

Lesson #7: Jesus, Teacher of Righteousness

Welcome, Prayer & Review of previous week: Jesus, Equal to God (15 minutes)

Jesus claimed to be Equal to God

- John wrote the gospel as an eye-witness to Jesus' ministry and stressed the importance of a relationship with Him.
- The Prophets spoke of the Messiah.
- Jeremiah spoke about events to come then and now.
- He warned that destruction was coming to the southern kingdom unless they repented.
- He told them very specific things:
 - That a nation would be raised up and would destroy Jerusalem
 - Judah would be exiled for 70 years
 - Jeremiah said the Messiah would be Lord – YHWH – Jehovah God
 - He pointed to the Son of God
- Over 300 prophecies about Jesus and He fulfilled them all.

Now Jesus enters the 2nd year of His ministry

- Jesus went into Jerusalem for Passover.
 - Pool of Bethesda – people thought the waters could make them well.
 - A man crippled for 38 years was laying on a mat.
 - Jesus asked him if he wanted to get well. The man made excuses.
 - With just a word, Jesus healed the man.
 - Because it was the Sabbath, the Pharisees had an issue with it.
- The Pharisees did not rejoice over the healing, but focused on their own rules being broken.
- Jesus called God – Father – He was saying He and the Father were One.
 - The Pharisees were outraged.
- Jesus made five claims of equality to God:
 - Person
 - Works
 - Power/Sovereignty
 - Judgement
 - Honor
- Jesus was the King from heaven to show the way to heaven Himself.
- Jesus gave a famous discourse in John 5 stating there were four witnesses to who He is:
 - John the Baptist
 - Jesus own works and signs
 - His Baptism
 - the very Word of God, the Bible
- *So why was Jesus rejected by the religious officials?*
 - *He was not the kind of king they were expecting.*
 - *They didn't truly love God and want to see God among them.*
 - *They like to be honored among the people.*
 - *They didn't believe the Scriptures.*
- We see Jesus making a point of the Sabbath.

- Disciples were picking grain on the Sabbath.
 - Once again challenged by Pharisees.
 - Jesus stated, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.”
- Jesus healed a man with a withered hand.
 - The Pharisees again missed the miracle.
 - *Is it lawful to do good on the Sabbath?*
- As much as the Pharisees did not recognize Jesus as God, the demons did.
- After all the conflict with the Pharisees, Jesus called the 12 to be His apostles.

Homework Discussion – In small groups (30 minutes)

Choose a few questions ahead of time from each of the five daily studies to discuss in small groups, or use the suggestions below.

Study 1: The Healing at Bethesda

- Page 91 - Questions 4, 5, 6

Study 2: Jesus’ Equality with God

- Page 3 - Questions 3, 4

Study 3: The Four Witnesses

- Page 95 – Questions 5, 6, 7, 8

Study 4: Sabbath Questions

- Page 98 – Questions 3, 6, 7

Study 5: Healing on the Sabbath and Choosing the Twelve

- Page 100 – Questions 3, 4, 8, 10

Lesson Intro for video: Jesus, Teacher of Righteousness (5 minutes)

- Righteousness means being right with God, which is accomplished through the Holy Spirit and not of ourselves. The Pharisees at the time were seeking glory for themselves and not for God.
- Jesus was undoubtedly a great teacher, but also the Teacher of Righteousness. Jesus gives His great sermon, the Sermon on the Mount, as a high calling for our godly behavior and character – impossible to attain apart from Christ – and to show us there is more to life.

Video Lesson (45 minutes)

Discussion & Table Prayer Requests (20 minutes)

- How has Jesus been a great Teacher of Righteousness to *you*?
- Share prayer requests with your group.

Ending Prayer (5 minutes)

Lesson #8: Jesus, Burden Bearer

Welcome, Prayer & Review of previous week: Jesus, Teacher of Righteousness (15 minutes)

- The greatest Teacher that ever lived preached the greatest sermon ever heard – the Sermon on the Mount.
This sermon is the essence of Christianity. It is about the heart, for the glory of God and not of our own personal righteousness. It is the sermon that makes Christianity different from all other religions.
Jesus was telling them there was more to life. He emphasized the Kingdom of Heaven. And He taught it with authority, as the Teacher of Righteousness.

