

Questions to Consider—With the Master in the Upper Room—Lesson 20—John 16:16-24—Sorrow Turned to Joy!

1. (a) What did Jesus say to the disciples in John 16 that may have caused them sorrow, and what joy can be found in each one? (b) What does Christ mean when He says in verse 20 that their sorrow would be turned into joy?

2. Memorize John 16:22.

3. (a) In John 16:16-18 it is clear that the disciples did not understand what Jesus was trying to say to them. Look up the following passages to see what else the disciples had difficulty understanding. John 12:12-16; John 14:5; John 14:22; Mark 9:9, 10; Luke 9:44, 45; Luke 18:31-34. (b) What lessons do you learn for your own life from these passages?

4. (a) What does Psalm 139 tell you about God's omniscience? (b) How does this correlate with John 16:19? (c) Why do we try to hide things from God when He sees all and knows all? (d) Analyze your thoughts and prayers this week. Are you honest with God in your thoughts and prayers, or do you try to hide from Him?

5. (a) Choose someone from the Scriptures who had sorrow and yet their sorrow was turned into joy. What can you learn from their example about sorrow being turned to joy? (b) How does this give you hope?

6. (a) What illustration does Jesus use in John 16:21 to explain to the disciples that their sorrow would be turned into joy? (b) Why do you think Christ uses this particular illustration?

7. (a) What are you currently sorrowing over? (b) How do you see God using this current sorrow in your life? (c) What joy do you see in the sorrow?

8. Is your heart sorrowful over anything? Write your need in the form of a prayer request.