

# The Hour Has Come.

Conversations  
leading up to  
the cross



## **Digging Deep 2021-2022 Men's Bible Study Guide** **By Westley Hazel and Caleb Colley**

Quarter Two (December through February)

- December: A Conversation about Betrayal (John 13:18-38)
- January: A Conversation about Heaven (John 14:1-6)
- February: A Conversation about the Holy Spirit (John 14:16-31)

## Instructions for using this material:

1. The Digging Deep study material is designed to facilitate in-depth group Bible study, and not to merely dispense information from “teacher” to “student.” As you go through the study, you will want to have separate paper or a computer on which to record your thoughts. (For your own flexibility, we do not leave space in this document for your answers to discussion-oriented questions.)
2. All the instructions and materials for participating in Digging Deep are posted at [www.calebcolley.com/diggingdeep](http://www.calebcolley.com/diggingdeep).
3. There are many tools that will help in digging, such as Bible encyclopedias, Greek and Hebrew lexical books, commentaries, etc. Many are available for free on-line (A list is posted at [calebcolley.com/diggindeep](http://calebcolley.com/diggindeep). If you need help accessing such materials, ask others in your group or ask Westley or Caleb.
4. The Facebook group is an interactive portion of the study. Find it at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1564776240335067/> (or search “Digging Deep Men’s Bible Study” on Facebook). If you don’t have Facebook, you can still contribute to the discussion by emailing your comments to [calebcolley@gmail.com](mailto:calebcolley@gmail.com) or [whazel@forrestpark.org](mailto:whazel@forrestpark.org).
5. As we go through the study together, please provide questions and comments to the nationwide study group on Facebook. It will be great to have an ongoing discussion about the material.
6. A monthly video podcast will be posted on the Facebook page and on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC8CpAr8ic6DTYq0-MeyVPQ> (or search “Digging Deep Men’s Bible Study” on YouTube).
7. Glenn Colley will assist us by preaching a sermon each month on the topic for that month’s Digging Deep study. The sermons will be posted at [calebcolley.com/diggingdeep](http://calebcolley.com/diggingdeep).

## Special Note

The Digging Deep study is based on the idea of the Digging Deep study for women, written and led by Cindy Colley. Inspiration and ideas for the men’s Digging Deep guide are taken from the 2021-2022 women’s study, *The Hour Has Come*. For more information concerning the women’s study, please visit The “Digging Deep in God’s

Word” Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/282349391779769>) or <https://thecolleyhouse.org/category/digging-deep-bible-study>.

# Introduction and Study Plan

The 2021-2022 study deals with conversations Jesus had with various persons (primarily His disciples) during the last week of His life. The conversations all come from the gospel of John and are punctuated with the phrase “the hour has come” (John 12:23; 17:1). In this year’s corresponding Digging Deep Study for women, Cindy Colley writes these helpful words:

“I’m so thankful for the words of my Lord on these two monumental, but private days, prior to His arrest. Friday was coming. The earth was about to shake, the sky was about to darken at noon, the dead in this city to come forth from tombs, the veil of the temple to be rent, and one important sepulcher to be briefly inhabited before the eternal victory of the resurrection. But for now, let’s examine the quiet moments before the cross and the purposeful words just hours before that most remarkable event of all human events, past and future—the words of *the* Word ( John 1:1) when His hour had come.”<sup>1</sup>

Each study will be not just a historical discussion about what Jesus said and did during his final days prior to the crucifixion, but also a practical discussion about how we can grow to be more like Him. During His last week prior to death, as always, Jesus was leaving us an example, that we should follow in His steps (1 Peter 2:21-25).

- **September: A Conversation about Purpose** (John 12:23-26)
- **October: A Conversation about Divine Unity** (John 12:44-50; 14:7-15)
- **November: A Conversation about Service** (John 13:1-17)
- **December: A Conversation about Betrayal** (John 13:18-38)
- **January: A Conversation about Heaven** (John 14:1-6)
- **February: A Conversation about the Holy Spirit** (John 14:16-31)
- **March: A Conversation about Fruit** (John 15:1-8)
- **April: A Conversation about Love** (John 15:9-17)
- **May: A Conversation about Persecution** (John 15:18-16:4)
- **June: A Conversation about Sorrow** (John 16:5-33)
- **July: A Conversation about Glorification** (John 17)
- **August: Final words from the Cross** (Various passages from Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 23; John 19)

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<sup>1</sup> ii.



