

STUDY GUIDE
for the
Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis



Book 3
The Voyage of the Dawn
Treader

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1

THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER pp. 1-67 (book chapters 1-5)

1. What is the last name of Edmund and Lucy?
2. Why did Eustace like to have Edmund and Lucy come to visit him (p. 2)?
3. Why is it that Peter and Susan do not get to go to their cousin, Eustace's house (p. 2)?
Peter-
Susan-
4. How long has it been since Edmund and Lucy's last adventure in Narnia?
5. How does a picture of a Narnian ship get into our world (p.4)? Who possibly could have given it to them?
6. What is your description of a person like Eustace? How does he compare with Edmund's character in book one? Why can't he find the good in anything?
7. Do you know a person who acts like Eustace? How do you counteract a spoiled person like this, who always wants to complain? (See Ephesians 4:29, 31-32; Colossians 4:5-6)

8. Eustace has convinced himself that everyone is out to get him, just like Edmund had done earlier. Things end up getting distorted and do not appear as they really are to Eustace (pp. 59,60). How do some people distort Christianity? How do you feel when you hear things which are not true or are misrepresented about the Christian faith?

9. Why does Reepicheep really want to get to the Eastern Edge of the world so badly (p.16)? Do you think that Reepicheep will ever get to the Eastern Edge? Is it even possible to get there? Why do you think this way?

10. Do you think it is possible for someone to get to heaven if he travels in space long enough? Where do you think heaven is? Is there anything a man can do to get to heaven?

11. When the ship harbors at the unknown island, p. 62 says, that 'what awaited them on this island was going to concern Eustace more than anyone else.' It also says, 'Eustace forgot about keeping his diary for a very long time.' What do you think is going to happen to Eustace?

2 THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER pp. 68-149 (book chapters 6-11)

1. Why did Eustace become a dragon (p. 75)? What is Eustace to learn from this?
2. What were Eustace's first thoughts after becoming a dragon (p. 75)?
3. Which do you think is true, that Lord Octesian was eaten by the other dragon, or that the dragon only found Lord Octesian's bracelet, or that the other dead dragon was actually the Lord Octesian himself (p. 92)? Why?
4. What made Eustace finally realize that he had alienated himself from the people who cared about him the most (p. 76)?
5. How did they all react to Eustace as a dragon (pp. 84,85)? How do you feel when something bad happens to mean people? How should you feel?
6. Eustace told Edmund that when he met Aslan, 'there was moonlight where the lion was, but there was no moon out that night.' How do you account for this? What does it mean (p. 88)?
7. Why was Eustace unable to peel off his dragon skin (p. 90)? Why was Aslan able to do so? What does peeling off the dragon skin by Aslan represent? Why does it hurt and burn so much?

8. When did God peel off your 'dragon skin' and make you a new creation? (see 2 Corinthians 5:17)

9. Notice that Edmund never forgot what he had done on his first trip to Narnia (p. 91). 'Between ourselves, you haven't been as bad as I was on my first trip to Narnia. You were only an ass, but I was a traitor.' Why does Edmund consider himself worse than Eustace?

10. What Bible character have you read about who considered himself the least in God's kingdom because of his past sins? (see 1 Timothy 1:15,16)

11. Was Eustace's character changed overnight (p. 93)? What differences were evident to all?

12. What temptation faced Caspian at Goldwater (p. 107)? Why did getting a glimpse of Aslan make a difference in their plans?

13. In the magician's room, Lucy wanted to say a spell that would make her beautiful beyond compare. Why didn't she say the spell (p. 131)? Why would it be wrong for her to say it?

14. What spell did Lucy say and why didn't Aslan stop her this time?

15. What does Aslan mean by Lucy making him visible (p. 135)? Had Aslan been there all the time?

16. Aslan chose to work differently with the Island of the Dufflepuds than he did with Narnia. How does he rule this land differently? How does God deal with different cultures in our world?

17. When Lucy is talking with Aslan, she asks him if she will see him again soon. He answers, 'I call all times soon (p. 138).' What does he mean by this?

18. Why did the dufflepuds think the magician was a mean magician? How do our misconceptions of God sometimes hold us back from really getting to know Him?

