



# BELIEVE

The Gospel of Jesus according to John  
Chapters 1-12 Jesus' Public Ministry

Winter/Spring Sermon Study Series  
Belle View Church



**BELLE VIEW**  
*Church*

January 2022

Greetings Saints,

Happy New Year!

This is our first sermon/study series of the new year, and I think we chose an awesome subject! We were led to embark on a study of one of the most revered books in the New Testament, and one that I don't always feel qualified to deliver.

From now until the Easter Season we will read, study and reflect on the life and public ministry of Jesus of Nazareth as told through the inspired writing of John the apostle, one of the *Sons of Thunder*, John bar-Zebedee.

I'm both excited and anxious to lead this series. I hope I will effectively represent my love for the book, as well as deliver its deep doctrinal content.

As a student, you will be weekly challenged to fill gaps that unavoidably emerge. Whether we're studying the woman at the well (chapter 4) or anointing at Bethany (12), the sermons and Bible studies will be selective in the facts and doctrines they develop. That will leave many others underdeveloped or not mentioned at all.

While this is not unusual, I anticipate it being more pronounced in this study. As such, you the student will be urged to form a personal discipline of reading and studying John's gospel. Then as you reflect on its content, ask the Spirit to reveal its broader truths so that you can maximize your benefits from the study.

For those familiar with our culture at Belle View Church, this is where I say that our most important job is to *listen to God and do what He says*.

Finally, I personally hope that you have fun and cultivate a love for God's Word and the gospel of John. I promise that if you devote yourself to a plan of praying, reading, reflecting and study, your walk with God will deepen and your knowledge about the person and ministry of Jesus Christ will enlarge.

I look forward to seeing you in Church or Bible Study. In person or virtually, it doesn't matter. It will be my great joy to open the Word of God together, as we discover and share what the Bible has for us in this season in our lives.

Blessings, in Christ

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave", written in a cursive style.

Pastor Dave

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## Introduction to John and this study series

**Doctrine of the Bible:** We always approach the Bible affirming these key truths *a)* it is inerrant in all it affirms, *b)* authoritative over all it claims, *c)* sufficient to lead people to God and *d)* clear enough to grasp its essential truth. In addition, we stipulate that every word in Scripture is given with purpose and intent. As such, every detail contains truth for which the motivated student will be blessed to discover. Rules do apply for proper study, yet no detail is too small to ask: “*what might God be saying to me inside of this new discovery?*”

Now after I say *every element is important...* I’m going to continue with *we cannot cover every detail*. It is frustrating as teacher and student alike. However, considering the Word of God is far deeper than can be mastered in a human lifetime, we will cherish the time we have and determine to stay on task with our Bible studies as long as we live.

**Our approach to John 1-12,** will seek first to become familiar with every chapter’s main outline. Then, we will try to identify what the apostle is saying about Jesus. As time allows, we will consider more closely relevant doctrinal content. During this process, we hope to expose the student to Bible study methods that facilitate further exploration.

**Purpose:** The author of this gospel provides us with a ‘*statement of purpose*’ from which we can base further interpretations (see John 20:30-21). It’s located at the end of the book but needs to be studied first. I suggest all students underline these verses now and refer to them often.

***30 Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.***

This informs our approach, as do the following stipulations:

***First,*** this gospel was not intended to be sequential or sensitive to any historic profile. We gratefully receive it as the **truthful, authoritative and accurate Word of God**, yet it does not need to share content or sequential records with the other synoptic gospels.

***Next,*** we recognize John to be historically accurate in all it affirms, but it is written to be a proof-document on the divinity of Jesus and urges readers to believe in Jesus and be saved.

***Third,*** John was among one of the last books of the Bible written. He wrote in full view of the Church’s development after the fall of Jerusalem. (This is my preference; it changes little, however, if you choose an earlier date of writing).

***Finally,*** despite challenges from *so called* critical analysis, we further stipulate that: 1) John was written (entirely) by the apostle John. 2) every detail is inspired by the Holy Spirit; it is Holy Scripture. 3) John did not intend this book to be parabolic or symbolic (although it contains appropriate symbols) it is literal and historical in all areas that it affirms.

