

A black and white photograph of a prison cell block. The cells are arranged in a long row, each with a metal bed frame. The walls and ceiling are made of concrete and show signs of wear. A white graphic overlay is centered across the middle of the image. It features the words "DEATH" and "ROW" in a large, stylized, distressed font. A white ECG line runs horizontally through the text. The word "DEATH" is on the left, and "ROW" is on the right. The letter 'O' in "ROW" contains a small, circular image of a person's face.

DEATH ROW

JOHN 18-21



John 18:1-27

1. Have you ever been betrayed by a close friend? Without mentioning names – explain *how it felt* to be betrayed. If you've never been betrayed try and imagine what it would be like.
2. Which close friend(s) of Jesus have betrayed or disowned him? How might Jesus be feeling?
3. Who appears to be in control of the events of Jesus arrest? (v 1-11).
4. Verse 4 says that Jesus knew ALL that was going to happen to him. Look back through John and list the things that Jesus predicted would happen to him.

John 6:7

John 8:28

John 8:44

John 10:14-18

John 11:25-26

John 13:38

John 14:1-4

John 17:1

5. Jesus has already hammered Peter once for opposing his death (Mark 8:31-33). How has Peter again misunderstood Jesus plan (v 11)?

6. How can we fall into the same trap as Peter? How can you ensure you're *help* and not a *hindrance* in God's plan?


7. What is 'the cup' that Jesus refers to? (c.f. Isaiah 51:17-20)

8. As Jesus tells the truth to the officials Peter is lying to the servants. How has Peter's attitude changed from that earlier in John (look up John 13:36-38)? (18:17, 25, 27)

9. Have you ever disowned Jesus like Peter? What made you do it? What do you think is at the root of being ashamed of Jesus? How can you put that off? Does Peter's story *encourage* or *humble* you?

10. Would you describe Jesus as *courageous* or *cowardly* as he turns his face towards the cross? (18:4-8, 11, 20-23). Why is Jesus like this?

11. How have Jesus words in John 10:14-18 rung true here in chapter 18? Why did Jesus so willingly lay down his life? (John 17:1) Have you accepted his death for you?



John 18:28-19:15

1. What kind of control does a King have? Think of some movies/ stories and give examples.
2. What do you notice that is suss about the trial of Jesus. (*Think about what might normally happen in a court case. Think back to last week study also.*)
3. What is significant about the timing of Jesus trial and crucifixion? (18:28 c.f. 1:29 & Exodus 12:1-14)
4. Jesus has a no-nonsense chat with Pilate. What things does Jesus reveal about himself to Pilate? (18:33-38a)
5. How is Barabbas an illustration of the gospel message? How are you like him?



John 19:16-42

1. When have you ever made a substitute in your life (swapped one thing for another thing)?
2. How have the prophecies of the following verses been fulfilled in John 19? How do these predictions give cred to Jesus claims to be the Messiah?

Psalm 22:16-18 (19:24)

Psalm 69:21 (19:28-29)

Exodus 12:46, Numbers 9:12 (clue Q3 from last week) (19:36)

3. What was 'completed' and 'finished' on the cross (v 28, 30)? (c.f. John 4:34, 17:4).
4. If the work that Jesus came to do was completed & finished on the cross what does that mean for:
 - a. Your salvation?
 - b. Your hope & assurance?



THE HOLY SPIRIT IN JOHN

Just before Jesus begins his **DEATH-ROW**, turning his face towards the cross, he shares the last supper meal with his disciples (John 14-17). This is known as the 'Upper room discourse'. During this time Jesus teaches his disciples about the Holy Spirit (amongst other things!).

1. Read the following chunks from John and note down everything you learn about the Holy Spirit:

John 14:16-31

John 16:5-16

2. How was the gift of the Spirit a comfort to the disciples then, and to you now?



John 20:1-23

1. What was something you've never seen but someone else told you about it so you believe? What made you believe what they told you?
2. Why is it significant that women are the first eye-witnesses to the resurrection?
3. What is Mary's first response to Jesus command to go and tell (20:17-18)? How is this similar to the disciples in Acts and to us?
4. When John (*the disciple Jesus loved/ the other disciple*) saw and believed (20:8). What did he see and what did he believe? How does this give cred to John's book?
5. Many people object to the resurrection (even some people who call themselves Christian). What does Christianity lose if Jesus has not been raised from the dead? (c.f. 1 Corinthians 15:12-19, Romans 4:25)



John 20:24-31

1. *"Seeing is believing."* Do you think this statement is true?
2. Would you describe Thomas as a sceptic, atheist, doubter, faithless or something else? Why?
3. Do you think Thomas has a reasonable objection to the disciple's news of the resurrection? Is it okay for a Christian to experience doubt?
4. How does Jesus deal with Thomas? (20:27)
5. What does it mean to have Jesus as LORD & GOD (v. 28)? Is Jesus YOUR Lord & God?



John 21

1. What is the most memorable breakfast you have ever had? What was the most memorable walk on the beach you've ever had? What made it memorable? How memorable do you think these were for Peter in John 21?
2. How many times does Jesus ask Peter if he loves him? Why is this important (18:25-27)? What happened last time Peter stood in front of a fire?
3. If Jesus is gracious in forgiving Peter, do you think he's gracious to forgive you? Have you fallen and need to come back to Jesus? What scars from the past do you need to hand over to Jesus, letting him transform you?
4. What do you notice about the risen (& transformed) Jesus in this chapter? (esp. 21:12-14)
5. What are the "these" that Jesus is talking about (v 15)?

6. What job is Jesus giving Peter to do (John 10:14-18 c.f. 20:21-22)? How has Peter understood his role (1 Peter 5:1-4)? How does Jesus-like leadership (shepherding) play out?

7. How will Peter's life and death mimic that of Jesus? (21:18-19). How can you do the same?

8. Jesus calls Peter to follow him; to be his under-shepherd, leader of the apostles; leader in the early church and die a martyr's death. Peter then wonders what it will look like for John to follow Jesus.

How often we can wish we were someone else in God's plan? How can you focus on following Jesus in the way he has called you to follow him and not wishing someone else or somewhere else?

9. If Jesus asked you "do you love me?" how would you answer? Do you think your actions would back your words?

PRAYER POINTS