## Month Four: A Conversation about Betrayal (John 13:18-38)

### Introduction:

- A. Examine the context. Read John 13 and John 19, keeping in mind that everything in this month's section of John is leading up to Jesus' crucifixion in chapter 19. Jesus is preparing his disciples for this climatic event that was coming. In chapter 13 Jesus has gathered his disciples together for a meal. He wanted them to be prepared for what was about to happen to Him and how to carry on after His departure. As an object lesson in humility, He washed the disciples' feet. The disciples did not understand that the humility of Jesus ran deeper than they could possibly have comprehended, as He washed the feet of the one whom He knew would betray him—Judas Iscariot.
- B. What prophetic Scripture is Jesus referencing in John 13:18? What was the original context in which this prophecy was given?
- C. Think introspectively about how betrayal works, including the temptation to betray and the consequences of betrayal:
  1. Have you ever betrayed someone? What was their response to your actions?
  2. Have you ever been betrayed? What are the fleshly responses to betrayal that may have seemed appealing?
  3. Find at least two other examples in the Bible of people who were betrayed. What do we observe from the nature of the betrayals, and how the Bible character responded?
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_

### I. Why did Judas betray Jesus?

- A. Did Jesus make a bad choice in selecting Judas? Write a two-paragraph answer to this question, taking into account the following questions and passages:
  1. What was the process that Jesus used to select Judas the rest of the 12? Consider Luke 6:12-16.
  2. Was Judas a traitor when he was chosen? Consider Luke 6:16.
  3. Did Jesus want Judas to betray him? Consider James 1:13.
- B. Judas' Love of Money.

1. Read the account of Mary Anointing Jesus feet in John 12:1-8. Before Judas betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver, what was he doing with the money box?
  - a) Using a Bible encyclopedia or commentary, give an approximation of the value of the perfume Mary poured out? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Sometimes the greatest boasts of stewardship or fiscal responsibility are disguises for greed. How did the following individuals use stewardship to disguise their greed? As you answer, do self-examination: Do we ever ask questions to make us look like conscientious stewards when in fact we are just looking for a reason to not have to give more?
  - a) Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-11) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) Felix (Acts 26) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Some have suggested that Judas' final betrayal came as the result of his understanding that the Kingdom of Jesus would not be of this world and that there would be no financial gain to come from following Jesus.

C. Judas' failure to apply Jesus' teachings to his own life.

1. Often people blame others for their actions. Judas had the privilege of sitting at the feet of Jesus Himself. Discuss what it would have been like to hear the following messages of Jesus and why it is important for us to internalize these truths. Give two more teachings that Judas should have internalized.
  - a) Matthew 16:26
  - b) Matthew 19:23
  - c) Luke 12:15
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_
  - e) \_\_\_\_\_

D. Judas' failure to listen to Jesus' direct warnings.

1. Judas had direct warnings and multiple opportunities to turn away from his betrayal but did not heed the warnings. Make your own timeline of Jesus' direct warnings, using the following passages: John 6:70; 13:18-27; Luke 22:47-48.

2. Now, note a passage that gives people living today a direct warning against betraying the Lord.
3. Now, note a passage the gives people living today a direct warning against betraying brethren.

E. Judas had freedom of choice.

1. Using a commentary, article, or Bible encyclopedia, find three passages in which Judas' prophecy was foretold.
2. What do each of these verses teach about the sovereignty (authority or right to determine what will occur) of God? Answer in one sentence.
  - a) Ephesians 1:11
  - b) Isaiah 45:6-7
  - c) Amos 3:6
3. What do each of these passages teach about man's freedom to obey or reject God. Answer in one sentence.
  - a) Joshua 24:15
  - b) John 3:16
  - c) Romans 10:13
4. Sometimes people debate about whether Judas had any real choice in his betrayal. Was he merely God's puppet, or was he responsible for the choice he made to betray Jesus? Write a one-page answer, taking into account the following points.
  - a) Did Jesus hold Judas accountable for his betrayal? Consider Acts 1:25.
  - b) Give three examples of individuals or nations that God used to accomplish His purposes, while still holding them accountable for their actions.
    - (1) \_\_\_\_\_
    - (2) \_\_\_\_\_
    - (3) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) Give a one-to-two sentence answer to each question:
    - (1) What is Calvinism? (What does it teach about God's absolute sovereignty?)

- (2) What is Arminianism?
- (3) How have these two theologies interpreted what the Bible says about human freedom?
- d) Give a passage in which God speaks about future events as if they are in the past.
- e) Can God be totally sovereign (i.e., having all authority and power to directly cause all events) without *exercising* His total sovereignty absolutely? In other words, can He be totally sovereign without while allowing man to follow or reject Him? Illustrate your answer by discussing a situation in which you knew what was going to happen, although you did not cause what was going to happen.