**Using this Study Guide:** This guide has the same purpose as previous versions. Our goal is to support personal study, then give room for notes and questions. It will not necessarily follow the sermon or Bible study outlines. Rather, we positioned it to favor supporting your personal study.

We hope you bring the guide with you to all shared/public events; but we feel its greatest value is to be used in support of personal study.

To support these uses we not only offer the guides in printed and bound hardcopies; but we also make PDF downloads available from our website ([www.BelleView.Church](http://www.BelleView.Church)). In addition, if for some reason you need something in a Word.docx format, don't hesitate to ask.

This guide differs from earlier versions in a couple of important ways. First, its size. This is the largest guide we've ever published. The reason for this is we include all the Bible text from John chapters 1-12. We want to encourage students to explore a Bible study method that advocates *marking-up* the Bible text. Since first-time students are sometimes insecure about writing in their Bibles, we reproduced all of the text in this study guide for practice.

This method of study may be familiar to you. I learned it under the banner of *inductive Bible study*. I found it especially helpful for letting the text influence my focus of study.

As we introduce this methodology, we encourage the learner to read the text, title and outline each chapter. Then, we will guide the learner to find and mark-up key words and phrases. This will allow the reader to watch for patterns and allow the text to speak for itself.

We're not exactly following any specific program tool. Rather, we are offering an introductory level opportunity to practice a method that can grow as the student desires.

### **Within the Study Guide:**

The guide is divided into 12 sections, one for every chapter in John 1-12. We limited ourselves to these chapters because they encompass Jesus' public ministry. All the chapters after this take place in the upper room, at Jesus' trial or during and after His resurrection.

Each section contains the text and mark-up recommendations. It also asks the student to title and outline each chapter. Amidst room for notes, every section contains 10 questions that we believe the student will benefit from considering.

Finally there is an appendix with some miscellaneous content that you may find helpful.

This concludes our introductions. If we left anything out or didn't answer all of your questions, please don't hesitate to ask. Now without further ado, we invite you to begin a wildly fulfilling study in the Gospel of Jesus according to John.

***“And, may God bless you in the reading and study of His Word! Amen”***

## A Light For All Creation

Scripture: John chapter 1

### *The Eternal Word*

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

### *John's Witness: The True Light*

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.

11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

### *The Word Becomes Flesh*

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

15 John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'"

16 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

### *A Voice in the Wilderness*

19 Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"

20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ."

21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

And he answered, "No."

22 Then they said to him, “Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?”

23 He said: “I am ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: “Make straight the way of the Lord,”’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

24 Now those who were sent were from the Pharisees. 25 And they asked him, saying, “Why then do you baptize if you are not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?”

26 John answered them, saying, “I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. 27 It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose.”

28 These things were done in Bethabara beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

### *The Lamb of God*

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is He of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.’ 31 I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water.”

32 And John bore witness, saying, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. 33 I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ 34 And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.”

### *The First Disciples*

35 Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. 36 And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, “Behold the Lamb of God!”

37 The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. 38 Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, **“What do you seek?”**

They said to Him, “Rabbi” (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), “where are You staying?”

39 He said to them, **“Come and see.”**  They came and saw where He was staying and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour).

40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus.

Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, “You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas” (which is translated, A Stone).



## Survey what the Bible says

Prayerfully read chapter 1 and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

For example: Write a cross  over words that symbolize Jesus.

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

**Highlight** words spoken by Jesus

**Highlight** believe (with a different color)

Draw a key in the margin for the key truth of this chapter



Use any other marks or symbols that help you

For the entire series we will follow this same pattern. First read a chapter, then choose marks and symbols to help us recall key portions of the text. Use marks convenient & memorable to you one of my favorites is  for “look-up”

You may add marks at any time you get new insights. Next, we outline the chapter to recognize and recall major events and main messages. Like your symbols and marks, this is a personal exercise and there are not right or wrong answers. It is all for your benefit.

