



# SPORTS IN FOCUS

*Resurrection of the Son of God*

John 19:38-21:25

## READY

- As you reflect on Jesus' victorious resurrection, what, if any questions do you have?
- How has your view of Jesus changed during this study? Explain.

## SET

### Context of John 19:38-21:25

John 20 records the resurrection of Christ and a number of His appearances to His followers. Such appearances were so profound that they transformed the disciples from cowardly men hiding in fear to bold witnesses for Jesus. Once again, John's purpose in recording these post-resurrection appearances was to demonstrate that Jesus' physical and bodily resurrection was the crowning proof that He truly is the Messiah and Son of God who laid down His life for His own.

### Keys to Text

*Resurrection:* A central doctrine of the Christian faith. Paul reminded the Corinthians Christians that they already believed in Christ's resurrection, or else they would not have been Christians. Because Christ was raised, resurrection from the dead obviously is possible; and, on the hand, unless men in general can be resurrected, Christ could not have been raised.

## GO

### Read John 19:38-21:25

1. Why is it significant that Joseph of Arimathea was involved in the burial of Christ? What was Nicodemus's role and what does this suggest about his own spiritual journey? (See 3:1-10 and 7:50-52)
2. What lines of evidence does John cite to demonstrate the truth of Christ's resurrection?
3. What reason or purpose does John give for the writing of his Gospel? How effectively has this purpose been served in your life?
4. What insights does Paul's explanation yield as to why the resurrection is important?
5. What is important about Jesus calling His disciples "brethren" (20:17)?
6. How did Jesus deal with Thomas's doubt? What the difference between honest doubt and hard-hearted skepticism?
7. As you think back over this study of the Gospel of John, how has your understanding of Jesus as the son of God deepened? How has your faith been strengthened?

## SPORTS IN FOCUS *THE RESURRECTION*

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the single greatest event in the history of the world. It is so foundational to Christianity that no one who denies it can be a true Christian. Without resurrection there is no Christian faith, no salvation, and no hope. The foundation of all our hope is expressed in Jesus' own words: "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me though he may die shall live" (11:25) and, "Because I live, you will live also" (14:19).

If Jesus Christ rose from the dead (and he did!), How should this historical fact make a difference in the way you practice or compete in sports?