

FOLLOWING THE PATH OF JESUS

A Harmony Of the Gospels

A Daily Devotional Study Guide - Book 2



Week 18

“Sheep Among Wolves”

Study: Matthew 9:35-10:16, Mark 6:6-13, Luke 1:1-6

Reading: I Corinthians 3:1-15

Memory: 1 John 1:5

What Does the Bible Say?

After departing from Nazareth, Jesus traveled to many of the cities of Galilee teaching in the synagogues and other places while healing many people of their sicknesses. His main purpose was to declare the Good News of how He was sent to earth to deliver men from their sins. As He did this, His heart of compassion grew for the people of the region because He saw that most of them had no real spiritual leaders to guide them into truth. He compared them to sheep who had no shepherd to lead them to pastures where they could eat. They had no protector to save them from the attacks of their enemies (Mt 9:35-36, Mark 6:6).

Jesus had been preparing His disciples to be the shepherds for the people and he turned to them, describing how the harvest was plentiful, but there were too few people to pick the fruit of the harvest. Jesus then told His disciples to pray that God would raise up more people who would be able to help bring in the great harvest that was ripe for the picking. It is very interesting to note that the first command of Jesus was not to go out, but to pray for more laborers. I believe He did this for a few reasons. One, Jesus knew that if the disciples were praying for laborers that they themselves would be more likely committed to go. Two, He knew the supernatural need for the working of God in hearts and lives to raise up laborers to reap the harvest (Mt 9:37-38).

The disciples had been observing how Jesus lived and had been listening to His message, and now it was time to put into practice what they had been learning. Jesus called them to Himself and told them to divide up by twos and head out to the surrounding cities to proclaim the Gospel. He would give them the same power that He had over the demons and they would also have the ability to heal. They were to take very little with them on their trip, but were to trust God to provide for their needs. He didn't want them taking money or food and only wanted them to take one coat with them. Once they entered into a town, they were to find a person who would open their house for them to stay. They were to stay in that same house the whole time they were in that

particular city. From the directives of Jesus it appears that He didn't want them to give the wrong messages of why they were there. They were not going to the towns to earn money or gain popularity. Their purpose was to declare to people how they could get to the kingdom of God (Mt 10:1-11, Mk 6:7-13, Lk 1:1-4).

The disciples would not be accepted everywhere they went and Jesus told them to shake off the dust of their feet at the households and villages that rejected them. This was symbolic of God's judgement upon the people for their rejection of God's message. Jesus declared that it would be better for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than it would be for the people of the cities who rejected the disciples. The mission of the disciples was compared to a shepherd sending His sheep in the middle of a pack of wolves. This did not mean they would face certain death, but only illustrated that the task they were called to would not be easy. Because they would be among enemies, they were to live wisely in how they did things and also live in a way that brought peace and not conflict (Mt 10:12-16, Lk 1:5-6).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Are you praying for God to send laborers into the harvest fields of the world? Are you doing your part in the harvest in the area where God has called you to harvest? This is not a command for you to go out two by two to the surrounding villages, but it is a reminder for you to be actively praying for the harvest of souls and to do your part in that harvesting. We know from other places in Scripture that not everyone does the harvesting all the time and you are reminded to do your part in the whole sowing and reaping process. You are not commanded to live with only the coat on your back as the disciples were for this short term mission, but from this you can see that God doesn't want you to get bogged down with the things of this world. You can also see that God wants you to live very wisely when representing Him. Though you are in a spiritual battle, you are not to wage war with people by getting involved in disputes, but you are to love like harmless doves. Take time today to examine what roll God has called you to play in reaching others for His kingdom and ask yourself if you are fulfilling that roll. Your role first begins with prayer. When you pray for others, you often become more concerned about their spiritual condition. You will be much more apt to reach out to someone with the good news of the Gospel if you take time to pray for that person or group of people.

Matthew 9

What did Jesus spend much of His time doing (vs 35)?

What happened when Jesus saw all the people that were following Him (vs 36)?

What two things did Jesus notice about the people (vs 36)?

****These two words are translated differently in different versions of the Bible. The first word is the Greek word "skullo" which means to be distressed or troubled. It often connotes the ideas of being battered, bruised, mangled, ripped apart, worn out, and exhausted. The second term used is the Greek word "rhipito" which means to be downcast. It pictures someone in a helpless state like someone who is dunk or has a mortal wound.*

What do you think it meant that they were "sheep without a shepherd?" (vs 36)?