For this first chapter in the series, let me show you an example of a chapter outline:

### Outline John 1

- I. “In the Beginning” John’s prologue to his gospel vv. 1-18
  - a. The Word is Eternal Creator of the Universe (1-5)
  - b. John the Baptist bore witness to the true Light (6-9)
  - c. The world rejected Him but believers became Children of God (10-13)
  - d. The Word became flesh, the Only Begotten Son of God (14-18)
- II. “Interrogating the Prophet” John answers questions vv. 19-28
- III. “Behold, the Lamb of God” John reports what he saw and heard vv. 29-34
- IV. “Come and see” Jesus calls His first disciples vv. 35-51
  - a. Andrew (gets his brother Peter) and an unnamed disciple are called vv. 35-42
  - b. Philip and Nathanael called vv. 42-51

Try your hand a writing your own outline below:

- I.
- II.
- III.
- IV.

## 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. What did John mean in v.1 when he said “In the beginning...”?
2. What do you think John had in mind calling Jesus *The Logos* (Word)?
3. John called Jesus *Life and Light*, what did these symbols mean in the Bible?
4. John records three times that Jesus was rejected (vv.5, 10, 11) how do they differ, how are they the same?
5. What does it mean to be *children of God*?
6. Re-read John the Baptist’s interrogation (vv.19-28) some of his answers seem to contradict the Bible. How do you explain his answers?
7. John proclaims Jesus is “*the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!*” in light of these Bible passages, what does John’s proclamation mean (Genesis 22, Exodus 12, Isaiah 53)?
8. What do you think about John’s testimony in vv. 33 & 34? Is it in any other gospels?
9. Who were the two disciples in v.37? What did Jesus say to them?
10. Nathaniel had two different perspectives (vv. 46 & 49). What were they and what were Jesus’ response to them?
- 10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### Application

Give this chapter in John a Title (one memorable to you): \_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He commands.

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List any topics needing further study:

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Sermon Notes:

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## **“My Hour Has Not Yet Come”**

Scripture: John chapter 2

### *Water Turned to Wine*

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. 3 And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine.”

4 Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.”

5 His mother said to the servants, “Whatever He says to you, do it.”

6 Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece. 7 Jesus said to them, “Fill the waterpots with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. 8 And He said to them, “Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.” And they took it. 9 When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. 10 And he said to him, “Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!”

11 This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

12 After this He went down to Capernaum, He, His mother, His brothers, and His disciples; and they did not stay there many days.

### *Jesus Cleanses the Temple*

13 Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business. 15 When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers’ money and overturned the tables. 16 And He said to those who sold doves, “Take these things away! Do not make My Father’s house a house of merchandise!” 17 Then His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up.”

18 So the Jews answered and said to Him, “What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?”

19 Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

20 Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?”

21 But He was speaking of the temple of His body. 22 Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

*The Discerner of Hearts*

23 Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. 24 But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, 25 and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man.

**Reading Notes:**

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**Survey what the Bible says**

Prayerfully read chapter 2 and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe (with a different color)

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

Put an arrowpoint next to words that suggest times, places or dates.

## Outline John 2

Begin by assigning a title for John 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 2

I. \_\_\_\_\_

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

IV. \_\_\_\_\_

### 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. This is the occurrence of Jesus' first miracle. Is there significance in it being a wedding?
2. The first miracle Jesus performs is turning water into wine. What does wine symbolize (hint: NT and OT) and how is that significant?
3. When Mary approached Jesus with her problem, do you get the feeling that she knows more than John is recording?
4. How would you describe Jesus' reply to his mother's request.
5. v.11 says the disciples believed, who were present at the wedding that didn't believe? Why?
6. Jesus cleansed the Temple (for the 1<sup>st</sup> time) describe the scene during Passover (focus on the corrupt practices that Jesus is condemning. Extra credit if you can discuss its cause).

7. What claim did Jesus make on the Temple that was later used at his trial (Mark 14) and by mockers during His Crucifixion (Mark 15, Matthew 27).

