

June Youth Bible Study Synopsis

Topic: John 21:15-17 Place: Sanju & Jibi's residence (NJ) Date: Friday, June 17, 2005 Time: 7:00pm

The June Youth Bible study was held on Friday, June 17, 2005, at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas S. Cherian. The passage chosen for the Bible study was taken from John 21:15-17. The Bible study started at 8:06pm. 12 youth members were present as well as Mr. Cherian Thomas. Jimmy Samuel, Reena Abraham, Vinu Abraham, Sheena Abraham, and Divya Jacob from Rockland CSI were also present bringing the total attendance to 18.

We started by singing sang 8 songs before proceeding to the Bible study. Justin welcomed all those present at the Bible study and Juby Mathew began. Juby had prepared for John 20:15-17 and began by stating that Mary Magdalene represented the lost in search for Jesus. She is lost without the presence of Jesus. In John 20:17, Jesus says touch me not and declares to Mary that he is here and that he has defeated death.

Mr. Cherian Thomas went next by passing out an index card and having each participant write what they love/cherish most right now in their life. He started by looking at John 21:15-17 and indicated that Jesus is talking to Peter and asking Peter if he loved Jesus. This passage has three significant points:

- 1) Honor the Lord (just like Mary honored Jesus in John 20:15-17)
- 2) Serve the Lord sincerely
- 3) Serve the Lord faithfully

Jesus repeatedly asks Peter, "Do you love?" and we see that God used Peter (see Matthew 4:18-20: Jesus saw Peter and Andrew and called them to be fishers of men). Jesus promoted Peter to "Fisher of men" and now wanted Peter to catch men instead of fish.

In Matthew 8:14-15 we find ourselves in Peter's house and his mother in law is sick. Jesus touched her hand and she arose and served them. This verse shows the power and love of Jesus. In Matthew 14:27-31, Peter walked on water to see Jesus and cries out to save him. Peter looked the other way and was sinking and cries out to Jesus to save him. (We see Peter's faith in these verses.)

Jesus was always with Peter. In Matthew 16:13-18 we find Peter's confession. Jesus wanted to know what people were saying about him. He asks the disciples and Peter says "You are the Christ, the son of the living God." And in the following verses, we find Jesus saying "...and on this rock I will build My church..."

In Matthew 17:4, Jesus is seen taking the disciples to a high mountain and the Holy Spirit was upon them. Peter wanted to make three tabernacles on the mountain. In Mathew 26:31-35, we find Peter saying that he will never deny Jesus. Peter is quoted as saying "I will die for you and not to worry." Jesus replies by saying "...You will deny me three times". Two other people ask Peter and he also denies he knows Jesus.

Finally, we must remember that Jesus loves each one of us and wants us to be fishers of men just like Peter. In Acts 2:41, 47 we find 3,000 people baptized and this is how the Lord added to the church. The first church started here in Acts when Peter spoke the word of God. In Acts 4:8, 10-Peter is talking in front of everyone (He is seen as a leader and we feel Jesus is with him when he talks).

Mr. Cherian Thomas concluded by repeating the three main points we should remember.

- 1) Honor the Lord
- 2) Sincerely serve the Lord
- 3) Faithfully serve the Lord

He then concluded the "index card game" by asking each participant to write down what they love/cherish most in their life now. Afterwards, each participant went around and shared what they loved before in life the most and what they love now in life.

We then proceeded to the prayer requests as Justin asked for prayer requests and three people prayed with Mr. Cherian Thomas saying the concluding prayer. The prayer requests were:

- Mr. Cherian Thomas: Pray for all pastors who have served our congregations in the past
- Reena: Pray for all the soldiers who are serving overseas especially to Robin Samuel of the CSI Christ Church Rockland
- Ajo: Pray for all the high school seniors who are graduating especially to Sajith & Maya.
- Reena: Pray for the conference and the organizers and leaders.
- Ajo: Pray for HV's church picnic and Family Retreat
- Justin: Pray that HV gets an Achen soon
- Mr. Cherian Thomas: Pray for our parents and grandparents here and back home in India.

The Bible study ended at 9:20pm. Afterwards, Justin thanked all those who came and to Juby and Mr. Cherian Thomas for leading the Bible study. Dinner was served by the host family.

For his Glory,

Justin Cherian
Youth Secretary