## **II. What was the result of Judas' betrayal? (John 13:17-30)**

- A. What blessings did Judas miss out on as a result of his betrayal? Make a list, using John 13:17-19; Acts 1:25; Matthew 19:28.
- B. Jesus experienced the impact of sin in the lives of those closest to Him. How did He react? How should we react?

## **III. Take Heed Lest You Fall (John 13:37-38).**

- A. It is easy to see Judas as the villain in this text. Yet we must acknowledge that the sins that tempted Judas may well tempt us. Broadly speaking, the temptation to turn away from Jesus is common to man. Write a two-sentence response to each of these questions.
  - 1. Peter was confident in his own dedication (John 13:37). What happened? Read Luke 22:54-62.
  - 2. How is Jesus' warning to Peter about betrayal (John 13:38) similar to Jesus' warning to Judas?
  - 3. How is Peter's response to his betrayal different from Judas' response? Contrast Matthew 27:1-5 and John 21:15-17, and consider what Paul says about godly sorrow in 2 Corinthians 7:10.

## **IV. Jesus as Our Example in Responding to Betrayal.**

- A. Find a passage in John 13 where Jesus exemplified each of the following points:
  - 1. We must stay faithful to our mission even when others disappoint.  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. We must continue to love and serve our enemies. \_\_\_\_\_

3. We must continue to offer opportunities for people to turn from their ways.

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4. We must acknowledge that we cannot control others actions.

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**Conclusion: Practical application.**

- A. Jesus and His apostles taught a good deal about handling enemies and the suffering they cause. Jesus' reaction to persecution at the hands of Judas and others is an example of righteous suffering and must be emulated in believers' lives today (1 Peter 2:19-21). Make a sermon or Bible class outline based on three passages in which Jesus or another inspired speaker/writer taught about how to handle persecution.
  1. If you need help getting started, revisit the Digging Deep study from month 3 of the 2019-2020 study (on the Sermon on the Mount). In that month's study we discussed love for enemies.
- B. Consider sharing your outline with the Digging Deep Facebook group, if you are a member of the group.

## Month Five: A Conversation about Heaven (John 14:1-6)

### Introduction:

- A. Read John 13 and 14.
- B. Examine the context. What had Jesus just discussed with the disciples (in chapter 13) that might have seemed discouraging? What items in our lives typically discourage us? In what ways are they similar to the factors that discouraged the disciples?

### I. Do not let your heart be troubled (John 14:1a).

- A. Jesus commands that His disciples not let their hearts be troubled (He does so again in John 14:27). Is there a degree to which we have control over our emotions? Find at least three other passages in which God's people are commanded to feel a certain way(s).
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Jesus commanded in the Sermon on the Mount that His disciples not be anxious (Matthew 6:25). Clearly, there is an anxiety that results from a chemical imbalance and not from sinful thinking. And yet Jesus was condemning some sinful attitudes. Revisit the 2019-2020 Digging Deep study on the Sermon on the Mount, and find the section in the study for March (month 7) where we discussed this passage. What do you learn about the Christian obligation to regulate the emotions?
- C. What passages from the teachings of Jesus are especially helpful in keeping our hearts from being troubled? What principles does Jesus bring up elsewhere? Write a page summarizing your results. Compare notes with your Digging Deep study group if you participate in one.

### II. Believe in God, believe also in Me (John 14:1b).

- A. Those who believe in the God of the Old Testament should believe in Jesus. Listen to the lesson here (<https://apologeticspress.org/video/the-predicted-messiah-audio-3610/>) or read the article here (<https://apologeticspress.org/the-predicted-messiah-1734/>) and write a paragraph summarizing the Old Testament prediction of the coming Messiah.
- B. What evidence did Jesus provide, while He was on Earth, that He was the expected Messiah? To answer this question, limit your reflection to just the Gospel of John. Remembering that John's stated purpose in recording the miracles of Jesus was to motivate belief in Him (John 20:30-31), make a list of Jesus' works that should have led his hearers to believe in Him just as they believed in the Father.

- C. If you missed any of last month's lesson on divine unity, review that, keeping in mind Jesus' command that people believe both in the Father and in the Son (and the discussion of the Spirit is shortly to come).