8. Read Psalms 69; how does that relate to this story?

9. Do you think it was a miracle that Jesus didn't get arrested?

10. vv.23-24 says some believed in Jesus. John seems to say that there are different kinds of belief. In light of Jesus' response, how would you describe the difference?

10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### **Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He commands.

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List of topics needing further study:

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Sermon Notes:

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## **“You Must Be Born Again!”**

Scripture: John chapter 3

### *The New Birth*

1 There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”

3 Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

4 Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

5 Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

9 Nicodemus answered and said to Him, “How can these things be?”

10 Jesus answered and said to him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? 11 Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

### *John the Baptist Exalts Christ*

22 After these things Jesus and His disciples came into the land of Judea, and there He remained with them and baptized. 23 Now John also was baptizing in Aenon near Salim, because there was much water there. And they came and were baptized. 24 For John had not yet been thrown into prison.

25 Then there arose a dispute between some of John’s disciples and the Jews about purification.

26 And they came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified—behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him!”

27 John answered and said, “A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven. 28 You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ,’ but, ‘I have been sent before Him.’ 29 He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease. 31 He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all. 32 And what He has seen and heard, that He testifies; and no one receives His testimony. 33 He who has received His testimony has certified that God is true. 34 For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. 35 The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand. 36 He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

**Reading Notes:**

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**Survey what the Bible says**

Prayerfully read chapter 3 and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe with a different color

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

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## Outline John 3

Begin by assigning a title for John 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 3

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### 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. Who were the Pharisees? Who was Nicodemus in their company?
2. Why did Nicodemus come at night?
3. What question was Jesus answering in v.3?
4. Jesus contrasting flesh and Spirit is similar to John's point in 1:13, summarize the meaning.
5. What does Nehushtan have to do with John 3:16?
6. Does 3:17 and 3:18 contradict (of course not!) explain how they fittingly coexist.
7. Discuss Jesus' teaching about light and darkness (vv.19-21). Is it consistent with 1:4-9.
8. What is the nature of the dispute in v.26?
9. John the Baptist makes a seminal statement in v.30 that most have heard, why must it be true?
10. According to the Baptist's statements in v.36 who does he tell his followers Jesus is?

10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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**Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He commands.

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List topics needing further study:

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## **“Please, Give Me That Living Water...”**

Scripture: John chapter 4

### *A Samaritan Woman Meets Her Messiah*

1 Therefore, when the Lord knew that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John 2 (though Jesus Himself did not baptize, but His disciples), 3 He left Judea and departed again to Galilee. 4 But He needed to go through Samaria.

5 So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. 6 Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour.

7 A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give Me a drink.” 8 For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.

9 Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, “How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?” For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.

10 Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink,’ you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

11 The woman said to Him, “Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? 12 Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?”

13 Jesus answered and said to her, “Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”

15 The woman said to Him, “Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw.”

16 Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.”

17 The woman answered and said, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You have well said, ‘I have no husband,’ 18 for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly.”

19 The woman said to Him, “Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.”

21 Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

25 The woman said to Him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When He comes, He will tell us all things.”

26 Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am He.”

### *The Whitened Harvest*

27 And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, “What do You seek?” or, “Why are You talking with her?”

28 The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, 29 “Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ?” 30 Then they went out of the city and came to Him.

31 In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, “Rabbi, eat.”

32 But He said to them, “I have food to eat of which you do not know.”

33 Therefore the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?”

34 Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. 35 Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! 36 And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. 37 For in this the saying is true: ‘One sows and another reaps.’ 38 I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors.”

### *The Savior of the World*

39 And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, “He told me all that I ever did.” 40 So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. 41 And many more believed because of His own word.

42 Then they said to the woman, “Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world.”

### *Welcome at Galilee*

43 Now after the two days He departed from there and went to Galilee. 44 For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country. 45 So when He came to Galilee, the Galileans received Him, having seen all the things He did in Jerusalem at the feast; for they also had gone to the feast.

### *A Nobleman’s Son Healed*

46 So Jesus came again to Cana of Galilee where He had made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman whose son was sick at Capernaum. 47 When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him and implored Him to come down and heal his son, for he was

at the point of death. 48 Then Jesus said to him, “Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe.”

