar JB	1-Apr SS	19-Apr WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
	JB	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS
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	JB	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS	WB	DS	RJ	JB	SS