

Instructions:

See if you can find 20 examples of the simple present tense in this short Bible text. Don't worry if you can't find them all! Some of them are a little tricky. Take your time, and when you are finished, go to the next page for the answers and some explanations. Good luck!

The Son's Authority

John 5:19-24 CEV

¹⁹Jesus told the people:

I tell you for certain the Son cannot do anything on his own. He can do only what he sees the Father doing, and he does exactly what he sees the Father do. ²⁰The Father loves the Son and has shown him everything he does. The Father will show him even greater things, and you will be amazed. ²¹Just as the Father raises the dead and gives life, so the Son gives life to anyone he wants to.

²²The Father doesn't judge anyone, but he has made his Son the judge of everyone. ²³The Father wants all people to honor the Son as much as they honor him. When anyone refuses to honor the Son, this is the same as refusing to honor the Father who sent him. ²⁴I tell you for certain that everyone who hears my message and has faith in the one who sent me has eternal life and will never be condemned. They have already gone from death to life.

The Son's Authority - Answers

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1. I tell
2. Son cannot (can't) do
3. He can do ("can" is a helping verb for "do." When you use the helping verb (can) with a regular verb (do), you don't need to add an "s" for the third person singular.)
4. he sees
5. he does
6. Father loves
7. he does

8. Father raises
9. (Father) gives
10. Son gives
11. he wants
12. Father doesn't judge
13. Father wants
14. they honor
15. anyone refuses
16. this is
17. I tell
18. everyone (who) hears
19. (everyone) has
20. (everyone) has

Notes:

1. You may also notice some simple past tenses (Jesus told, who sent), simple future tenses (will show, will be), and some present perfect (has shown, have [already] gone).

2. Sometimes the same subject is used for two verbs (**Father raises** the dead and [Father] **gives** life). In the second paragraph, you also see "everyone...hears...has...has," all in the same sentence with the same subject, "everyone."

3. "Everyone" and "anyone" are also subjects in the third person singular. (everyone...hears, anyone refuses).