

Next Level 10 Discussion Questions

1. John 1:1-18-- After reading John 1:1-5 and 10-18, what details does John give about the life, person, work and attributes our Lord Jesus Christ (the Word)?

2. John 1:19-34— What does John mean by calling Jesus the “Lamb of God”? See also Exodus 12:1-13, Isaiah 53:7

3. John 1:35-51— Why was Nathanael skeptical that Jesus could be the Messiah? Do you have prejudices about other people that keep you from befriending them or telling them about Jesus?

4. John 2:1-11— When answering His mother in 2:4, what did Jesus mean when He said, “My time has not yet come”?

5. John 2:12-25— What made Jesus so angry in this passage? When is it right to be angry?

6. John 3:1-21— What does it mean (1) to be born again (v. 7) and (2) to believe in Jesus Christ (vv. 16-18)?

7. John 3:22-36— After reading verses 27 to 30, what principle of Christian ministry did John set forth about himself and what godly quality did he show? See Romans 12:3-5 and Philippians 2:3-11

8. John 4:1-26— As you read the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman, what insights can be gained by following Jesus' approach when you are having spiritual conversations and sharing your faith with others?

9. John 4:27-42— The disciples urged Jesus to eat something. Jesus responded in verse 34, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish the work." Jesus said that the driving force of His life was to fully obey the will of His father and to finish the work He was called to do. As you look at yourself right now, what is the driving force of your life? As you open your life fully to the Lord, is there any area where He is not first place or you are struggling to keep Him first?

10. John 4:43-54— In verses 49-50 the royal official asked Jesus to come to Capernaum from Cana (about 15 miles away) and heal his son who was at the point of death. Jesus replied, “You may go. Your son will live.” The man took Jesus at His word and departed. Share a story in your life when you have taken God at His Word (even though the circumstances may have been seemingly impossible), and discovered that God did exactly what He had promised? ¹

11. John 5:1-15-- After Jesus healed the paralyzed man, the Jewish leaders were angry about what they considered were two violations of the law. What were the two violations? Were they actually violations of the law? Explain.

12. John 5:16-47— After reading verses 19-30, what are seven declarations Jesus gave about His relationship and equality with the Father?

13. John 6:1-15— What did the miracle of feeding the five thousand teach about Jesus and what lessons can we learn from it for our own personal lives?

14. John 6:16-24— Sometimes we have storms in our lives because of disobedience. God is using the storms to discipline us. In this story, the disciples were in the will of God crossing the Sea of Galilee when a violent storm came up. Jesus came to them and calmed the storm (Matthew 14:22). Share a story from your life when you were in a raging storm and Jesus calmed your storm.

15. John 6:25-59— There are two parts in the process of eternal salvation given in these verses. What is the part that the Father plays and what part is our responsibility? See verses 29, 35, 37, 40, 44, 47, and 65. See also Ephesians 1:4-5. Explain.

16. John 6:60-7:13— When Jesus taught about “eating His flesh and drinking His blood” John records that “from this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed Him (v. 66).” When times get hard as a Christian, what keeps you from discarding your faith in Christ and His Word and going on to something else?

17. John 7:14-24— Jesus declares three marks by which we can judge every teacher that claims to be from God. These marks were clearly evident in His own life. What are they? See 7:16-18

18. John 7:25-44— What did Jesus mean by the metaphor of drinking (v. 38)? What was the promise Jesus gave to those who believe on Him (vv. 38-39)? Verse 38 says of those who have the Holy Spirit, “out of His heart will flow rivers of living water.” How is the presence of the Holy Spirit in us like rivers of living waters?

19. John 7:45-8:11— Verse 43 says, “There was a division among the people over Him.” Nicodemus, a member of the Sanhedrin (Jewish ruler elders), spoke up for Jesus to keep them from trying to kill Him without fully hearing Him out (vv.50-51). Jesus said in Matthew 10:34-36 “He did not come to bring peace but a sword.” As followers of Christ we are called to take a stand for Christ and the gospel even though it will cause division and suffering. What areas of your life (family, work, neighbors, etc) do you need to be a clear witness for Christ even though you may get pushback or worse?

20. John 8:12-30— In these verses, what does Jesus say about Himself, His Father and His relationship with His Father?

21. John 8:31-47— The nation of the United States of America was born because of a desire for freedom from the tyranny of the rule of English kings. Speaking of a different type of freedom, Satan sought his freedom from the rule of God by rebelling against God’s authority and thus becoming his own god. Thus he led a rebellion of angels and men against God’s rule which continues to this very day. The Apostle Peter talked about the false spiritual leaders of his day by saying, “They promise them freedom while they themselves are slaves of depravity— for a man is a slave to whatever has mastered him (NIV84).” In our time men are slaves to various addictions such as pornography, drugs, gambling, games, sports, etc. In verses 31-32, what did Jesus say is the way we can find true freedom from the patterns of sin in our lives? What does it mean to “continue or abide in my word” or “hold to my teaching?” See Matthew 28:19-20, II John 9, Romans 12:1-2.

22. John 8:48-59— Verse 59 says that the Jewish leaders “picked up stones to throw at him.” What was the reason they wanted to stone Jesus to death?

23. John 9:1-12— The common understanding of the disciples and people of ancient times regarding suffering such as blindness was that it could be traced to personal sin or sin of the family? See Job 4:7 where Eliphaz accuses Job of sin. What insight did Jesus give about God’s view of suffering in the life of this blind man and concerning suffering in general?

24. John 9:13-34— In this passage we see a contrast in the fear of the parents of the now seeing blind man and the boldness of their son who had received his sight. Why were his parents afraid to say who restored his sight? How did the restored blind man show boldness, insight and good logic in the face of the powerful Jewish leaders?

