Discussion Questions

Chapter 1

1. What did John want to do for a future career?

- 2. What does the word "humility" mean?
- 3. How were Jesus' disciples told to follow their Master?

Chapter 2

1. What dangerous skill did John have when it came to debating others about the Word of God?

2. After studying the Bible and getting baptized, what was John called to do next?

Chapter 3

1. What did John do when the deacons tried to make him and Basil a bishop?

2. Basil told John that others are accusing him of hiding because he was too proud to serve in the ministry. What does the word "proud" mean?

3. Who is worthy to serve and do this job in ministry without the help of Christ?

Chapter 4

1. Where did John head to after leaving Antioch?

2. What is a hermit?

3. Is it important to spend time alone with God? What does the Bible say about the life of a hermit? What does the Bible say about spending time with God in prayer? Discuss with your parents.

Chapter 5

1. Which church holiday is one of the most important holidays according to Chrysostom?

2. In John's message to the people of Antioch, how many days are enough to cleanse your soul?

3. Do you know anyone whose life was changed completely like John Chrysostom?

Chapter 6

1. Why were the people of Antich angry at the emperor?

2. What did John preach to the rioters?



Discussion Questions

3. Did the pagans intercede with the emperor or was it the Christians? How did that influence the people in Antioch?

Chapter 7

1. What happened to John in this chapter?

2. What does the word "martyr" mean?

Chapter 8

1. Where was John taken to serve?

2. When John replied to Eutropius, "No man is my boss," what do you think he meant by it?

3. Why was John surprised at the wealth of the church and his residence in Constantinople?

Chapter 9

1. What did John plan to do with all the money provided to him that was intended for his entertainment?

2. How did John view this wealth?

Chapter 10

1. What were some of the spiritual problems with the church in Constantinople?

2. Compare the church in Constantinople with God's will for the church as taught in the Bible. How should pastors live? How should Christ's flock live? Discuss with your parents.

Chapter 11

1. How would you describe the former archbishop of Constantinople, given the information about his dwellings, clothing, and his staff in the past?

2. What difference can be seen between the Old Archbishop and John?

3. How did John's message impact the city over time?

Chapter 12

1. What were most of the people of Constantinople trusting in?

2. What does the Bible say about riches? How should we view riches? Discuss with your parents.

Chapter 13

1. As John looked over the crowd in Constantinople, he remarked that all is vanity. What does the word "vanity"



Discussion Questions

mean?

2. How did Christ give us an example when others were treating Him wrongly?

3. What happened to Eutropius?

Chapter 14

1. Who came to see John from Egypt?

2. Who can label the Scripture as a form of good or bad writing?

3. The three monks and the bishops were accused of being heretics. What does the word "heretic" mean?

Chapter 15

1. Who came to Constantinople to accuse John Chrysostom?

2. Theophilus' attitude can be defined as "arrogance." What does the word "arrogance" mean?

3. If the Church of Constantinople didn't belong to John, Who did it belong to?

Chapter 16

1. What were the accusations against John? How was this similar to the accusations Christ received?

2. What was the emperor's order to John?

Chapter 17

1. After the emperor ordered John's excommunication, what was one last thing John did before His exile?

2. In his last sermon, what did John preach to the people?

3. What does being "exiled" mean?

Chapter 18

1. How did the people of Constantinople feel after John was excommunicated? Were they happy?

2. Did John head back to Constantine after reading the empress' letter?

Chapter 19

1. How did the people of Constantine welcome back their pastor?



Discussion Questions

2. When do we bless God according to John? How about when bad things happen?

Chapter 20

1. What did John preach about in this chapter?

2. How was the empress Eudokia similar to Herodias, and how was John similar to John the Baptist?

3. What do you think godly pastors in the church should do when they see leaders in their country doing ungodly things and sinning against God?

Chapter 21

1. What did John do when the soldiers stormed into the church and started killing the believers? Did John run away leaving all the faithful believers behind?

2. What was the emperor's final order to John?

Chapter 22

1. Who wrote a letter to John in exile?

2. What was going on in the palace according to Olympias?

3. In his letter, John marveled at how the Scriptures can be read after 300 years after their writing and remarked of how God can easily preserve all of His revelations. How old are the very same epistles from Paul and Peter in the Bible today?

Chapter 23

1. What were the last words of John Chrysostom?

2. What did the gentle soldier see in John which moved him greatly?



Answer Key

Chapter 1

- 1. To become a lawyer
- 2. Humility means not to be proud, having a sober estimation of yourself, and considering others more important than yourself.
- 3. They were to give money to the poor, take up their cross, and follow Christ.