Where is Sermon on the Mount found in the Bible? Matthew 5-7

- Many sayings and symbolism in our culture today come from the Sermon on the Mount. Here are the main items that make up the Sermon:
 - 1) The Beatitudes – Heart attitudes. Jesus talks about character first in the sermon. Blessed – means approval from God, based on His love and grace, not just following rules. From this springs joy.
It is good news for bad people. Blessed are those who need God, and mourn their sin.
 - 2) Be the Salt and Light
Salt preserves and prevents decay, makes things taste better, makes life better.
Light dispels darkness. The only way you see darkness is by light.
 - 3) Personal relationships – preserve them. Anger is murder in our heart.
 - 4) Go the second mile, turn the other cheek – forgiveness
 - 5) Love your Enemies – love is intentional, constantly pursuing
 - 6) Lord's Prayer – store up treasure in heaven, do not put attention on yourself when you pray
 - 7) Golden Rule – first said by Jesus, positive emphasis on doing
 - 8) Do not worry - look at creation and how God takes care of it, the Creator
 - 9) Do not judge – mourn our own sin first, need to know sin in order to get the remedy but do it with love
 - 10) Don't toss pearls to swine – be discerning, do not give what is holy to dogs or they will trample on it and destroy. Beware of false hope.
 - 11) Keep asking, searching, knocking – Jesus encouraged people to seek the truth
 - 12) Narrow Gate – we must lay everything down to enter
 - 13) Two Kingdoms – one of God and one not of God. Jesus said, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord' or prophesies in my name will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father will enter. I will declare, 'I never knew you. Depart from Me.'"
 - 14) House built on rock or sand – hear the Word and act on it, so when the rains come your house will still stand.

- We are only able to accomplish all these things through the Holy Spirit, not of ourselves.

Homework Discussion – In small groups (30 minutes)

Choose a few questions ahead of time from each of the five daily studies to discuss in small groups, or use the suggestions below.

Study 1: The Beatitudes

- Page 104 - Questions 1, 2, 4, 6

Study 2: Personal Relationships

- Page 107 - Questions 1, 2

Study 3: Giving, Praying, Fasting, and Treasure

- Page 109 – Questions 1, 7
- Page 111 – Questions 1, 2

Study 4: Anxiety and Judgement

- Page 113 – Questions 1, 2
- Page 114 – Questions 1, 5

Study 5: Golden Rule, Narrow Gate, Fruit, and Foundation

- Page 116 – Questions 1, 3
- Page 117 – Questions 1, 5, 6

Lesson Intro for video: Jesus, Burden Bearer (5 minutes)

- *“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and You will find rest for your souls. My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” - Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30)*

One of the most powerful and reassuring statements ever spoken.

- Rest for our souls (through grace) – rest from not being good enough and rest from trying to be perfect. It is for the destitute, the overwhelmed, the burdened, the sick, the addicted, and all those who seek Him. It is not a temporary fix but a lasting rest that only Jesus offers.

Video Lesson (45 minutes)

Discussion & Table Prayer Requests (20 minutes)

- What burdens do we carry today that Jesus can bear for us? (Make a list at home and pray over them)
- How is grace shown in Jesus’ actions as the Burden Bearer?
- Share prayer requests with your group.

Ending Prayer (5 minutes)

Lesson #9: Jesus, Storyteller

Welcome, Prayer & Review of previous week: Jesus, Burden Bearer (15 minutes)