25. John 9:35-10:21— In verse 14 Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd.” In reading 10:1-18 enumerate the ways Jesus is the good shepherd.

26. John 10:22-42— What is the response of the sheep who belong to Jesus in verses 26- 27 and what are the promises Jesus gives to those sheep in verses 28-29?

27. John 11:1-16— When Jesus received word from Martha and Mary that Lazarus was sick, He delayed two days before leaving for Bethany. Why does Jesus deliberately delay His trip to Bethany? Give an experience of yours, someone you know, or an example of someone in the Bible where God intentionally delayed in answering a request or fulfilling a promise He made.

28. John 11:17-37— What incredible statement did Jesus say about Himself and our resurrection in verses 25-26? Please explain and amplify this statement.

29. John 11:38-57— The High Priests and the Pharisees did not deny the incredible miracles of Jesus but feared losing their temple, nation, power, and prestige (verse 48). Because of this, they were determined to kill Jesus with whatever means was necessary. As Christians living in a hostile world that is ruled by the prince of darkness and his forces, what must we do to prepare ourselves for the inevitable persecution that is coming for all of us and is already present in many countries of the world?

30. John 12:1-19— What did Mary do as an act of worship to show her love for Jesus? What can you do to show your love for Jesus for all He has done for you? See John14:21.

31. John 12:20-36— Verses 24-25 relate not only of Jesus death on the cross that will bring a harvest of souls but also speaks into our lives as well. What are the lessons we can discern from these verses for how believers should live while here on earth?

32. John 12:37-50— Verses 42 says that some of the Jewish leaders believed in Jesus but would not confess Him openly because “they loved the praise from men more than the praise from God (verse 43).” Where do you find it most difficult to declare your faith in Christ: at home, work, or among friends? What words of encouragement can you give to other men so that they will boldly declare their faith in Christ?

33. John 13:1-17— Why did Peter say to Jesus, “You shall never wash my feet!” (verse 8)? Why did Jesus say to Peter, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.” (verse 9)?

34. John 13:18-38— In verses 34-35 Jesus says that the true evidence and distinguishing characteristic that we are His disciples is that we love one another. In what ways can we show our love to other believers? See I John 3:16 and John 15:12-13. How is this love produced? Romans 5:5. Give two or three very practical things we can do to show our love to other believers?

35. John 14:1-14— In verse 6 Jesus says, “I am the way and the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me.” Is Jesus really the only way to heaven? See www.gotquestions.org

36. John 14:15-31— What do we learn about the Holy Spirit in verses 16-17 and 25-27?

37. John 15:1-17— In these verses Jesus says that our relationship with Him is like that of a Vine and its branches. As we abide or remain in Him, He produces spiritual fruit in our lives. How do we abide/remain in Jesus?

38. John 15:18-27— In John 15:9-13, the word “love” (or loved) is mentioned seven times. In verses 18-25 the word “hate” (or hated) is also mentioned seven times. Jesus said, “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.” Who is the “world” that Jesus was talking about and what force is behind this hatred? See I John 5:19.

39. John 16:1-16— Explain what it means that the Counselor (Helper, Advocate) who is the Holy Spirit, will convict the world with regard to sin, righteousness, and judgment (Verses 7-11).

40. John 16:17-33— Read verse 33 as well as John 14:27. In these verses Jesus offers His peace to His disciples. This world is chaotic; full of difficulty and danger. How can the Christian find peace in the midst of all the troubles and problems he faces?

41. John 17:1-19— As Jesus was praying to His Father in verses 6 to 19, the focal point of these verses is His disciples and all those who believed on Him. The words “those, they, and them” are mentioned 31 times in these 14 verses. In verses 11 to 17, what requests did Jesus make to the Father concerning those believers He would be leaving behind?

42. John 17:19-18:11— In verse 11 Jesus commanded Peter, “Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?” Often in our lives God calls us to “drink the cup of His will” which for Christ meant unimaginable suffering and death. What is an area of obedience that God is challenging you to surrender to Him right now?

43. John 18:12-27— Peter was filled with self-confidence by swearing that he would never deny Christ. In just a few hours he denied Him three times. Is there any area of your life in which you can become overconfident? Is there any activity or place where you deny Christ by failing to openly confess your allegiance to Him before others?

44. John 18:28-40— Jesus said in verse 37b, “For this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.” We are living in a post truth culture in which society in general does not believe that there is absolute truth. People believe that your truth can be different than my truth. As a Bible-centered believer, how would you answer Pilate’s question, “What is truth?”

45. John 19:1-18— To answer Pilate’s question and comment to Jesus that he had the power to free or crucify Him, Jesus said, “You would have no authority over me at all unless it had been given to you from above. Therefore, he who delivered me over to you is guilty of a greater sin (Verse 11).” Who were all of the people that were responsible for the death and crucifixion of Jesus? Explain

46. John 19:19-37— Verse 30 says, “When he had received the drink, Jesus said, ‘It is finished.’ With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.” Explain the significance of the words, “It is finished.”

47. John 19:38-20:9— John 20:8 says, “Then the other disciple (John), who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed.” What did John see and what did he believe?

48. John 20:10-23— What is the mission and the message that Jesus gives to His disciples in verses 21 to 23? How does this apply to us also? See also Matthew 28:19-20.

49. John 20:24 to 21:14— What did John say was the purpose of his gospel? See verse 31. Share with us the time that you became a member of God’s family.

50. John 21:15-25— Three years earlier at the beginning of His ministry, Jesus told Peter to follow him (Matthew 4:19). Now, after His resurrection, Jesus once again tells Peter, “You must follow me (verse 22).” Jesus tells each one of us, “Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me (John 12:26).” Explain what it really means for you to follow Jesus right now.