What did God declare about the harvest (vs 37)? What do you think He meant?

What did He challenge His disciples to do (vs 38)? Why do you think He challenged them about this?

Matthew 10

What did Jesus give the twelve disciples the power to do (vs 1)?

Who did Jesus tell them to go to (vs 5-6)?

What was their main responsibility (vs 7)?

What were they not supposed to do (vs 7-10)? Why not?

What do you think the instructions in verses 11-13 mean?

What were the disciples to do if people rejected them (vs 14)?

What did Jesus declare about judgement for reaction (vs 15)? Why?

“Enduring Persecution”

Study: Matthew 10:16-23

Reading: Acts 16:11-17:15

Memory: 1 John 1:5

Once heard a missionary describe how the Church today is being persecuted all the time. This persecution does not often happen to those in the United States, but it does to the Church around the world. He reminded us that we are all part of the same body and that parts of our body are suffering in many different places around the world today. This persecution should not surprise us since Jesus warned that it would come, and we will read about it today.

What Does the Bible Say?

Though Jesus was just sending the disciples out on a short journey to evangelize the area, He also wanted to prepare them for something much greater, specifically for the time after He left this earth. He warned them that they would not be accepted and loved everywhere they went. He told them that some of them would be dragged before their governmental authorities and put on trial for their beliefs. He told the disciples to expect this type of treatment, but not to fear it. They were not to be afraid of what they would say when they stood before the authorities because the Holy Spirit would give them the words that they would need (vs 16-20).

This betrayal would not be just by the government, but would be performed by friends and relatives. The message of the Gospel has always been a divisive message because there are many people who hate the plan of God. This hatred towards God is a result of people not wanting to come to terms with the fact that they are sinners who are going to hell. This message stirs up anger that causes Fathers to disown their children and children to turn against their parents, even to the point of having them killed (vs 21).

Jesus said the disciples would be hated by all men for the sake of Christ. He did not mean all men all the time, because there would be many who would turn to Christ. The “all” was a general reference to men from every walk of life including close friends and relatives. Following

Christ would come at a great cost, and still does today for many people. Jesus challenged His disciples not to quit or give up, but to endure to the end and if they did, they would be saved. This was not a works based salvation, but a promise that it would be worth it if they did not give up (vs 22).

When persecution arose in one town, they were to move to another town and attempt to share the message of Christ there. This is what Paul did on a regular basis and we see that persecution was one of the great catalysts for the spreading of the Gospel. Jesus stated that they would not reach all the towns in Israel with the message of the Gospel before Jesus would return. It is not clear exactly what He meant by that phrase. Many explanations have been given as to what the phrase may mean, but it is one that we simply have a hard time understanding today (vs 23).

How Does this Apply to Me?

How do you handle rejection when you share Christ? Do you get discouraged and feel like a failure? Do you get upset or angry at those who will not listen or treat you badly? Jesus was not declaring that His followers would never be liked by anyone, some of the disciples had great success and had many people who loved and cared for their message. He wanted to prepare them, knowing that they would face some type of opposition to the truth. After all, they were in a spiritual battle. When the enemy saw the kingdom of God was advancing, he would do what he could to stop it, and still does the same today. Don’t let fear of persecution or rejection keep you from sharing the message of Christ to those He has called you to share with. Instead, be willing and ready to endure, knowing that it will be worth it.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for preparing you to face persecution.*
- * *Ask God to help you endure to the end.*
- * *Praise God because He is in complete control of everything that happens to you or that could happen to you.*

Thought for the day

How did Jesus say He was sending out His disciples (vs 16)?

What do you think it means to be wise as a serpent (vs 16)?

What do you think it means to be harmless like a dove (vs 16)?

What were the disciples told to be aware of (vs 17)?

****This does not mean they were to avoid everyone or be afraid of what may happen. It was more of a statement letting the disciple know not to be surprised when men did cruel things to them because of the Gospel.*

What did Jesus say would happen to some of His followers (vs 17)?

What would some of these wicked men do (vs 18)?

What does the fact that some followers of Christ would be beaten in the synagogues indicate (vs 18)?

What did Jesus tell them not to worry about (vs 19)?

What comfort does verse 20 give?

How can this same comfort extend to you even when you are not being persecuted?