- After Jesus finished the Sermon on the Mount, He went to Capernaum, His home base. There, He healed a Centurion soldier's slave by His word alone. The Centurion recognized Jesus' authority and had faith that Jesus could heal with a word, and without having to be present. Jesus praised the man's faith.
- Everywhere Jesus went, people came, and He lifted their burdens. The widow's dead son at the funeral procession was brought back to life. This was the first time Jesus raised someone from the dead. The prostitute woman at Simon's party anointed Jesus' feet with perfume and her tears. He felt compassion for them, not condemnation.
- John the Baptist in prison was having doubts. Jesus reported back to him in a way John would understand as a prophet: "The blind can see, the lame walk, diseases are healed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news preached to them." Jesus gave John the Baptist high praise.
- Next, Jesus begins moving from one city to another, proclaiming and preaching the kingdom of God. His disciples went with Him, along with some of the women who had been healed of evil spirits and sickness – Mary Magdalene, Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward and many others, rich and poor.
- Jesus rebukes the Pharisees for claiming He was of an evil spirit, and gives warning to three cities who did not repent when they saw His signs and miracles. Jesus warns, "He who is not with Me is against Me. Any sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven."
*(Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is a deliberate rejection from those who know Jesus' claims are true and reject Him anyway. For example, the Pharisees couldn't deny Jesus' claims to be true so they said He was from an evil spirit. It was a hardening of their hearts. They rejected Him in the fullest possible revelation.
Rejection in ignorance or unbelief that later gives way to repentance is not blasphemy. For example, Saul of Tarsus' conversion.
It is considered blasphemy against the Holy Spirit because the Holy Spirit testifies of Christ and makes His truth known.)*
- Jesus as Burden Bearer says: "Rest in Me. Just come to Me, and you will receive rest, peace and grace." The Pharisees said, "You must do more." Jesus replaced self-righteousness with grace, and self-sufficiency with rest.

Homework Discussion – In small groups (30 minutes)

Choose a few questions ahead of time from each of the five daily studies to discuss in small groups, or use the suggestions below.

Study 1: Jesus Heals a Centurion's Servant

- Page 124 - Questions 5, 9, 12

Study 2: A Deputation from John

- Page 128 - Questions 1, 2

Study 3: Come to Me

- Page 129 – Questions 1, 2, 6

Study 4: Jesus Relates to Women

- Page 132 – Questions 5, 8
- Page 133 – Question 3

Study 5: The Pharisees Rebuked

- Page 134 – Questions 3, 4, 7
- Page 137 – Questions 2, 4, 5

Lesson Intro for video: Jesus, Storyteller (5 minutes)

- Jesus was a great Storyteller. He taught in parables, which are simple stories with a profound meaning. Parables used symbolism that resonated with the people and created timeless stories.
- The central theme in Jesus' parables is the Kingdom of Heaven – the greatest treasure. Jesus was revealing a hope for the future.

Video Lesson (45 minutes)

Discussion & Table Prayer Requests (20 minutes)

- What significant things did you learn about Jesus' parable teaching?
- Share prayer requests with your group.

Ending Prayer (5 minutes)

Lesson #10: Jesus, Life Giver

Welcome, Prayer & Review of previous week: Jesus, Storyteller (15 minutes)

- Stories help us remember.
- Jesus was a superb storyteller.
- We are two-and-a-half years into Jesus ministry, located in Galilee.
- Jesus was facing opposition so He only spoke in parables.
- Jesus did not honor the Pharisees and priests as they thought He should.
 - 1 John says if you don't love others, you don't have the Scriptures.
 - At His birth, none of the religious leaders went with the wise men.
 - They were jealous of Jesus because His ministry was growing.
- Matthew 13 refers to "that day" meaning three major things happened.
 - Jesus healed the demon-possessed man.
 - Demanded a sign. They wanted an OT sign, ie: water divides, sun stopped, etc...
 - Mother and brothers came to find Him while He was healing and preaching because they were concerned.
 - Jesus said, my family is he who does the will of God.
 - That day – a large crowd came; Jesus got in a boat and began to teach in parables.
 - Parables are not fantasy, but a simple literary device used to teach spiritual truth with everyday objects.
- Now Jesus teaches of Kingdom of God and Heaven.
 - God was in everything.
 - God would destroy His enemies.
 - Jesus brought a new way to look at the kingdom of God.
 - Kingdom of God is a central theme – 107 mentions
 - He spoke in parables so believers would know and an unbeliever would not have understanding.
- The kingdom of God is not how the religious leaders understand it would be.

