

For Teachers  
of Adults Ages 18 and Up

# Adult Bible Teacher



Spring Quarter  
March | April | May 2024

*Large-Print Edition*

# Adult Bible Teacher

Large-Print Edition

SPRING QUARTER

March, April, May 2024

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# Daily Bible Readings for Home Study and Worship

(Readings are for the week previous to the lesson topics.)

## 1. March 3. Jesus' Claim to Deity

M — Christ Is Truth. II John 1:2, 9-11.  
T — Live as Jesus Did. I John 2:3-6.  
W — Grateful Slaves to Righteousness. Rom. 6:15-23.  
T — Death for Apostasy. Deut. 13:6-11.  
F — Obedience by Faith. Heb. 11:8-12.  
S — Your Father the Devil. John 8:39-47.  
S — Before Abraham Was, I Am. John 8:31-38, 48-56, 58-59.

## 2. March 10. Jairus's Daughter and the Bleeding Woman

M — Healing a Suffering Woman. Mark 5:25-34.  
T — Rules About the Discharge of Blood. Lev. 15:25-30.  
W — Jairus's Daughter Brought Back to Life. Mark 5:21-24, 35-43.  
T — Rules About Touching the Dead. Num. 19:11-21.  
F — Matthew's Account of the Restoration of Life. Matt. 9:18-19, 23-26.  
S — Anointed with Power and the Holy Ghost. Acts 10:34-38.  
S — Faith in Jesus' Power. Luke 8:40-56.

## 3. March 17. The Raising of Lazarus

M — Many Believe. John 10:39-42.  
T — Friends of Jesus. Luke 10:38-42.  
W — A Planned Delay. John 11:1-16.  
T — I Am the Resurrection. John 11:17-27.  
F — Plotting Against Jesus. John 11:45-57.  
S — A Devoted Follower. John 12:1-8.  
S — God's Glory Revealed. John 11:38-44.

## 4. March 24. The Crucifixion of Jesus

M — Lament of Forsakenness. Ps. 22:1-18.  
T — Jesus Foretells His Death. Matt. 16:13-23; 17:22-23.  
W — Disciples Will Be Scattered. Mark 14:27-31.  
T — Jesus Before Pilate. Matt. 27:11-26.  
F — Jesus Mocked by the Soldiers. Mark 15:15-20.  
S — Weeping Daughters of Jerusalem. Luke 23:26-32.  
S — Jesus Commits His Spirit to His Father. Luke 23:33-49.

## 5. March 31. The Resurrection of Jesus (Easter)

M — Jesus' Burial. Luke 23:50-56.  
T — Disciples Find the Tomb Empty. John 20:1-10.  
W — Mary Magdalene Meets the Risen Lord. John 20:11-18.  
T — The False Report of the Roman Guards. Matt. 28:11-15.  
F — Jesus Appears to Two Disciples. Luke 24:13-29.  
S — Jesus Appears to All the Disciples. Luke 24:36-49.  
S — The Empty Tomb. Luke 24:1-12, 30-35.

## 6. April 7. Jesus' First Miracle

M — Jesus Gains Followers. John 1:35-42.  
T — More Follow Jesus. John 1:43-51.  
W — A Roman Official Believes. John 4:46-54.  
T — A Blind Man Sees and Believes. John 9:1-7, 35-38.  
F — The Purpose of Signs. John 20:26-31.  
S — Disciples Affirm Their Faith. John 6:66-69.  
S — Water Turned to Wine. John 2:1-12.

## 7. April 14. Jesus' Authority over Demons

M — Authority Given to the Twelve. Matt. 10:1-15.  
T — Sent Two by Two. Mark 6:7-13.  
W — The Seventy Are Sent and Return. Luke 10:1, 17-20.  
T — A Demoniac by the Sea of Galilee. Mark 5:1-13.

F — Go and Proclaim. Matt. 28:18-20.  
S — Philip Casts Out Unclean Spirits. Acts 8:4-8.  
S — Unclean Spirit Departs at Jesus' Command. Mark 9:14-29.

