

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School—an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing a series of studies on Themes in the Gospel of John. Today's topic: EPILOGUE: JOHN'S CLOSING TESTIMONY

1) The restoration of Peter as one of the Twelve

- a. John 21:1-14, 15-17 What lessons can we learn about Jesus from the restoration of Peter?
- b. How is the leadership of Peter in the early Christian church evidence of the immeasurable, unfailing love of God? (Galatians 1:18-19)
- c. What lessons did Peter learn through his journey of failure and restoration? 1 Peter 1:3-5, 2 Peter 3:17-18, etc.
- d. What lessons did Peter still have to learn? Galatians 2:11-13, etc.
- e. Share some examples of Peter's leadership as one of the Twelve. (Acts 2:14,36-41, 15:6-11, etc.)
- f. What prophecy did Jesus give regarding Peter's future? John 21:18-19
- g. What counsel did Jesus give to Peter in response to his question about John? John 21:20-21
- h. Why is it important to focus on Jesus rather than focus on people, even dedicated Christian leaders?
- i. What lessons can we learn from Peter's experience for our lives today?

2) John's closing testimony

- a. What rumor started about John and how did John dispel that rumor? John 21:22-23
- b. How did John identify himself at the conclusion of his Gospel record and what was his testimony? John 21:24-25

- c. Why do you think John doesn't mention his name as the author of his Gospel?
- d. How does the testimony of the apostle John in his first letter confirm his testimony in his Gospel account? 1 John 1:1-6

3) John's prayer for us

- a. What was John's prayer for all who read his Gospel account? John 20:30-31
- b. What does it mean to "believe that Jesus is the Christ"?
- c. How does the story of Philip and the Ethiopian official help us to understand what it means to believe that Jesus is the Christ? Acts 8:35-39
- d. Share another story from the New Testament of someone whose life was transformed when he/she believed with all their heart that Jesus is the Christ.
- e. Why is baptism an important outward confession of our belief in Jesus as our Savior? Mark 16:16
- f. When did you decide to be baptized as a confession of your faith in Jesus as your Savior?
- g. What is the best way to help others learn the truth that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God?