Parables: Jesus was fulfilling prophecy with the parables – Matthew 13:35b and Psalm 78:2

- Soil – 3 different kinds of outcomes from this teaching.
 - Jesus will give understanding to what you are seeking.
 - Gospel is choked out with affliction, wealth, worry, and hardness of heart.
 - Mercy on a hard heart.
- Wheat and Tares
 - There are those who look like they are in the kingdom of God, but their heart is far away.
 - Mustard plant has the smallest seed but grows larger than you can imagine.
- Leaven
 - The kingdom planted in a person; it will grow until it consumes the whole person.
- Hidden treasure
 - Was not looking for a treasure but knew the value when it was found. About being made alive in Christ.
 - Merchant was looking for treasure and sold everything once he found it.

- Dragnet
 - Jesus will bring all people before him, and He will do the separating.

This is the plan for the kingdom.

- There are four responses; the Kingdom of God has people who look like they belong.
- The kingdom starts small but grows huge.
- The process is sanctification.
- Hell is real and God does not want His children going in this direction.

Homework Discussion on Storyteller – In small groups (30 minutes)

Choose a few questions ahead of time from each of the five daily studies to discuss in small groups, or use the suggestions below.

Study 1: Jesus Teachers in Parables

- Page 141: Questions 4, 5, 7

Study 2: The Parable Explained

- Page 142: Question 3

Study 3: Tares Among Wheat

- Page 144: 5, 7

Study 4: Seed and Leaven

- Page 146: 7

Study 5: A Treasure, a Pearl, and a Dragnet

- Page 147: 3, 5 (both parts)
- Page 148: 6 (both parts)

Lesson Intro for video: Jesus, Life Giver (5 minutes)

- We often hear the phrase, “Pick up your cross and follow Jesus,” but what does it mean?
- Jesus offered life wherever He went. Today we will see Jesus quieted the sea as well as a demoniac. He healed with a touch both a little girl dying and a bleeding woman.
- Jesus warned about wolves in sheep’s clothing, taught about discipleship and rewards as they remembered John the Baptist.

Video Lesson (45 minutes)

Discussion & Table Prayer Requests (20 minutes)

- When have you seen Jesus heal and provide life?
- What does discipleship mean?
- Share prayer requests.

Ending Prayer (5 minutes)

Lesson #11: Jesus, Bread of Life

Welcome, Prayer & Review of previous week: Jesus, Life Giver (15 minutes)

- Jesus is our Life Giver, a rescuer and restorer of people – spiritually, emotionally, and physically.
- Jesus restored life to the demon-possessed man who was tortured by a legion of demons. He restored the health of a woman who had been suffering for 12 years when she touched His cloak in faith. He gave life back to the synagogue official's daughter who had died. Jesus ruled over life and nature when He calmed the storm with the disciples saying, "Peace, be still." He sent out the 12 disciples with the power to heal and preach the Kingdom of God.
- Jesus brought life and hope to the people, and He is still that same Life Giver today. We all have stories today of how we have seen Jesus restore life – either in our personal lives or ones we have heard from others.

Class Review on the attributes of Jesus we have studied so far (through week 10).

Students can use the attribute cards in the back of the workbook as a list to answer with the review questions. These cards can also be cut out to keep for reference whenever you need a reminder of an attribute of Jesus.

- 1. The testimony of John the Baptist proclaims this about Jesus, and that He comes to take away the sin of the world. – **Lamb of God***
- 2. Jesus first reveals this claim to the Samaritan woman at the well. – **Messiah***
- 3. Existed before time, space, and matter. – **Preexistent Creator***
- 4. Matthew and Luke record the genealogy of Jesus, as the son of David and the son of Abraham, and the lineage from Joseph all the way back to Adam. – **God Sent***
- 5. Jesus cast out demons, healed the sick with a spoken word, and wherever He went, disease was gone. – **Healer***
- 6. The best example of this attribute is Jesus' teaching of The Sermon on the Mount, The Beatitudes, and The Lord's Prayer, which all point to our heart and not our deeds. – **Teacher of Righteousness***
- 7. "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28 – **Burden Bearer***