### III. Our dwelling places with the Father, prepared by the Son (John 14:2-3).

- A. The disciples would suffer through a temporary separation from the Son, but they would be reunited with the Son in the presence of the Father (14:6). What other passages in the Bible teach that God's people will enter His immediate presence in heaven? Find at least three, consulting a Bible encyclopedia or commentary if necessary.
- B. The reason why our hearts need not be troubled in the face of temporary personal separation from Jesus, and in the face of our own mortality, is because of the dwelling places in heaven we can inherit. The Bible provides a good deal of information about heaven.

1. Review 1 Peter 1:3-9 and Revelation 21:1-9, making a list of things that *will not* be in heaven:

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Review 1 Peter 1:3-9 and Revelation 21:1-9, making a list of things that *will* be in heaven.

- a) \_\_\_\_\_
- b) \_\_\_\_\_
- c) \_\_\_\_\_
- d) \_\_\_\_\_
- e) \_\_\_\_\_
- f) \_\_\_\_\_

- C. What does this passage imply about the doctrine of reincarnation (the resumption of flesh in a subsequent lifetime on Earth after our present life)? Is that doctrine possibly true, given what this passage teaches? What does the Bible teach in the following passages about the number of lifetimes each person may have?

1. Ecclesiastes 3:22 and 9:6. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Ecclesiastes 12:7. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Hebrews 9:27. \_\_\_\_\_

- D. Were Jews living in Jesus' day, conditioned by the Old Testament and their experience with Jesus, in a position to know about and accept the possibility of going to live with God after this life is over? What passages might they have read concerning this topic? Answer this question by summarizing what each of the following passages teaches concerning the afterlife:

1. Genesis 15:15

2. Genesis 25:8

3. Genesis 37:35

4. Judges 2:10

5. 2 Samuel 12:23

6. Daniel 12:1-2

7. Psalms 73:25

8. Matthew 8:11

9. Matthew 17:1-7

10. Luke 16:19-31

- E. Some today are suggesting that heaven is not a location separate from Earth, but is rather just a state of mind, or will be a rejuvenated Earth. What does Jesus imply in our text (John 14:1-6) about such theories? Listen to the lesson here (<https://youtu.be/83h31L0Bn0Q>) and make some additional notes showing why heaven will be a separate location.

#### **IV. Jesus is the exclusive way to the Father (John 14:4-6).**

- A. Christianity is an exclusive, not pluralistic, religion. A pluralistic religion admits that many religions may be right. Christianity is opposed to this principle. Write a sermon or Bible class lesson on the exclusivity of Christianity. In your lesson, be sure to include the following:
1. Cite at least 10 passages that teach this principle explicitly or by implication. (For example, in Acts 4:10-12, Peter taught that there is only one name—the name of Jesus Christ—by which people must be saved.)
  2. Explain why pluralism might seem attractive. Read a few articles on-line in which people espouse pluralism or criticize the exclusivism of Christianity, and summarize why they take the position they do.





7:7-11). Resolve to thank God daily, for at least the next month, because He has provided all the security we really need.

## Month Six: A Conversation about the Holy Spirit (John 14:16-31)

### Introduction:

- A. Examine the context. Read John 12-14. Everything in this section of John is leading up to Jesus' crucifixion in chapter 19. Jesus is preparing his disciples for this climatic event that was coming. He has informed His disciples that he will die in Jerusalem (John 12), washed the disciples' feet as a reminder to serve others (John 13), foretold the betrayal of both Judas and Peter (John 13), and attempted to comfort his disciples by reminding them of the place He is preparing for them (John 14). In this section of scripture, Jesus is attempting to encourage His disciples by reminding them that they will not be left alone in the work when He departs from this world.
1. Consider the role that the fear of being left alone had in the lives of these men of faith and how God encouraged them. Write a two-sentence description of the fear experienced by each biblical hero.
    - a. Elijah (1 Kings 19:14-18)
    - b. The 12 apostles (Matthew 8:23-27)
    - c. Peter (Matthew 14:22-30)
    - d. Paul (Acts 18:9-10)
  2. Find five passages where God reassures His children that they are not alone.
    - a. \_\_\_\_\_
    - b. \_\_\_\_\_
    - c. \_\_\_\_\_
    - d. \_\_\_\_\_
    - e. \_\_\_\_\_
- B. In this section Jesus reassures his disciples by telling them specifically about the role that the Holy Spirit would play in helping them after His departure.

### I. Who is the Helper coming after Jesus?

- A. Who is He, according to John 14:17?
- B. Who is He, according to John 14:26?
- C. The subject of the Holy Spirit tends to be a controversial subject. Obviously, that is not the intention of this passage. The passage is designed to help and comfort the disciples.