What did Jesus say about family relationships (vs 21)?

Why do you think the Gospel causes such deep divisions?

What can happen because of the name of Jesus (vs 22)?

Who will be saved (vs 22)?

Why do you think being willing to endure suffering for Christ is so important?

What were they told to do if one town chose to persecute them (vs 23)?

“Learning to Trust”

Study: Matthew 10:24-33

Reading: Psalm 91:1-16

Memory: 1 John 1:5

Having children has taught me many valuable lessons in life and one of those has to do with natural fear and a lack of trust. This seems to be part of our sin nature and seems to be natural with pretty much everyone. I often had to tell my children when they were young that they could trust me and that I will help guide them and protect them. I didn't have to tell them this because I had guided them in the wrong direction several times before, but because they naturally were afraid. They were afraid of many different things so I had to assure them that I would be watching out for them and that they could trust me. Teaching them to trust me was vitally important because I know that they could learn to trust God when they knew they could trust me.

Today, we will read how Jesus told His followers that they could trust God with their lives and that God was watching over them.

What Does the Bible Say?

Since the disciples were followers of their Teacher, Jesus, they would also be treated like Jesus. Though in some places, this meant that they would be honored and respected. In other places it meant that they would be ridiculed and persecuted. Just as the religious leaders called Jesus a follower of Beelzebul, they would also call the disciples followers of Beelzebul as well. Originally, Beelzebul was a Philistine god, but eventually it became a derogatory term for the prince of demons, the “worst of the worst.” The disciples needed to expect this type of ridicule if they were going to be followers of their Rabbi (vs 24-25).

Though they were to expect persecution, they were not to expect it with fear. The religious leaders would do most of their planning in secret, but one day their motives would be made clear to all. God would take care of them for their evil and the disciples were to take care of openly declaring the Word of God to the world around them. This persecution that would come their way was not to stop them from sharing the truth. Instead, they were to boldly declare the message of salvation,

not fearing what man could do. After all, the worse a man could do was to kill them. It was God who had the power to either usher them into heaven or cast them into an eternal hell. He was to be feared above any man (vs 26-28).

Jesus related how the cheapest of birds, the sparrows, could be bought and sold for a minuscule amount of money. Though these birds were not valuable, God knew if something would happen to one of them. Jesus described how God also knew exactly how many hairs every person had on their head. This is an amazing thought because the numbers of hairs are constantly changing. The message of these illustrations was plain and simple. People are much more valuable than sparrows and if God watches over them, He would certainly watch over His children. There was no reason to fear about what man could do to them. Jesus promised that if His followers would confess Him publicly before men in the midst of persecution that He would openly confess that they were His children when their time on this earth was ended (vs 29-33).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you live in fear or do you live in great trust? Are you constantly afraid of what might happen, or do you realize that God is in control and you can trust Him to take care of things? Jesus makes this very simple, but we as people often make it very complex. It is easy to use excuses for your fear, but in reality, your fear reveals a lack of trust. God cares about you more than you could ever care about anything, and if He cares that much, He will watch over you. This does not mean that you will have a life of ease with no problems. Jesus was preparing His followers for problems. It does mean that you can trust God and don't have to worry about anything because He has it all under control.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * Thank God that He cares for you.
- * Ask God to help you to trust and not to fear.
- * Praise God because He has greater power than any earthly force.

Thought for the day

What did Jesus declare about disciples (vs 24)?

Why did Jesus declare this (vs 25)?

How can the fact that Jesus suffered persecution help us when we endure persecution?

What are you not to fear (vs 26)?

Why did Jesus say we shouldn't fear (vs 26)?

What do you think Jesus meant in verse 27?

****The answers to this vary among commentators, but it appears Jesus is telling His followers not to keep the lessons they had learned from Him a secret. The reason to keep something a secret would be because of fear of what may happen when it became known. Jesus was not practicing some secret spiritual religion, but was teaching His followers the truth, and He intend that truth to be spread abroad without fear of what the results may be.*

Who are you not to fear (vs 28)?

Who are you to fear?

How could this be a difficult instruction to follow?

What does God know about (vs 29)?

What does God number (vs 30)? Why is this amazing?

How does this give you encouragement not to fear (vs 31)?

What did Jesus say He would do if you declare your faith in Him (vs 32)?

What did Jesus say He would do if you deny your faith (vs 33)?