## 8. April 21. Healing on the Sabbath

M — Observing the Sabbath. Deut. 5:12-15.  
T — David Given Consecrated Bread. I Sam. 21:1-6.  
W — Disabled Man Healed on the Sabbath. John 5:1-16.  
T — Sabbath Made for Man. Mark 2:23-28.  
F — Compassion, Not Sacrifice. Matt. 12:1-8.  
S — Opponents Humiliated. Luke 13:10-17.  
S — Lord of the Sabbath. Luke 6:1-11.

## 9. April 28. Jesus' Mighty Power

M — Jesus Calms the Sea. Matt. 8:23-27.  
T — Power over Demons. Mark 1:21-28.  
W — Power over Living Things. Mark 11:12-23.  
T — Power over the Waves. Luke 8:22-25.  
F — Undeniable Power. Matt. 9:27-35.  
S — Power over the Wind. Mark 6:45-51.  
S — Jesus Walks on the Sea. Matt. 14:22-36.

## 10. May 5. Healing and Forgiveness

M — The Blessing of Forgiveness. Ps. 32:1-5.  
T — Power to Forgive. Matt. 9:1-8.  
W — Forgiveness and Redemption in the Lord. Ps. 130:1-8.  
T — A Readiness to Forgive Sins. Luke 5:18-26.  
F — The Power of the Righteous Man's Prayer. Jas. 5:13-18.  
S — The Lord Forgives and Heals. Ps. 103:1-5.  
S — Jesus Responds to Evidence of Faith. Mark 2:1-12.

## 11. May 12. The Son Greater than Angels

M — Crowned with Glory. Heb. 1:13—2:9.  
T — Glory Forever. II Tim. 2:8-10.  
W — The Image of God. II Cor. 4:1-6.  
T — At the Right Hand of God. Acts 2:32-36.  
F — God's Unique Son. Ps. 2:1-12.  
S — God's Beloved Son. Matt. 3:13-17.  
S — He Has Spoken by His Son. Heb. 1:1-9.

## 12. May 19. The Lamb Worthy of Worship

M — The Lamb of God. John 1:29-34.  
T — Jesus Worshipped. Luke 24:50-53.  
W — Worthy to Reign. Rev. 5:1-5.  
T — Root of Jesse. Isa. 11:1-10.  
F — Redeemed by His Shed Blood. I Pet. 1:17-21.  
S — Reigning with Christ. Rev. 20:1-6.  
S — The Lion Is the Lamb. Rev. 5:6-14.

## 13. May 26. The Alpha and Omega

M — The New Jerusalem. Rev. 21:9—22:5.  
T — I Come Quickly. Rev. 3:7-13.  
W — The Word of the Lord Stands Forever. Isa. 40:6-8.  
T — Salvation Is Coming with His Reward. Isa. 62:10-12.  
F — A Free Invitation. Isa. 55:1-13.  
S — Let the Thirsty Come. John 7:37-39.  
S — Come, Lord Jesus. Rev. 22:6-10, 12-13, 16-21.

# SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT

**JOHN 8:31** Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed;

**32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**

33 They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free?

**34 Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.**

35 And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: *but* the Son abideth ever.

**36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.**

37 I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.

**38 I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father.**

48 Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil?

**49 Jesus answered, I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me.**

50 And I seek not mine own glory: there is one that seeketh and judgeth.

**51 Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.**

52 Then said the Jews unto him, Now we know that thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and thou sayest, If a man keep my saying, he shall never taste of death.

**53 Art thou greater than our father Abraham, which is dead? and the prophets are dead: whom maketh thou thyself?**

54 Jesus answered, If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God:

**55 Yet ye have not known him; but I know him: and if I should say, I know him not, I shall be a liar like unto you: but I know him, and keep his saying.**

56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw *it*, and was glad.

**58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am.**

59 Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

## NOTES

# Jesus' Claim to Deity

Lesson Text: John 8:31-38, 48-56, 58-59

Related Scriptures: Deuteronomy 13:6-11; Romans 6:15-23;  
I John 2:1-6, 22-25; II John 1:9-11

TIME: A.D. 29

PLACE: Jerusalem

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**GOLDEN TEXT**—"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32).

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## *Preparing to Teach the Lesson*

### **TODAY'S AIM**

**Facts:** to explore passages from John 8 that reveal Jesus' ability to liberate from sin.

**Principle:** to affirm that true liberty is possible through Christ.

**Application:** to challenge Christians to live out the freedom that their relationship with Christ has made possible.

### **INTRODUCING THE LESSON**

The concept of freedom has a deep meaning for the Christian. Christ came to set us free from sin and its consequences, leading us into eternal life.

