

Week 48 – Questions to Consider

2 John ~ 3 John ~ Jude ~ Revelation 1 ~ Revelation 2

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

When your family gets together to eat, what is your favorite dish?

1. What does it mean that truth “abides in us”? How can we tell if truth “abides in us” (2 John 1-2)?
2. Why would John address a church congregation as “dear lady”? Do we take our church as serious as we should? Why is commitment to a church family so important?
3. How does John define love in 2 John 6?
4. If someone adds a book or their opinion to the Bible (“the teaching of Christ”), what is the warning John gives (2 John 9)?
5. Who had caused you trouble in your life? How did you respond? How could you have responded better? Why did John want to encourage Gaius in his endurance in spite of the trouble caused by Diotrephes? How is Diotrephes described (3 John 9)?
6. Jude, brother of James and Jesus, emphasizes the importance of contending “for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints” (Jude 3). How do we have a similar calling today? How do false teachers continue to “pervert the grace of our God into sensuality” today (Jude 4)?
7. Why does Jude speak so clearly about God’s judgment and Hell in Jude 5-7. What is the danger of churches, pastors, and Christians who avoid reading, teaching, preaching, and believing in Hell?
8. What are some of Jude’s exhortations in the midst of “the last time” (Jude 18-20)?
9. Why is the book of Revelation so interesting to so many? Why can it be an extremely difficult and confusing book to understand? What are your feelings towards the book of Revelation?
10. Why does God give us Revelation according to the first 3 verses? Why did God give us over 300 prophecies about the coming of the Messiah?
11. While Revelation is full of future prophecy, it also has specific rebukes and encouragements to seven churches in chapter 2 & 3. Take the time to look at some of these churches. How does this apply or help teach or correct our churches today?
12. Consider watching this helpful 12 minute video by The Bible Project to introduce the book of Revelation: <https://youtu.be/5nvVVcYD-ow>

More questions at: www.southfork.church/2022-discussion-questions

A Christmas Message from Jesus’ Family

James & Jude (ESV)

The Purpose of Christmas: T_____ in Flesh *Hear, Believe, Trust, Honor & Obey Jesus*

- John 18:37 “for this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice”
- John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”

See Jesus’ Hometown’s R_____ of Christmas

- Mark 6:2–3 “And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, ‘Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? [3] Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?’ And they took offense at him.”
- Mark 6:4–6 “And Jesus said to them, ‘A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.’ ... And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.”

See Jesus’ Family’s S_____ with Christmas

- John 7:5 “For not even his brothers believed in him.”

See Jesus’ Family’s E_____ of Christmas: *Hear, Believe, Trust, Honor & Obey Jesus*

- **Mary** - Luke 1:38 “And Mary said, ‘Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.’”
- **Joseph** - Matthew 1:24 “When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him”
- **Jesus’ Mother & Brothers** - Acts 1:13–14 “All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.”

Listen to James

1) Who He Is: A Servant

James 1:1 James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

2) Evidencing our Gratitude for Jesus' Salvation

- James 1:18 "Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures."
- James 2:1 "...as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory"

3) W_____ for Jesus, Until He Returns

James 5:7 "Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord."

4) Watching & Imitating Jesus

James 5:11 "you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful."

5) H_____ Others To Be Near Jesus & His Truth

James 5:19–20 "My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, [20] let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins."

Listen to Jude

1) Who He Is: A Servant

[1] Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ and brother of James,

2) Who You Are, Christian: Called, Beloved, Kept

To those who are called, beloved in God the Father and kept for Jesus Christ:

3) His P_____ & Encouragement: Mercy, Peace, Love

[2] May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you.

4) His Christmas Message for You:

D_____ Your Faith from Ungodly People

[3] Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints. [4] For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. (ESV)

- Pervert the Grace of God - Self-Focused
- Deny Jesus - Actions & Inactions, Words & Silence

• Avoid Deceivers - Denying the Power of Christmas

2 John 7 "For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist."

• Watch Yourself - Don't Lose, Win!

2 John 8 "Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward."

• Resist Lies - Stay in the Bible, Avoiding the Dangers of Opinions & Extra-Biblical Authorities

2 John 9 "Everyone who goes on ahead and does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son."

This Next Week's New Testament Reading Plan:

Week 49: Revelation 3-7

- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo
- **Our Plan:** www.southfork.church/2022-bible-reading-plan

A Christmas Message from Jesus' Family

James & Jude (ESV)

The Purpose of Christmas: Truth in Flesh

Hear, Believe, Trust, Honor & Obey Jesus

- John 18:37 “for this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice”
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See Jesus' Hometown's Rejection of Christmas

- Mark 6:2–3 “And on the Sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished, saying, ‘Where did this man get these things? What is the wisdom given to him? How are such mighty works done by his hands? [3] Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?’ And they took offense at him.”
- Mark 6:4–6 “And Jesus said to them, ‘A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.’ ... And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.”

See Jesus' Family's Struggles with Christmas

- John 7:5 “For not even his brothers believed in him.”

See Jesus' Family's Embrace of Christmas:

Hear, Believe, Trust, Honor & Obey Jesus

- **Mary** - Luke 1:38 “And Mary said, ‘Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.’”
- **Joseph** - Matthew 1:24 “When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him”
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3) Waiting for Jesus, Until He Returns

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3) His Prayer & Encouragement: Mercy, Peace, Love

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Defend Your Faith from Ungodly People

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