Why do you think Jesus took time to help prepare His followers for what they would face in the future?

“A Living Sacrifice”

Study: Matthew 10:34-39

Reading: Romans 11:1-12:3

Memory: 1 John 1:5

On the inside of my original wedding band are the engraved words “My Perfect Gift.” (I had to have my ring cut when my hand was swollen, so sadly I no longer wear this ring.) My wife had this written in the ring because she believed that I was a fulfillment of God’s promises to her. When we first met, she was dating another man and was very close to being engaged. She knew that it wasn’t what God wanted, but she really liked this guy. Choosing to give him up was a huge sacrifice for her, but she clung onto the promise of God that described that “every good and perfect gift is from above” (James 1:17). She sacrificed her desire to marry that other guy and that is when God brought me into the picture. She saw me as a reward for her obedience to Him.

Today, we are going to read how God calls us to a life of self-sacrifice, but at the same time we will see how He rewards us when we sacrifice for Him.

What Does the Bible Say?

The common religious thought of the people in the days of Jesus was that the Messiah would come and bring great peace in the land. The Messiah will do that but didn’t plan that during His first advent here on earth. Jesus declared that He had actually come to earth to bring “a sword.” This was referring to conflicts that would take place because of Jesus and the message of His salvation. The message of salvation through Jesus Christ would unite many, but would also divide many. This division would occur in even the closest relationships. Relationships between parent and children, an illustration of one of the most intimate relationships, would end in division, even to the point where they would have each other killed (vs 34-36).

Jesus did not want His followers backing down on their commitment to Him and their command to deliver the message of salvation because of conflicts between family members. He wants His follower to love

their relationship with Him more than any earthly relationships they may have. This love should motivate His followers to obey Him in everything. The followers of Jesus must be willing to “take up their cross,” just as He took up His cross. The cross was not a positive symbol in those days as it is today. It would have been compared to the electric chair in our society today. It meant that the followers of Christ must be willing to suffer and die for what was right, just as He was willing to do (vs 37-38).

The follower of Christ was to be willing to lose His life for the cause of Christ. Christ was not just to be an addition to a person’s life, but was meant to be the main purpose for a follower. The sacrifice of a life was not without reward. The reward wouldn’t be wealth, power, fame and a life of ease here on this earth, but the reward would be finding true purpose and meaning in this life. This reward would also carry over into the life to come where the follower of Christ would be rewarded with heavenly rewards (vs 39).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Have you lost your life for Christ? Are you willing to forsake all of your hopes, dreams, desires and even your family to follow Him? (The husband/wife relationship is different as it is a picture of Christ and His Church, though we still must be aware of making an idol out of our spouse). The call that Jesus gives to you as a follower is one of sacrifice. This does not mean that you have to live in continual poverty and daily pain, but is rather a command to love Him above all earthly relationships and possessions. Many people never follow God in obedience because they have things or people in their lives that they are not willing to give up. One of the greatest blessings that you have through sacrifice are the rewards. When you choose to give up something for Him, He will often replace it with something far better on this earth and also reward you in the life to come. Though this sacrifice is well worth it, it is not always easy. Take time today to let God show you if you hold anything more valuable than your relationship with Him.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for His sacrifice of His Son for you.*
- * *Ask God to help you live as a living sacrifice.*
- * *Praise God because He is worth every sacrifice you can make.*

What powerful statement did Jesus make in verse 34?

Why is this phrase used very little in society today?

****Many unbelievers and even those who claim to be believers talk about how much Jesus is love. They will excuse their sinful actions and seek to avoid condemnation by focusing on the fact that Jesus came to show love. He did show love by dying on the cross in order to set people free from sin. The love of Jesus was not one that brought peace at all costs. This verse clearly declares that Jesus knew that He and His message would cause great division and conflict.*

What relationships may be affected because of Jesus (vs 35)?

How have you seen your relationships or that of others struggle because of Jesus?

What did Jesus say about enemies in verse 36?

Why do you think Jesus took time to declare this?

Who did Jesus say was not worthy of Him (vs 37)?

What do you think it looks like to love someone else more than you love Jesus?

Who did Jesus say was not worthy of Him (vs 38)?

What do you think it means to take up your cross (vs 38)?

What do you think this may look like on a practical level?

Who will lose his life (vs 39)? Who will find his life (vs 39)?