Chapter 2

- 1. John would present a bad interpretation of the Word and make it sound good just by putting it in an elegant way.
- 2. After being baptized, John was called to live a life as a monk, in solitude.

Chapter 3

- 1. He hid from the deacons.
- 2. Proud means having excessive self-confidence, self-respect, self-praise, or self-esteem.
- 3. No one. Every minister and shepherd needs the Lord's aid and guidance to shepherd the flock every single day.

Chapter 4

- 1. He went out to the desert to become a monk and study.
- 2. A hermit is a person who lives in solitude to meditate on the Scriptures and spend time alone with God in prayer.
- 3. Answers will vary.

Chapter 5

- 1. Christmas
- 2. One day is all you need to examine yourself and repent of all that is wrong.
- 3. Answers will vary.

Chapter 6

- 1. Because the emperor issued a new special tax on them.
- 2. He preached repentance to them.
- 3. It was the Christians. The riots led to a revival. Many pagans who saw the Christians risk their lives to intercede with the emperor became Christians too.

Chapter 7

- 1. He was kidnapped to serve at the court of the emperor.
- 2. A martyr is a person who willingly suffers or faces death for the sake of Christ and His Word.

Chapter 8

- 1. Constantinople
- 2. No mortal man can be his boss because John already belongs to an immortal God he serves.
- 3. John was surprised or shocked by the entertainment stipends given just for occasions of mere luxury to the ministers in the church. It was not an appropriate accommodation for a preacher who serves the Lord's people. It was also a temptation for a minister to lead him away from his main focus on preaching and shepherding his flock.

Chapter 9

- 1. He planned to give the money to the poor.
- 2. He considered these as gifts from the Lord that could be given

to those who need them.

Chapter 10

- Those who ministered did not care much for the spiritual or physical needs of Christ's flock. Instead, they were more interested in pleasing themselves and seeking entertainment and leisure.
- Answers will vary. Pastors in Christ's church should not seek to serve themselves, but instead give themselves to loving the flock. Christ's flock should be devoted to the worship of God above all. Additionally, Christ's people should love one another.

Chapter 11

- 1. Answers will vary. The former Archbishop was probably a very proud and self-serving man.
- 2. Pride and humility. It also seems that John's messages were more convicting and edifying than the previous Archbishop.
- 3. Those who heard the message were proclaiming the truth to the heretics and taking care of the poor. John himself built a hospital for the poor.

Chapter 12

- 1. Most were trusting in their own wealth rather than God.
- 2. Answers will vary.

Chapter 13

- 1. Proud and only concerned about his or her own appearance and achievements.
- 2. He asked God to forgive those who have wronged Him. He did not retaliate or strike back.
- 3. He escaped the sanctuary of the church, was caught, and then executed.

Chapter 14

- 1. Three monks. And a bishop. They were called the Tall Brothers.
- 2. No one. The Bible is Divinely inspired as Truth from our Lord. Any other writings outside the Bible can be labeled as good or bad writing.
- 3. A heretic is a person who believes and teaches doctrine that is contrary to the teaching of God's Word and twists the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Chapter 15

- 1. Theophilus, Archbishop of Alexandria.
- 2. Arrogance means having an attitude of forceful superiority and self-importance.
- 3. Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Chapter 16

- 1. They were ridiculous accusations that were not true. Jesus Christ was also falsely accused by slanderous accusations.
- 2. Excommunication and exile from the church and Constantinople.

Answer Key

Chapter 17

- 1. He preached his last sermon.
- 2. He said that the Lord will not separate His care from John even amidst suffering, exile, loss of property, and even death.
- 3. Being exiled means being banished from a country or city by an authoritative decree.

Chapter 18

- 1. No, they were full of rage.
- 2. Yes.

Chapter 19

- 1. They greeted John with joy, singing hymns and waving torches.
- 2. We bless God at all times, even when bad things happen.

Chapter 20

- 1. He preached on focusing on God rather than focusing on whatever is going on in the court of the emperor.
- 2. Eudokia was similar to Herodias in John's opinion because she was putting herself and her beauty above honoring the Lord. John was similar to John the Baptist by boldly proclaiming the truth even though it might cost his life.
- 3. The pastors of the church should pray and call upon their leaders to repent and plead for the Lord's mercy upon them.

Chapter 21

- 1. He gathered up all the faithful and took them to the Bath to baptize them there.
- 2. The emperor ordered a final exile so that John would not be able to easily return.

Chapter 22

- 1. Olympias
- 2. God's judgment was falling upon the palace.
- 3. About 2000 years

Chapter 23

- 1. "Glory to God for all things."
- 2. His faithfulness to Christ amidst sufferings.

