

Screenshots of Jesus

A companion study to the podcasts of Amber Albee Swenson on the
life of Christ through the lens of Mark

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Lesson Five: Discussion Questions

1. Read Matthew 14: 25-31; 16:21-23 and Mark 9:2-6.

What attributes do you see in Peter in these accounts?

2. Read Luke 9:51-56.

What attributes do we see in James and John?

3. Why do you think the Holy Spirit clued us in to these embarrassing moments for Peter, James and John, the inner circle of disciples?

4. Why might the Holy Spirit have allowed us to know the names but nothing else about most of the other disciples?

5. Read Matthew 16: 26. It's easy for families to desire comfort for their relatives over all else. How can we be sure we don't fall into that, but instead pray and advise our children in such a way that they follow God's plan for their life, even if it leads to more hardship than comfort?

6. Sometimes family gets it wrong. Sometimes our church gets it wrong. Read Romans 13:8, John 13:34; and 1 Corinthians 13:13.

Jesus told his disciples to love the way he loved. How did Jesus love us?

7. The apostle Paul told the Romans to forget every debt except one: the continual debt to love one another. Who are we indebted to?

“Who-
ever
does
God’s
will is
my
brother
and
sister
and
mother.”
Mark
3:35

8. Read Romans 12:19. To forgive means to let go; to not hold something against someone else. How is it possible to forgive, to not hold a grudge against those who have hurt us?

Forgiveness comes down to trust. Letting go means trusting God to take care of the situation.

10. Read Proverbs 16:2. What should we do as we waddle through the hurt of the situation?

Big idea: God uses messy people, weak people, over-enthusiastic people, people who are quick-tempered, cowards, etc. We need to be careful not to seek comfort for our family above God's will for their lives. When it comes to hurt, our job is to forgive and let God take care of the rest.

Action Step: Know that God created faith in you so that you can serve him in his kingdom. If you are struggling with hurt, consider working through "Getting Past the Past: Reconciling What You Cannot Change."

Prayer: Dear Lord, You are so gracious to use us to do your work. Increase our motivation to do your will. Rid our lives of distraction. Forgive us for holding onto grudges when you've forgiven everything we've ever done. Help us to love well, serve well, and walk with you all of our days. Amen.