What do you think verse 39 means?

According to these verses, what do you think it looks like to follow Christ?

“Living & Sharing”

Study: Matthew 10:40-11:1

Reading: James 1:19-27, Romans 4:1-12

Memory: 1 John 1:5

As I think back to the days when I was in elementary school, one of the things that stands out to me is what happened in the classroom when the teacher had to leave the room. When a teacher would leave, she would normally appoint one of us children to be the monitor while she was gone. I longed for that privilege to be a monitor and when it was my turn, I made sure I was the best monitor that I could be. I enforced the laws of the teachers and if anyone made a peep, I would let the teacher know when she returned. When the teacher was gone, it was as if I was stepping into her place and I took that job very seriously.

Today, we are going to see how we are the physical presence of God here on this earth. We need to take our task as His representatives seriously as we have been given the responsibility of living out and proclaiming His Word until Christ returns.

What Does the Bible Say?

As Jesus finished preparing the disciples to take their missionary journey into the towns and villages, He was also preparing them for much more than a short few weeks experience. He wanted them to be ready for when He was going to depart from this earth. He wanted to encourage them to press on delivering the message, realizing that the message was more important than a personal following. They were given the power of God on their mission and those who chose to accept them were also choosing to accept the great message of God. Jesus did not want His disciples to separate the two. He knew how easy it was to want to be liked and how it would be easy for the disciples to lessen the message because they wanted people to like them. They were to be the message with their words and deeds and they were not supposed to separate the message from their lives (vs 40).

Jesus told them that people who received the message of a prophet and understood that he was from God, would receive the same reward

that the prophet would for declaring the message of God. Basically, Jesus was saying that those who chose to listen and believe the messengers of God were acting as if they were receiving God Himself. The call on the disciples was a great and high calling, just as ours is today, because they were called to be the physical representation of God to those who didn't know Him (vs 41).

The message that the disciples were called to deliver wasn't one of personal greatness, but was one of humility and love. This can be seen as Jesus described how a simple act of giving a cold cup of water to a person who was in desperate need was sharing the great message of God. This cold cup of water was not to be given to those who were higher socially in order to gain better earthly standing, but was to be given to those who were the poor and outcasts of the society. The religious leaders of the day catered to the wealthy and those who would give personal gain, while Jesus wanted His followers to cater to anyone with real needs (vs 42).

After sending out His disciples, Jesus continued to preach and teach in the towns and villages of Galilee (11:1).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you speak and live the message of the Gospel? It is easy for many people to speak about Jesus, but not live it out. It is also easy for many people to live out the message, but to never declare the message. Jesus called for His followers to do both. He wants you to live out His Word and at the same time, He wants you to speak the Word boldly to others. You need to realize that you have been given great power and authority to share the truth of God. You are His spokesman that He has chosen to use. As you speak, those who hear what you have to say can also be part of the kingdom of God. Your desire should be to bring glory to God with your life, and you do this by living out the truth and then verbally sharing His truth with others.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for choosing to use you to be a part of His plan.*
- * *Ask God to help you boldly declare His truth to others.*
- * *Praise God for working His power through you.*

What did Jesus declare about receiving Him (vs 41)?

What do you think Jesus meant by this?

****Jesus was equating himself with God. Basically, the people could not truly believe in God without believing what Jesus said. Nor can anyone say they believe in Jesus and not truly believe in God. It is not one or the other, but it has to be both.*

What will a person receive if he also receives the prophet (vs 41)?

****The prophet was rewarded by God for faithfully delivering the message God had given him, but Jesus said that the person who listens to the prophet also receives the reward as well.*

What do you think it means to “receive a righteous person” (vs 41)?

****When we accept and embrace fellow believers, we will be rewarded together with them. We share in their blessings when we open our hearts and make them part of our lives.*

Who should you be willing to give a cup of cold water to (vs 42)?

****Children were often pushed away and treated as less important since they had no ability to give you any personal gain.*

Why do you think Jesus mentioned “cold water” (vs 42)?

****Though no clear explanation is given, getting cold water would have taken some work. They did not have cold water faucets. Water that was sitting around at room temperature would have been much easier to obtain. Getting cold water would require sacrifice to go find a spring, stream or somewhere where water was cool.*

What will a person not lose by serving others (vs 42)?

What are ways that you sacrifice yourself to serve God by serving others around you?

