

Twelve Ordinary Men
How the Master Shaped His Disciples for Greatness and What He wants to Do With
You

Chapter 5- John The Apostle of Love- A Study In Transformation- John 13:23, Mark 9:1-41, Ephesians 4:13-15

Lesson Prepared By: Pastor Artee Williams

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I. Introduction

The Characteristics of John- Identify at least 18 characteristics of John described on pages 95-100.

II. Outline of Chapter 5

A. John learned the balance of love and truth-Review pages 100-108

1. John loved the truth, he used the Greek word for truth 25 times in his Gospel and 20 more times in his epistles.
2. Sometimes John's zeal for truth was lacking in love.
3. Explain John 9:38, does the lack of love cripple the power of truth ,see page 106?
4. In John's second epistle he balances the twin virtues of truth and love- give some examples from the second epistle of John.

B. John learned the balance of ambition and humility-Review pages 108-111

1. What does Mark 10: 31-45 teach regarding the balance of ambition and humility?
2. Why did John never mention his name in his Gospel ?

C. John learned the balance of suffering and glory- Review pages 111-117

1. Why is suffering the price of glory ? -Romans 8:17
2. Why is suffering the prelude to glory?- I Peter 1: 6-7

III. Questions and review- Chapter 5

1. The young John is remarkably different from the one we meet at the end of our Bible. He is truly an example of what happens when believers grow in Christ and allow His strength to be made perfect in their weaknesses. What qualities do you ordinarily associate with someone who is spiritually mature ?

2. What qualities of children do you think Jesus had in mind when He called the Twelve (and John in particular) to become more like them ?

3. Love was the critical element of John's teaching, what does that say about John ?

4. What does this statement say about John - The Lord knew that the most powerful advocate of love needed to be a man who never compromised the truth.

5. John mentions love more than any other New Testament writer, what verse about love in one of John's writings is most familiar to you ?