8. *The daughter of a synagogue official has died and Jesus brings her back to life by saying, "Little girl, I say to you, get up".* – **Life Giver**

9. *Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables, with the central theme being the Kingdom of Heaven.* – **Storyteller**

10. *The Pharisees considered this claim to be blasphemy when Jesus said, "I and the Father are one." John 10:30* – **Equal to God**

11. *The image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.* – **Preexistent Creator**

12. *The great physician.* – **Healer**

13. *Jesus replaces the heavy burden of self-righteousness with His grace and self-sufficiency with His rest.* – **Burden Bearer**

14. *This means Anointed One.* – **Messiah**

15. *Jesus described the Kingdom of Heaven like a treasure hidden in the field, a merchant seeking fine pearls, and a dragnet cast into the sea.* – **Storyteller**

16. *"He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it."* Matthew 10:39 – **Life Giver**

17. *An angel of the Lord announces to Zacharias the future birth of the forerunner of Christ, John the Baptist. The angel Gabriel announces to Mary the future birth of the Messiah. An angel of the Lord announces the birth of the Savior to the shepherds.* – **God Sent**

18. *Jesus came as the ultimate sacrifice for our sins.* – **Lamb of God**

19. *There are four witnesses to this claim: John the Baptist, Jesus' works, the voice of the Father at Jesus' Baptism, and the Scriptures.* – **Equal to God**

20. *Jesus went up on the mountain, sat down and began teaching His disciples.* – **Teacher of Righteousness**

Homework Discussion on Life Giver – In small groups (30 minutes)

Choose a few questions ahead of time from each of the five daily studies to discuss in small groups, or use the suggestions below.

Study 1: The Sea and the Demoniac

- Page 153 - Questions 2, 4, 5
- Page 154 – Questions 10, 15

Study 2: Miracles and Healing

- Page 157 - Questions 7, 11, 13

Study 3: Sheep among Wolves

- Page 160 – Questions 6, 10, 12

Study 4: Discipleship and Rewards

- Page 163 – Questions 2, 5, 7

Study 5: John's Fate Recalled

- Page 165 – Questions 1, 5, 7

Lesson Intro for video: Jesus, Bread of Life (5 minutes)

- Jesus said to the crowds, "I am the Bread of Life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst."
We have to come to Jesus and believe in Him. Not just for our physical needs, but our spiritual food as well.
We must have an appetite for God, the One who truly satisfies.
- Today we will see Jesus feeding the 4,000 and walking on water. He is the Creator who brings us the Bread of Life.

Video Lesson (45 minutes)

Discussion & Table Prayer Requests (20 minutes)

- Discuss what the Bread of Life means to you personally.
- What significant or new thing did you learn about Jesus?
- Share prayer requests with your group.

Ending Prayer (5 minutes)



The Amazing Life of Jesus Christ

Leader's Guide for Two-Hour Class

Lesson #12: Jesus, Son of God

Welcome, Prayer & Class Review of previous weeks: (30-45 minutes)

For the last class of Part 1, have the class participate in a comprehensive review on all 12 lessons of Christ. This can be done together as a class or print off questions for each table to review. You can use the questions below as review questions or print out the full comprehensive review from the Resources download link on BigDreamMinistries.org.

Class Review:

- 1) What is the Davidic covenant?
 - a) A king would remain forever from David's line

- 2) At the fullness of time, the Messiah would come (Galatians 4:4-7). What does the fullness of time mean?
 - a) The timing was right, both political and geographical. The Greek language was a one-world language for all. The Roman road system made communication easier.

- 3) Who was Elizabeth and Zachariah's child?
 - a) John the Baptist

What was his role?

 - a) Forerunner to Jesus

What was his message?

 - a) "Repent, the kingdom of God is at hand."

- 4) When John the Baptist saw Jesus coming to him, what did he say?
 - a) "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

- 5) After Jesus is baptized, the Spirit of God descends as a dove and the voice of God comes out of the heavens. What did God say?
 - a) "This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

- 6) Where was Jesus baptized and by whom?
 - a) Jordan River, John the Baptist

- 7) Why is Jesus called the Lamb of God?
 - a) An unblemished lamb was sacrificed during each Passover and delivered them from death while in Egypt. Jesus offered Himself as the perfect Lamb, conquering power of sin and death.

