

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Shepherd's Path

## A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

### Meet the Amazing Jesus Series

#### Lesson 46

**Lesson Title:** Receive Peace

**Take Home Point:** Jesus is the King of peace and gives us peace.

#### **Warm-Up:**

Do you know someone who likes to worry? Who finds it enjoyable to think and fret about things beyond his/her control? Oh, he/she may say it doesn't do any good to worry, and how much he/she doesn't like to do it, but secretly it brings great satisfaction. (You may be this kind of person yourself!) I know one or two. And I must admit that on occasion I can fret with the best. But what is the gain? Of course, I've learned it does no good, and that's no surprise. About two thousand years ago, Jesus said, "Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?" The temptation to worry is one of those basic tests of trust that God presents – our way or his way? His way brings peace.

**Read:** Luke 19:28-48 and John 11

#### **Observation (What happened?):**

In John 11, how did Caiaphas respond to the concerns of the priests and Pharisees regarding Jesus and his followers?

What did Jesus do as he neared Jerusalem and also when he came to the tomb of Lazarus?

#### **Interpretation (What does it mean?):**

Why did Jesus cry those two times? Do you think he wept for the same reason each time?

How do you think the people responded when Jesus drove the sellers from the temple? How about the Jewish leaders and the sellers themselves?

#### **Insight:**

In the lesson Scripture readings, we find two distinct groups without peace for two very different reasons. One group, the friends and family of Lazarus, because they didn't understand the ways of God; the Jewish leaders because they wanted to act against Jesus but feared the crowd. These two groups typify the basic causes of worry – ignorance and fear. Some people do not have peace because they do not understand God's purpose and means of accomplishing it, so they fret and try to help him out, with predictable results. Others are afraid that whatever happens won't be what they want, so they worry and attempt to manipulate circumstances and people to bring about their own wishes. Both cases illustrate a lack of trust in God's perfect wisdom, his plan, and his ability to do what is best. Remember one of the last things Jesus said to his disciples, "Peace I leave with you. Not the world's kind of peace, but mine."

#### **Application (What does it mean to me?):**

How do you respond when Jesus shows you a sinful part of your life to be cleaned out?

Write down one recent situation in which you trusted God for peace instead of worrying or reacting in your own way.

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