49 The nobleman said to Him, “Sir, come down before my child dies!”

50 Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your son lives.” So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. 51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, “Your son lives!”

52 Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” 53 So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, “Your son lives.” And he himself believed, and his whole household.

54 This again is the second sign Jesus did when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.

### Reading Notes:

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### Survey what the Bible says

Prayerfully read chapter 4 and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe with a different color

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

Put an arrowpoint next to words that suggest times, places or dates.

## Outline John 4

Begin by assigning a title for John 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 4

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### 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. Why did Jesus ‘*need to go through Samaria*’ and was that unusual?
2. Overview the relationship between Samaritans and Jews that explains why one of their Patriarchs has history in that land and why the woman said what she did to Jesus.
3. Why did the woman ask what she did in v.9, and how would you describe Jesus’ answer?
4. What does the symbol *living water* mean? What was Jesus saying about it?
5. Did the woman seem incredulous in v.12? How does one worship in *spirit and truth*?
6. During their discussion, do you see the woman’s understanding and belief change? How?
7. What can be learned about *belief* in vv. 39-42?
8. Discuss the Samaritan’s statement about Jesus being *Savior of the World*. Would the Pharisees have agreed with this sentiment?
9. What might we infer about the nobleman considering the politics of the day? What does that say about Jesus’ politics and/or cultural preferences?
10. On what basis did Jesus say that the nobleman’s son was healed?

10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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**Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He commands.

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List any topics needing further study:

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## Rise Up Your And Walk

Scripture: John chapter 5

### *A Man Healed at the Pool of Bethesda*

1 After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. 5 Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"

7 The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me."

8 Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." 9 And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked.

And that day was the Sabbath. 10 The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed."

11 He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'"

12 Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" 13 But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. 14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you."

15 The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

### *Honor the Father and the Son*

16 For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath. 17 But Jesus answered them, "My Father has been working until now, and I have been working."

18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God. 19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. 20 For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. 21 For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will. 22 For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, 23 that all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

*Life and Judgment Are Through the Son*

24 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. 25 Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. 26 For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, 27 and has given Him authority to execute judgment also, because He is the Son of Man. 28 Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. 30 I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

*The Fourfold Witness*

31 “If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true. 32 There is another who bears witness of Me, and I know that the witness which He witnesses of Me is true. 33 You have sent to John, and he has borne witness to the truth. 34 Yet I do not receive testimony from man, but I say these things that you may be saved. 35 He was the burning and shining lamp, and you were willing for a time to rejoice in his light. 36 But I have a greater witness than John’s; for the works which the Father has given Me to finish—the very works that I do—bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me. 37 And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. 38 But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe. 39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. 40 But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

41 “I do not receive honor from men. 42 But I know you, that you do not have the love of God in you. 43 I have come in My Father’s name, and you do not receive Me; if another comes in his own name, him you will receive. 44 How can you believe, who receive honor from one another, and do not seek the honor that comes from the only God? 45 Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you—Moses, in whom you trust. 46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. 47 But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?”

**Reading Notes:**

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## Survey what the Bible says

Prayerfully read chapter 5 and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe with a different color

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

Put an arrowpoint next to words that suggest times, places or dates.

## Outline John 5

Begin by assigning a title for John 5 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John five

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## 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. Give a brief summary of how this chapter opens, where, when...etc.
2. When Jesus approached the man by the pool, why do you think it caused so much controversy and do you believe Jesus knew it would?
3. What did the man by the pool believe in before he met Jesus?

4. Do you think Jesus intentionally selected the Sabbath to heal this man? Why?
5. Do you think the healed man was an intentional witness of Jesus as Messiah?
6. List how many ways Jesus claims unity with God in vv. 16-23.
7. There are many symbols and messages given in vv.24-30, what is Jesus' main message?
8. Jesus told his enemies that they didn't believe John the Baptist's testimony about Him. Who else's testimony did Jesus say they were rejecting (or not listening to)?
9. What did Jesus claim in this chapter? Do you think He arranged events for that purpose?
10. Who did Jesus say they were *'not believing'* when they rejected Him? What does it mean?
- 10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### **Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He commands.

