



REAL PEOPLE

Study Guide

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The following meditation study sheets have been prepared to give you an opportunity to spend a brief moment of study and reflection on the ***Real People*** meditations. These can be used by individuals, in small study groups, large Bible classes or even Christian classrooms.

Each study begins with 10 questions relating directly to the meditation. Since most of the questions are for deeper thought and discussion, you will notice there are few answers found on the answer pages.

Following the 10 questions are several topics that need Bible research to help gain a greater insight into the theme of the meditation.

The *Kwips to Konsider* are statements made by religious and nonreligious people that also deal with the topic. They may offer some interesting perspectives to the theme. Note that just because these *Kwips* appear here, does not mean that everyone must agree with them. **Also, in no way are they intended to replace the ultimate truth found in God's Word.**

The answer sheet is not intended to give lengthy answers and discourses but rather to be brief and to the point.



HANNAH (page 45)

THEME: Giving

READ THE MEDITATION

SHARE THE MEDITATION

1. Do you agree with the story about the farmer?
2. Discuss the statement: "There's a gulf between hypothetical offerings and sacrificial giving."
3. What was Hannah's problem?
4. What was Hannah's plea and promise?
5. Was that a foolish promise? Discuss.
6. Why are there many instances in Scripture that point out barrenness?
7. Did Hannah follow through on her promise?
8. Do you think Hannah ever hesitated in doing so? Why or why not?
9. Why does God want us to give sacrificially?
10. How did Hannah's giving reap more than she sowed?

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Name these Bible people who gave generously.

Exodus 36:5; 1 Kings 17:13-15; Matthew 26:7; Luke 21:4; Acts 4:34.

RULES FOR GIVING

Name the giving rules mentioned in these passages.

Deuteronomy 16:17; Matthew 6:3,4; Matthew 10:8; 1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:7.

KWIPS TO KONSIDER

"Nothing that you have not given away will ever be really yours." (C.S. Lewis)

"I will place no value on anything I have or may possess except in relation to the kingdom of Christ." (David Livingston)

"The heart of the giver makes the gift dear and precious." (Martin Luther)

"There is no happiness in having or getting, but only in giving . . . half the world is on the wrong scent in the pursuit of happiness." (Henry Drummond)

THE GREATEST GIVER

Discuss these passages about the greatest giver of all.

John 15:13; Ephesians 5:2; 1 John 3:16



THOMAS (page 103)

THEME: Certainty

READ THE MEDITATION

SHARE THE MEDITATION

1. Why is Thomas singled out for his doubting?
2. Do you feel that is just?
3. Can doubting become a sin? Explain
4. Three quotes by Thomas are listed in the first few paragraphs. Discuss them and their significance.
5. How did Jesus use Thomas' question about not knowing where to go to make a beautiful point?
6. How do you think Thomas felt after learning he had missed the Savior's appearance?
7. Had you been Thomas, might you have believed?
8. What are some doubts that you have about your faith?
9. Why does Jesus want to erase all doubt?
10. How did Jesus gently deal with Thomas' doubt? How does that give you comfort?

DID YOU KNOW THIS?

Thomas was not the only one having problems believing in the resurrection. What interesting points are made in Mark 16:11 and Luke 24:11?

OTHER DOUBTERS

Name the doubters mentioned here.

Genesis 15:8; Judges 6:17; Matthew 14:31; Luke 1:18; Acts 12:14,15.

CERTAINTIES

The opposite of doubting is believing in what is certain. Make a list of certainties that you know to be real. Then look up these passages that include comforting certainties.

Joshua 23:14; 1 Kings 8:56; Romans 8:38,39; Hebrews 6:13-20.

KWIPS TO KONSIDER

Do you agree or disagree?

"Every temptation, directly or indirectly, is the temptation to doubt and distrust God."

"You have to believe something before you can doubt it."

"Christ never failed to distinguish between doubt and unbelief. Doubt is can't believe. Doubt is looking for light. Unbelief is content with darkness."