### **DEVELOPING THE LESSON**

**1. Freedom defined (John 8:31-38).** Some claim to be Jesus' disciples, but their lives do not bear it out in the long run. The lesson text indicates that some Jews professed belief in Jesus. Jesus taught them that a test of true discipleship was whether they "continue" in His word (vs. 31). Read I John 2:19.

Discuss what it means to "continue in my word" (John 8:31). Refer to Acts

2:42. Continuing in Jesus' word involves both hearing and obeying.

Moving to John 8:32, focus on two words: "truth" and "free." Accepting Jesus for who He is amounts to receiving the truth. Read 14:6.

Jesus' listeners misunderstood the freedom that He offered. Their statement about always having been free was totally inaccurate. Over their history, they had been in bondage to the Egyptians, Babylonians, Greeks, and Romans. More important, apart from Christ, people are slaves to sin. Ironically, those who claim to be the most liberated are often the most enslaved.

**2. Identity defended (John 8:48-56).** Jesus' detractors charged Him with being a Samaritan and demon possessed. Compare Jesus' response in verses 49-50 with Isaiah 48:11. What does this tell us about Jesus' identity?

Move on to consider John 8:51-56. Note that the discussion intensified as Jesus linked eternal life to the keeping of His word. What made Jesus' antagonists angry? Jesus was a young man living in the first century A.D. Abraham, the revered patriarch of the Jews, had lived about two thousand years before.

In their eyes, Jesus' claim that Abraham rejoiced to see His day was both arrogant and preposterous.

What other sayings of Jesus in this passage incensed the Jews? Jesus called them liars and denied that they knew God as they claimed.

**3. Deity declared (John 8:58-59).** Note the tense of the verb "to be" in verse 58. Refer the class to Moses' encounter with God at the burning bush (Ex. 3:13-14), where God identified Himself as "I AM." Jesus identified

Himself in the same terms that God had used with Moses.

The response of Jesus' enemies was immediate and violent. In their minds, He had committed the ultimate blasphemy by identifying Himself with God.

### ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON

In the next lesson we will see the life-giving power of Jesus at work as He raises a young girl from the dead, giving further evidence of His deity.

—Bruce A. Tanner.

## Studying the Text

While we express disappointment that the truth is so seldom heard these days, dishonesty is by no means something new to our society. Only the child of God has a standard by which to measure his actions and attitudes in life.

### NEEDING TRUTH—John 8:31-38

**The freedom of abiding (John 8:31-33).** Verse 30 says that as Jesus spoke, "many believed on him." He then addressed those believers, telling them how to live out their faith as His disciples. {To be disciples, Jesus told them, they needed to abide in His word, seeking to live according to His teachings (vs. 31).}<sup>q1</sup> The same is true today. Anyone who abides in Jesus by faith will not remain unchanged.

{To continue in Jesus' word means to stay—to remain, or abide—in it. That is, a person who hears Jesus' teachings will then endeavor to live by them.}<sup>q2</sup> Jesus' word is truth to be lived; it is not merely academic information. As someone lives by the teachings of Jesus, he will experience a spiritual freedom never known before.

The inner freedom that comes from knowing Jesus Christ as person-

al Saviour cannot be understood by those who have never experienced it. At least some of the Jews listening to Jesus could not comprehend what He had just said. {Their response was that they had not been in bondage and thus had no need for the freedom Jesus offered.}<sup>q3</sup> They felt that their physical descent from Abraham secured their right relationship with God.

**The slavery of sin (John 8:34-36).** The Jews' claim that they had never been in bondage to anyone was not accurate, for their ancestors had been slaves in Egypt and Babylon. Furthermore, at that very time, they were under the control of the Roman Empire. Since that was not the kind of slavery Jesus had in mind, He did not correct these historical inaccuracies. He was speaking of spiritual slavery rather than physical slavery.

Jesus was speaking of the kind of freedom that comes to people when sin no longer has power over them. {Sin in a person's life is like a taskmaster who makes cruel demands. A person living apart from God does not have the spiritual strength to live apart from sin and is therefore a slave to it.