



Brown Community Group Discussion Guide

Jude Series Lesson 4 – November 22, 2015

I. Lesson Overview: As Jude ascribes glorious attributes to God, he reminds believers of what God is doing for them as they await Christ's return: God keeps them.¹

II. Scripture Teaching:

1. Verses 24: "Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy,"

Key Points:

- God has endless power to keep His people from stumbling, falling into sin or error.
- God presents the believer blameless like Christ presents Himself on the cross.
- The power of God saves man from God's wrath, yet the love of God then presents man blameless before the world with great joy.
- Jude's words change mood quickly from Verse 22-23 where he talked about those who "doubt". His message change is not that "we can do this!", but rather "God has this, He is able."

2. Verse 25: "to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen."

Key Points:

- Jesus is our Savior in that he secures salvation for us, and God is our Savior in that he plans and initiates the process.²

Additional scriptures: Connections between each and Jude verse 25: "glory, majesty, dominion, and authority"

- i. 1 Peter 4:11 – 11 If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be **the glory and the power** for ever and ever. Amen.
- ii. Revelation 1:6 – 6 and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him **be glory and power** for ever and ever! Amen.
- iii. Revelation 4:11 – 11 "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to **receive glory and**

¹ Crossway Bibles, *The ESV Study Bible* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2008), 2452.

² Douglas J. Moo, "The Letters and Revelation," in *NIV Zondervan Study Bible: Built on the Truth of Scripture and Centered on the Gospel Message*, ed. D. A. Carson (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2015), 2579.

honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”

- iv. Revelation 5:12–13 - 12 In a loud voice they were saying: “**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!**” 13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb **be praise and honor and glory and power**, for ever and ever!”
- v. Revelation 7:12 – 12 saying: “Amen! Praise **and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength** be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”
- vi. Revelation 19:1 – 1 After this I heard what sounded like the roar of a great multitude in heaven shouting: “Hallelujah! **Salvation and glory and power belong to our God,**

III. Small Group Questions:

1. What’s a situation where you saw God’s work in your life keeping you from stumbling?
2. Compare Jude: 12-13 and 24-25: While the first section is describing false teachers and the second describes God, how do they compare when measured against one another?
 - b. Verse 12-13: “¹² These are hidden reefs at your love feasts, as they feast with you without fear, shepherds feeding themselves; waterless clouds, swept along by winds; fruitless trees in late autumn, twice dead, uprooted; ¹³ wild waves of the sea, casting up the foam of their own shame; wandering stars, for whom the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved forever.”

Verse 12-13 Interpretation:

 - Five metaphors are used to illustrate dangers of false teachers who embody true depravity when they are perverting the gospel:
 - i. **hidden reefs** — while looking like Christians, they harm newcomers.
 - ii. **shepherds feeding themselves** — they exist for their own nourishment.
 - iii. **waterless clouds** — promising rain that never falls.
 - iv. **fruitless trees** — twice dead because they exist without fruit, then die.
 - v. **wandering stars** — that give misleading guidance.
 - vi. **wild waves** — sexually deviant and dark.
 - vii. **Utter Darkness** – lack of salvation and lost
3. For practical application, what does it look like for us to give credit to God for each of the following:
 - a. All glory (honor)
 - b. Majesty (greatness)
 - c. Dominion (boundless reign)
 - d. Authority (completely sovereign)
4. What specifically in your life can you ask God to help/keep you from stumbling?