19. What made the dufflepuds accept themselves (p. 147)?

3

THE VOYAGE OF THE DAWN TREADER pp. 150-end (book chapters 12-

16)

1. Describe Dark Island. Would you ever want to visit a place like this? What might this island represent?

2. Lucy called to Aslan for help in the darkness. She cried, 'If you ever loved us at all, send us help now (p. 159).' Did Aslan come? Why did he wait until Lucy called? Why didn't he steer them around the darkness, or take the darkness away, instead of making them go through it?

3. Why did Aslan not come as himself, but instead as an albatross? And why did he only whisper to Lucy, 'Courage dear heart,' and not so that all the others could hear?

4. Why do you think that no one noticed the albatross when he left (p. 162)?

5. Why is it that when we find ourselves in a crisis situation, we often forget to ask God for help? And then when help does come, we forget to say 'thank you?'

6. Describe the Beginning of the End of the World, otherwise known as the Island of the Star (p. 187). Why is the witch's knife there? Why is there a table full of food?

7. Why are the three lords fast asleep at the table? Which three lords are they?

8. Who is this old man, Ramandu, who says he saw the Eastern lands and seas ages ago, but from a great height? How do you think he came to have a daughter?

9. What exactly is a star (p. 180)? Eustace said it was 'a huge ball of flaming gas,' but Ramandu answered, 'that is only what a star is made of, not what a star is.' What did he mean?

10. Why do you think that Caspian wanted to talk with Ramandu's daughter later (p. 188)? What did he miss earlier in her words (p. 174)?

11. Why was the water sweet near the end? Why did it satisfy them more than food (p. 199)? Why was it getting so bright? How were they able to bear the brightness (p. 189)? (see Revelation 21: 23-27)

12. Why did they feel they were getting younger, and becoming very excited, they weren't really able to talk about it (p. 204)?

13. Lucy and Caspian said to one another, 'I feel that I can't stand much more of this, yet I don't want it to stop.' Why do they feel this way?

14. Why do you think that there were so many bad things before they go to the beginning of the world's end (ex. Dark Island, the witch's knife, the fierce sea people)?

15. Caspian almost blows it when they get right near the end. What did he do? Why did he act this way? What causes him to change his attitude?

16. Have you ever had to give up a dream, or something you really wanted to do, because God told you to? How do you react when God works in ways that you don't like or understand?

17. Who finally goes out to the edge?

18. Do you think that Reepicheep makes it to Aslan's world? Why or why not?

19. What is it like at the edge of the world? What is behind the sun?

20. Why does Aslan appear to them as a lamb (p. 214)? Why must Edmund, Lucy and Eustace go back to their world, and learn to know Aslan by his earthly name (p. 216)? Why can't they return to Narnia?

21. How might Edmund, Lucy, and Eustace learn to know about Aslan by his earthly name?

22. What happens to Caspian (p. 216)?

THE FINAL LOG

OF THE DAWN TREADER'S VOYAGE EAST

Cair Paravel – the royal city of Narnia, from where the voyage began.

Galma – the location of the jousting tournament for the king

Terebinthia – because of an epidemic on this island, it is passed by without a visit

The Seven Isles – including Muil, and Brenn – the Dawn Treader harbors at Red Haven and the children are picked up at sea.

The Lone Islands:

Felimath – where Caspian and the children are captured by Pug and his pirates. Caspian is bought by Lord Bern.

Doorn – in this city of Narrowhaven, Governor Gumpas is deposed of his office, the slaves are all set free and Lord Bern is made Duke over the islands. They harbor here for twenty-eight days.

Avra is also mentioned.

Dragon Island – the stop where Eustace is turned into a dragon then meets with Aslan, who makes things right. Lord Octesian's body is discovered.

Burnt Island – once an inhabited island, but recently deserted

The Sea Serpent – attacks the Dawn Treader, but the ship narrowly escapes

Goldwater, aka Deathwater – home of a deadly spring that turns all that touches the water to gold. One of the lords, Lord Restimar, is found at the bottom of the spring.

The Island of the Dufflepuds – where Lucy helps the Dufflepuds become visible again

Dark Island – the frightening place where one's dreams become reality. Lord Rhoop is found and picked up by the Dawn Treader.

The Island of the Star – the beginning of the end of the world. The last three lords, Lords Revilian, Argos and Mavramorn are found. They meet Ramandu, a retired star being recharged.

The Sea People – a fierce people living under the sea are seen by Lucy, Caspian, Drinian, and Reepicheep.

The Silver Sea – the final sea which appears silver because of its covering of unique lilies. This sea leads them to the wall of water and the very edge of the world.