Much confusion comes from the interjections and speculations of men. The student would do well to remember that everything we know about the Holy Spirit we know by faith. That means, we know it because God has revealed it to us through His Word (Romans 10:17). When individuals begin to depart from this revelation and speculate, they create a subjective religion that loses the ability to convict or comfort. Listen to the lesson here ([www.youtube.com/watch?v=U424ywd9gCU&t=283s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U424ywd9gCU&t=283s)) and make a list of at least eight facts about the Holy Spirit taught in the Bible.

- D. Just a portion of what the New Testament teaches about the Holy Spirit is addressed in this text or this study. For a wider treatment of this subject, you might find the following article helpful: <https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/1545-what-do-you-know-about-the-holy-spirit>

## **II. What did Jesus say the Holy Spirit would do?**

- A. Write a two-paragraph summary, answering the following questions:
1. What would He do, according to John 14:26?
  2. What would He do, according to John 15:26-27?
  3. What would He do, according to John 16:13?
  4. Thinking practically, and giving at least three examples from the apostles' ministry, how would each of these works of the Spirit help the disciples in their ministry?

## **III. What is the relationship between the Holy Spirit and keeping the commandments of God?**

- A. The Spirit's help is contingent on a person's willingness to keep God's commandments (John 14:15, 23). The application of the truth revealed by the Spirit will allow us to keep His Words (John 14:23-27).
- B. Why can the world not receive the Holy Spirit? John 14:17 provides the basic answer, but the larger context of Scripture adds to our understanding. Briefly answer the following questions:
1. Contrast the difference in a "natural man" and a "spiritual man," i.e., one who does the will of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 1:12-16).
  2. Find two verses of scripture that speak to the role that each of these actions can have in being a spiritual man who can receive the things of God. Add any additional biblical tools for being more spiritual that come to mind.
    - a) Bible Reading

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

b) Prayer

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

c) Meditation

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

d) Service

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

e) Worship

(1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_

3. According to John 14:20-21, obedience to the Truth revealed by Jesus and the Spirit is evidence of what crucial relationship?

#### **IV. The Spirit's role in the work of the apostles, in fulfillment of John 14.**

A. Read Acts 1-2, and briefly answer the following questions.

1. After Jesus' ascension, for what were the disciples to wait in Jerusalem? Also consider Luke 24:49.
2. What was going to be the result of the Holy Spirit's coming?
3. To what did Peter contribute the events taking place and the message going forth in Acts 2? Consider also Joel 2:28-32.

B. Read Acts 10-11, and briefly answer the following questions.

1. How did Peter come to understand the truth that Gentiles could be baptized into the Kingdom?

2. The events of Acts 2 and Acts 10 seem to be unique manifestations of the Holy Spirit. Its uniqueness is even pointed out by Peter in his defense (Acts 11:15). Why was the presence of the Holy Spirit in such a demonstratable way essential during these moments? Consider especially Acts 11:1-3.

C. Read 1 Corinthians 1:1-4, 10-13, and briefly answer the following questions.

1. How does Paul connect Spirit-inspired message to God the Father and God the Son?
2. Review the entire letter of 1 Corinthians and identify any five live problems/controversies that Paul addresses decisively, based on the authority of the Holy Spirit.
  - a) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) \_\_\_\_\_
  - d) \_\_\_\_\_
  - e) \_\_\_\_\_
3. How would the revelation of the Holy Spirit be a comfort or help in addressing some of these controversial issues? How can it help you today as a preacher/teacher to understand the source of your material?

D. Read 2 Peter 1:21, and briefly answer the following questions.

1. What is the source of all prophecy and scripture?
2. Just as the Disciples were comforted by the Spirit who has coming after Jesus to guide them unto all truth as they testified about Jesus, believers today should take great comfort in the fact that we are not alone. As we go forth sharing that same testimony of God, we do so with confidence that the words are not really our own but the words of God. (1 Thessalonians 2:13) May we strive to obey those truths revealed by the Holy Spirit.

### **Conclusion: Practical application.**

- A. Many religions today base their teachings on continuing, present-day prophecy, and ascribe this alleged prophecy to revelation given by the Holy Spirit. Read the article here (<https://apologeticspress.org/modern-day-miracles-tongue-speaking-and-holy-spirit-baptism-a-refutation-extended-version-1399/>), and make your own list of reasons (with Scripture references) why the doctrine that the Spirit continues to reveal the mind of God is false. File this document away for future use when studying with someone who believes in contemporary miracles such as prophecy.

- B. In one sentence, what two basic things should we do in response to those who claim to speak by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit things that are in addition to or contrary to the written Word? Consider 1 John 4:1; Galatians 1:6-10.