

## Gospel According to John 12:35 – 50

New American Standard Version

1   <sup>35</sup> So Jesus said to them, “For a little while longer the Light is  
2 among you. Walk while you have the Light, so that darkness will  
3 not overtake you; he who walks in the darkness does not know  
4 where he goes. <sup>36</sup> While you have the Light, believe in the Light,  
5 so that you may become sons of Light.” These things Jesus  
6 spoke, and He went away and hid Himself from them. <sup>37</sup> But  
7 though He had performed so many signs before them, yet they  
8 were not believing in Him. <sup>38</sup> This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah  
9 the prophet which he spoke: “LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR  
10 REPORT? AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN  
11 REVEALED?” <sup>39</sup> For this reason they could not believe, for Isaiah  
12 said again, <sup>40</sup> “HE HAS BLINDED THEIR EYES AND HE HARDENED  
13 THEIR HEART, SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT SEE WITH THEIR EYES  
14 AND PERCEIVE WITH THEIR HEART, AND BE CONVERTED AND I  
15 HEAL THEM.” <sup>41</sup> These things Isaiah said because he saw His  
16 glory, and he spoke of Him. <sup>42</sup> Nevertheless many even of the  
17 rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not  
18 confessing Him, for fear that they would be put out of the  
19 synagogue;<sup>43</sup> for they loved the approval of men rather than the  
20 approval of God. <sup>44</sup> And Jesus cried out and said, “He who  
21 believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me.  
22 <sup>45</sup> He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me. <sup>46</sup> I have come as  
23 Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will  
24 not remain in darkness. <sup>47</sup> If anyone hears My sayings and does  
25 not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the  
26 world, but to save the world. <sup>48</sup> He who rejects Me and does not  
27 receive My sayings, has one who judges him; the word I spoke is  
28 what will judge him at the last day. <sup>49</sup> For I did not speak on My  
29 own initiative, but the Father Himself who sent Me has given Me  
30 a commandment as to what to say and what to speak. <sup>50</sup> I know  
31 that His commandment is eternal life; therefore the things I speak,  
32 I speak just as the Father has told Me.”

Use the suggestions on the back page as a starting point for your own **Observation, Interpretation, and Application.**

**Observation (What does it say?):**

Circle all the references to light, seeing, darkness, sight, visibility, etc.

Underline all the references to belief, insight, understanding, etc.

What is the context of each of the quotations from Isaiah?

- Vs. 38 (line 9) – Isaiah 53:1
- Vs. 40 (line 12) – Isaiah 6:10

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

What is the connection between seeing and believing?

What do the words of Isaiah add to your interpretation of the words of Jesus? Are they helpful or confusing? Why?

What explanation (“because”) does John give (v. 41) to explain Isaiah’s words?

What else has Jesus said in John’s Gospel that might relate to the seeing/believing question?

**Application (What does it mean for me?):**

How are seeing and believing related in your past experience?

How do seeing and believing affect your present circumstances?

## Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

### Observation

(What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage (repetition, comparisons, contrasts, cause and effect, unusual words, etc.)? Mark the passage (underline, circles, etc.) to help bring out the writer's thought process.

- Who are the people involved?
- What is the action taking place?
- What type of literature is the passage (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are there any unusual words used?
- Is there any symbolic or figurative language used?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Is there any repetition of words or ideas?
- Are there comparisons or contrasts?
- Are there indications of cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose (“in order that...”)?
- Are there conclusions (“Therefore...”)?
- Does the passage contain any explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good “headline” for the passage?

### Interpretation

(What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts of the passage that would help you **interpret** the writer's meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer's thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

### Application

(What does it mean for me?)

How does the writer's meaning relate to your life? What specific application might the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them. – J.A. Bengel**