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## I AM The Bread of Life

Scripture: John chapter 6

### *Feeding the Five Thousand*

1 After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. 2 Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. 3 And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples.

4 Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. 5 Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?” 6 But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.

7 Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little.”

8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him, 9 “There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?”

10 Then Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. 11 And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, “Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost.” 13 Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. 14 Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, “This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world.”

### *Jesus Walks on the Sea*

15 Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone.

16 Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, 17 got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them. 18 Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. 19 So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid. 20 But He said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” 21 Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.

### *The Bread from Heaven*

22 On the following day, when the people who were standing on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other boat there, except that one which His disciples had entered, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with His disciples, but His disciples had gone away alone— 23 however, other boats came from Tiberias, near the place where they ate bread after the Lord had given thanks— 24 when the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they also

got into boats and came to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. 25 And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, “Rabbi, when did You come here?”

26 Jesus answered them and said, “Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. 27 Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.”

28 Then they said to Him, “What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?”

29 Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent.”

30 Therefore they said to Him, “What sign will You perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do? 31 Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

32 Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

34 Then they said to Him, “Lord, give us this bread always.”

35 And Jesus said to them, “**I am the bread of life.** He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. 40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

#### *Rejected by His Own*

41 The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “*I am the bread* which came down from heaven.” 42 And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven’?”

43 Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. 44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. 45 It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. 46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. 47 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. 48 *I am the bread* of life. 49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. 50 This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. 51 *I am the living bread* which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”

52 The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?”

53 Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. 54 Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. 56 He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. 57 As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. 58 This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.”

59 These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

### *Many Disciples Turn Away*

60 Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?”

61 When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, “Does this offend you? 62 What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? 63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. 64 But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. 65 And He said, “Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.”

66 From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. 67 Then Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you also want to go away?”

68 But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. 69 Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

70 Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?” 71 He spoke of Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve.

### **Reading Notes:**

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## Survey what the Bible says

Prayerfully read chapter six and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe with a different color

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

Put an arrowpoint next to words that suggest times, places or dates.

## Outline John 6

Begin by assigning a title for John 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 6

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## 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. Why did Jesus feed the 5,000? He knew what was going to happen (v.15).
2. For whom did Jesus perform the next miracle (v.19)?
3. Review vv.35-40. List the powers or abilities that Jesus claims for Himself, that otherwise belong only to God.
4. Did the crowd get it? Did they understand Jesus' symbolic descriptions? How would you explain "bread of life" to a non-Christian?

5. Review vv. 55-58. Does it appear that Jesus increased intensity of his language? Why?
  6. Verse 60 is a turning point in Jesus' ministry. How would you describe what had happened?
  7. The paragraph in vv.61-65, Jesus further expands His teaching to include more about the spiritual realm. Summarize His main points, and answer why he continued to teach/explain?
  8. Considering what John says in v.64 does that inform why Jesus continued to teach?
  9. Underline Peter's confession in vv.66-69. Is he correct? Then what should I do?
  10. After hearing what Jesus said in this chapter, is there any question that He is claiming to be Messiah and Son of God? If you have doubts, share why.
- 10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### **Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He intends.

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## Could This Be The Christ? Part 1

Scripture: John chapter 7

### *Jesus' Brothers Disbelieve*

1 After these things Jesus walked in Galilee; for He did not want to walk in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill Him. 2 Now the Jews' Feast of Tabernacles was at hand. 3 His brothers therefore said to Him, "Depart from here and go into Judea, that Your disciples also may see the works that You are doing. 4 For no one does anything in secret while he himself seeks to be known openly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world." 5 For even His brothers did not believe in Him.

6 Then Jesus said to them, "My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready. 7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil. 8 You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for My time has not yet fully come." 9 When He had said these things to them, He remained in Galilee.

### *The Heavenly Scholar*

10 But when His brothers had gone up, then He also went up to the feast, not openly, but as it were in secret. 11 Then the Jews sought Him at the feast, and said, "Where is He?" 12 And there was much complaining among the people concerning Him. Some said, "He is good"; others said, "No, on the contrary, He deceives the people." 13 However, no one spoke openly of Him for fear of the Jews.