The Wall of Water – a thirty-foot high wall of water which Reepicheep rides up and over, in order to break the enchantment on the three lords on the Island of the Star. It is not known if Reepicheep survived.

Aslan's Mountains – seen from the edge of the world. Aslan's land, located on mountains so high they should be snow-capped, but they are not.

Leader's Guide

The questions in this guide are not meant to limit your group discussion, but rather to bring out new thoughts, as well as open a door of new questions for your group. Below are possible suggested answers for some of the more difficult questions in this study guide.

Study 1 Voyage of the Dawn Treader pp. 1- 67

Question 3: Peter had an exam to study for and went to be tutored by Professor Kirke. He was the professor whose house they had stayed in the first time they found Narnia. Since that first visit, the professor had fallen on bad times, and now lived in a small cottage. Susan was able to go to America with her parents. They said that she would get more out of the trip than the others, for she was not great at school, but in other ways she acted grown up.

Question 5: We are told that it is a wedding present for someone Aunt Alberta did not want to offend. At this point it is not known who would have a picture of a Narnian ship, but that will come to light later.

Question 8: There have been distortions of the Christian faith ever since the beginnings of the church. The Romans thought of the early Christians as barbarians, because they did not understand the concept of the Lord's Supper. Non-Christians often see Christianity as a crutch to get through life. Today, Christians are even coming under criticism for causing the problems in our government. It should bother us, but should not surprise us, when we come under criticism for our faith, or when we are misunderstood. Instead of getting defensive, we must strive to help people get a clearer concept as to what the Christian faith is all about.

Study 2 Voyage of the Dawn Treader pp. 68 -149

Question 1: Eustace became a dragon because, "by sleeping on a dragon's hoard with greedy, dragonish thoughts in his heart, he had become a dragon himself". Being a greedy person can turn you into a monster.

Question 7: The reason Eustace could not tear off his skin is because he could not tear deep enough to cut through all the layers of scales. The same is true of the sin in our lives. There is no way in our human ability to cut through our sin nature and clean up our lives. We can only scratch the surface. Jesus Christ must come and cut deep into our lives, and make us totally pure and clean. So to it is only through Jesus Christ that we can overcome the sin in our lives, if we but let him. Then we will become a “new creation”.

Question 13, 14: Lucy did not say the spell that would have made her beautiful beyond compare, because she caught a glimpse of Aslan in the pages of the book. Aslan stopped her from making a big mistake, that she would regret. This would have been wrong for Lucy because it was a selfish act and would have caused a lot of fighting and bloodshed of innocent people. It also was not the reason she was there. Lucy did not learn her lesson the first time, and wishes over another spell. This time Aslan allows her to learn the hard way. God does not always protect us from our foolishness. Keeping this in mind should make us more careful in our actions.

Question 15: Lucy made Aslan visible because she chose to see him. Our faith helps make God real to us. Aslan had been there all the time. How real is God to us in everyday matters?

Question 19: The dufflepuds accepted themselves because Reepicheep showed them that they were unique and that their foot could be used for other things and that they really weren't ugly at all. We must all remember that we are God's creation. We are unique, and we each have a special purpose here on earth for God's work. We are all special to God, and he died for each one of us.

Study 3 Voyage of the Dawn Treader pp. 150 - end

Question 2: Many times, God takes us through the tough times instead of taking us around them. This is so we can learn to depend on God and put our faith in him. Also, it strengthens our character, and helps us to relate to others who are going through struggles. Notice that Aslan didn't come until Lucy prayed. God's Word tells us that at times “we have not because we ask not”. Too often God is the last person we think about when we are in trouble. He should be the first.

Question 10: Caspian is interested in starting up a relationship with this young lady, but he missed the fact that she already promised him one if he goes to the end of the world.

Question 15: As king Caspian demands that he go to the end with the others, even though it would mean giving up his kingdom. He wants to experience adventures, and is acting very selfishly. Narnia would be left without a king. He was so close to his dream, but he knew he had to leave it behind. Still thinking selfishly, he announces that if he can't go, no one could go. But this means that the three lords will never wake up, and Reepicheep would never reach his dream. A bit later Aslan meets with Caspian, chews him out, and gets him thinking clearly.

Question 20: Christ is the lamb who sacrificed his life for our sins. The lamb is making breakfast by the shore. This sounds much like Jesus after his resurrection from the dead, and meeting the disciples by the shores of Lake Galilee (John 21).