“The Beheading of John”

Study: Matthew 14:1-12, Mark 6:14-29, Luke 9:7-8

Reading: Ecclesiastes 7:1-29

Memory: I John 1:5

When I received the phone call about my dad’s death, it was shocking and difficult news to handle. It was two days before his 52nd birthday and it was completely unexpected. I look back at this several years later and still can’t fully understand why God would take him, but I still believe what I declared at my dad’s funeral. I started my funeral message declaring that, “Some people call this a tragedy, but it isn’t. It is part of the sovereign plan of God.”

Today, we are going to read that God’s plan for His followers doesn’t always lead us down a path of ease. Sometimes we are led into great hardships that we may never be able to understand in this life.

What Does the Bible Say?

The disciples had gone out just as Jesus had said and they were creating quite a stir in the region. The news of Jesus had come to King Herod Antipas who was ruler over the region of Galilee. This was the same Herod who had imprisoned and killed John the Baptist and he was now afraid that John had come back to life. Herod had heard other people say that Jesus was like John, but some contradicted that saying that He was Elijah or one of the other prophets that had come back to life (Mt 14:1-2, Mk 16:14-15, Lk 9:7-8).

A short while before this, Herod had arrested John the Baptist and put him into prison. This was because John spoke out against Herod’s adulterous relationship with his brother’s wife. Herod didn’t want all the people hearing about how wrong his relationship was, so to shut John up, he threw him into jail. Herod was somewhat fearful of John and what the people might think, so he kept John alive. But Herodias, the adulterous wife of Herod, had a grudge against John and wanted him dead. Herod actually enjoyed listening to John speak and he knew that John was a true messenger from God, though He didn’t want to change His lifestyle and become a follower of God (Mt 14:3-5, Mk 16:16-20).

Herodias was looking for a chance to have John killed and that

opportunity finally came one day when the daughter of Herodias did a dance for Herod at his birthday feast. Exactly what type of dance this was is unclear, but whatever took place, it pleased Herod so much that He told her He would grant whatever request she asked of him. She went to her mother wanting to know what she should ask for and her mother told her to ask for the head of John the Baptist on a platter. This was not at all what Herod expected, but he did not want to look foolish in front of all of his guests, so he ordered that the beheading should take place. The act was immediately carried out and in a short while John’s head was given to the daughter who in turn gave it to her mother. Herodias received what she had been longing for because the one who had spoken against her evil was off the scene. When John’s disciples heard what had happened they came and took the body of John so they could give the body a proper burial (Mt 14:6-12, Mk 16:21-29).

How Does this Apply to Me?

Do you think that everything will go well for you if you obey God? Do you get discouraged when it seems that the more you do what is right the worse things get? John was doing what was right and he ended up losing his life. This should remind us that life is not about us, but about God. This life on earth is short, but eternity is forever. It is easy to get so bogged down with the desire for ease and pleasure that you miss out on the purpose of life. Though at times life may be tough, you can rest assured that God is using each one of those situations to draw you closer to Him and give you a greater vision and anticipation for your future home. Choose today not to let the trials and difficulties of this life cause you to doubt the goodness of God.

Suggestions for Prayer

- * *Thank God for the difficulties in your life.*
- * *Ask God to help you to trust Him through the hard times.*
- * *Praise God because He is in complete control of this world.*

Thought for the day

What did King Herod hear of (vs 14)? See verse 13

What were people saying about Jesus (vs 14-15)?

Why do you think people were saying this about Jesus?

What did Herod think (vs 16)? Why do you think he thought this?

What had Herod done to John (vs 17)? Why (vs 18)?

Who had a grudge against John (vs 18)?

Why did Herodias have a hard time enacting her desire to kill John (vs 19)?

Why did Herod fear John (vs 20)?

How did Herod respond when he had an opportunity to talk to John the Baptist (vs 20)?

Why do you think Herod enjoyed listening to John?

What did Herod do on his birthday (vs 21)?

What pleased Herod (vs 22)?

What promise did Herod make (vs 23)?

What did her mother encourage her to do (vs 24-25)?

How did Herod respond when she asked for this (vs 26)?

What did Herod order (vs 27)?

What did Herod give the girl (vs 28)?

What does this reveal about Roman society in those days?

What did John's disciples do (vs 29)? Why?

Memory Verses

1 John 1:1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— 2 the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4 And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. 5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.