SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

GROUP WORKSHEET · OBSERVE · INTERPRET · APPLY

John 20

My Lord and My God

NAME _____ DATE _____

KEY VERSE · JOHN 20:31 · NASB

"But these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name."

One Sunday from before dawn to evening, and one more Sunday a week later. An empty tomb, a weeping woman, a locked room, a man who refuses to believe, and the reason John wrote the whole book.

BEFORE YOU ANSWER

1. Read John 20 straight through, then a second time slowly with a pen.
2. Mark what you see: God · commands · repeated words · sin / warnings · promises · time / place.
3. Answer from the text first. Write the verse number beside every answer.

COUNT THE KEY WORDS

Find each word in John 20. Tally it and note the verses. What does John keep coming back to?

WORD	HOW MANY?	VERSES
Lord		
seen / saw / see		
believe / believed		
disciples		
tomb		
Peace		

JOHN 20:1–10 The Empty Tomb

1 OBSERVE

When did Mary Magdalene come, what did she see, and what did she tell Peter and John (20:1–2)?

2 OBSERVE

What did Peter see inside the tomb (20:6–7)? What did the other disciple do (20:8)?

3 INTERPRET

Why would the grave clothes convince John? What does 20:9 add?

JOHN 20:11–18 Mary

4 OBSERVE

Whom did Mary think Jesus was, and what made her recognize Him (20:15–16)?

5 INTERPRET

Guzik: "Jesus didn't reveal Himself to Mary by telling her who He was, but by telling her who she was to Him." Read 10:3. What promise comes true here?

6 OBSERVE

What does Jesus tell Mary to stop doing, where does He send her, and what does she announce (20:17–18)?

7 INTERPRET

Jesus says, "My Father and your Father, and My God and your God" (20:17), and calls the men who deserted Him "My brethren." What does that tell you?

8 APPLY

Jesus knows your name the way He knew Mary's. What difference does it make to be known, not just to know about Him?

JOHN 20:19–23 The Locked Room

9 OBSERVE

Why were the doors shut, and what did Jesus say and show when He came (20:19–20)?

10 OBSERVE

What did Jesus send them to do, and what did He do and say next (20:21–22)?

11 INTERPRET

The word "breathed" is the verb of Genesis 2:7. What is Jesus picturing? How does this relate to Acts 2?

12 INTERPRET

Read 20:23. Does the church forgive sins by its own power?

13 APPLY

Jesus said "Peace be with you" to men who had abandoned Him. Who needs to hear that peace from you, and where is He sending you (20:21)?

JOHN 20:24–29 Thomas

14 OBSERVE

Where was Thomas, and what did he say when the others told him (20:24–25)?

15 WEIGH THE TEACHERS

Guzik: "Thomas didn't doubt; he plainly and strongly refused to believe." Henry: "Those know not what they lose who carelessly absent themselves." Yet Henry also says, "Thomas is not Judas." What does Thomas' story teach about missing the gathering of believers?

16 OBSERVE

What did Jesus say to Thomas, and what did Thomas say (20:27–28)?

17 INTERPRET

Thomas' confession was "said to Him." Compare 1:1. Why does it matter that Jesus accepted it?

18 APPLY

Is your chair empty when the brothers gather? What is keeping you away?

JOHN 20:30–31 The Purpose

19 OBSERVE

Why did John write this book (20:31)?

20 WEIGH THE TEACHERS

Sproul on 20:29: "If you're a Christian, you're included in that benediction." What does "Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed" mean for you?

21 APPLY

John's purpose was belief and life. Looking back over the whole Gospel, which sign or saying has done the most to bring you to believe?

WORD STUDY The Greek behind the English

22 WORD *emphysaō* · G1720 · to breathe on

This word is used only in 20:22. Read Genesis 2:7 and Ezekiel 37:9. What is the risen Jesus doing?

23 WORD *kyrios* · G2962 · Lord

Mary says, "I have seen the Lord" (20:18); Thomas says "My Lord and my God" (20:28). What does "Lord" mean on Easter?

PUT IT TOGETHER The chapter as a whole

The theme. In one or two sentences of your own, what is John 20 about?

Jesus. What does this chapter show you about who Jesus is that you want to remember?

This week. What one thing will you do because of this chapter, and which brother will you tell?

Around the table. Prayer requests and what the other men saw that you missed.