8) After Jesus was baptized, He went into the wilderness to be tempted, so that He could identify with our weaknesses. What are the three ways He was tempted?

- a) Lust of the eyes – to provide for yourself
- b) Lust of the flesh - to protect yourself
- c) Pride - to exalt yourself

9) Who are the first five disciples?

- a) Andrew – from Capernaum
- b) John – both Andrew and John were followers of John the Baptist
- c) Simon – Andrew tells his brother Simon that they found the Messiah, and Jesus names him Peter
- d) Phillip – Jesus tells him to “follow me”
- e) Nathaniel – Phillip tells Nathaniel, who says, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” When Jesus sees him coming, He says, “Behold an Israelite indeed, of whom there is no deceit.”

10) Where does Jesus perform His first miracle?

- a) Cana. Jesus creates new wine from water. It is fully mature wine, demonstrating Jesus the Creator

11) On Jesus’ first visit to the Temple in Jerusalem during His ministry, what does He do?

- a) He cleanses the Temple of the merchants and money changers

12) To whom did Jesus say, “For God so loved the world, He gave His only Son.”?

- a) Nicodemus

13) What does it mean to be “born again”?

- a) A new spiritual birth imparted by God to those who believe in Jesus

14) What did Jesus reveal to the Samaritan woman at the well?

- a) He was the Messiah; He was the Living Water

How did Jesus show His deity to the woman at the well?

- a) He told her everything she ever did.

What was significant about the location of Samaria?

- a) It was out of the way for Jesus to travel. The Jews did not associate with Samaritans and considered them unclean.

15) Where did Jesus set up His home base?

- a) Capernaum

Why do you think He chose this as His headquarters?

- a) It was in Galilee, occupied by Rome. It had a large fishing industry, lots of trade and people from different countries.

Isaiah said this area lived in darkness but would see a great light.

16) What were some of the reason Jesus was rejected by the religious officials?

- a) He was not the kind of king they were expecting
- b) They didn't truly love God and want to see God among them
- c) They like to be honored among the people
- d) They didn't believe the Scriptures

17) Jesus was undoubtedly a great teacher, but He was also the Teacher of Righteousness. Jesus' great sermon is a high calling for our godly behavior and character – impossible to attain without Christ. What is this sermon and where is it found in the New Testament?

- a) The Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7

What does righteousness mean?

- a) Being right with God, which we accomplish through the Holy Spirit and not of ourselves

18) What is the central theme to Jesus' parables?

- a) The Kingdom of Heaven, the greatest treasure.

19) What things did Jesus tell His disciples before sending them out to preach and heal?

- a) Don't go in the way of the Gentiles; do not enter any city of the Samaritans
- b) Go to the lost Sheep of Israel and preach "the King of heaven is at hand"
- c) Don't take anything with you except your tunic and a staff
- d) Don't charge anyone but accept support when given
- e) Stay at those who are worthy and give a blessing
- f) Shake the dust off your feet of those who will not accept your message or receive you

20) Why should the disciples not worry what they were to say before governor and kings?

- a) It will be given you in that hour what to say, for the Spirit of God speaks through you

21) What is one new thing you have learned about Jesus that you did not know or realize before this study? (answers will vary, some suggestions below)

- a) Joy-giver
- b) Jesus traveled a lot, always on the move
- c) Jesus was intentional with purpose, but gradually lead people to the truth
- d) The magnitude of people who came, and from far away

Lesson Intro for video: Jesus, Son of God (5 minutes)

- Jesus asks Peter an important question: "*Who do you say I am?*" Peter responds, "*You are the Christ, the son of the living God.*"
- We will also see the transfiguration of Christ in this study on Jesus, the Son of God.

Video Lesson (45 minutes)

Discussion & Table Prayer Requests (20 minutes)

- Discuss what you have learned about Jesus from the class, and what Jesus means to you personally. Who do you say Jesus is?
- Share prayer requests with your group.

Ending Prayer (5 minutes)