14 Now about the middle of the feast Jesus went up into the temple and taught. 15 And the Jews marveled, saying, "How does this Man know letters, having never studied?"

16 Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me. 17 If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority. 18 He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him. 19 Did not Moses give you the law, yet none of you keeps the law? Why do you seek to kill Me?"

20 The people answered and said, "You have a demon. Who is seeking to kill You?"

21 Jesus answered and said to them, "I did one work, and you all marvel. 22 Moses therefore gave you circumcision (not that it is from Moses, but from the fathers), and you circumcise a man on the Sabbath. 23 If a man receives circumcision on the Sabbath, so that the law of Moses should not be broken, are you angry with Me because I made a man completely well on the Sabbath? 24 Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."

### *Could This Be the Christ?*

25 Now some of them from Jerusalem said, “Is this not He whom they seek to kill? 26 But look! He speaks boldly, and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ? 27 However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from.”

28 Then Jesus cried out, as He taught in the temple, saying, “You both know Me, and you know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. 29 But I know Him, for I am from Him, and He sent Me.”

30 Therefore they sought to take Him; but no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come. 31 And many of the people believed in Him, and said, “When the Christ comes, will He do more signs than these which this Man has done?”

### *Jesus and the Religious Leaders*

32 The Pharisees heard the crowd murmuring these things concerning Him, and the Pharisees and the chief priests sent officers to take Him. 33 Then Jesus said to them, “I shall be with you a little while longer, and then I go to Him who sent Me. 34 You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come.”

35 Then the Jews said among themselves, “Where does He intend to go that we shall not find Him? Does He intend to go to the Dispersion among the Greeks and teach the Greeks? 36 What is this thing that He said, ‘You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come’?”

### *The Promise of the Holy Spirit*

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

### *Who Is He?*

40 Therefore many from the crowd, when they heard this saying, said, “Truly this is the Prophet.” 41 Others said, “This is the Christ.”

But some said, “Will the Christ come out of Galilee? 42 Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the seed of David and from the town of Bethlehem, where David was?” 43 So there was a division among the people because of Him. 44 Now some of them wanted to take Him, but no one laid hands on Him.

*Rejected by the Authorities*

45 Then the officers came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, “Why have you not brought Him?”

46 The officers answered, “No man ever spoke like this Man!”

47 Then the Pharisees answered them, “Are you also deceived? 48 Have any of the rulers or the Pharisees believed in Him? 49 But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed.”

50 Nicodemus (he who came to Jesus by night, being one of them) said to them, 51 “Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?”

52 They answered and said to him, “Are you also from Galilee? Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee.”

*An Adulteress Faces the Light of the World*

53 And everyone went to his own house.

**Reading Notes:**

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**Survey what the Bible says**

Prayerfully read this chapter and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe with a different color

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

Put an arrowpoint next to words that suggest times, places or dates.

## Outline John 7

Begin by assigning a title for John 7 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 7

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### 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. How many times do you see in this Chapter Jesus saying that His actions are on a timetable? What does He mean and what are the implications?
2. From the next couple of paragraphs (vv.10-24) why do you think the Jewish religious elite want to silence Jesus?
3. Explain verse 13 and what that says about the Jewish culture in that time. What made people afraid to speak openly about certain subjects?
4. Jesus taught with authority that made good-sense to the hearers. What prevented them from believing?
5. There were deep divisions about major doctrines between different sects within the Jewish religious elite. Why do you think there were such differences?
6. Despite differences about doctrine among the religious elite, why were common people afraid to express different views?
7. Why do you think Jesus was making an issue out of doctrinal differences? Why did it matter?

8. Are there reports in this chapter that give you the feeling that Jesus is in control of circumstances around Him? Give examples.

9. What do you think about Nicodemus' comments and questions? Do you get the impression that this is a corrupt system?

10. What do their questions and offhanded comments about Galilee reveal?

10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### **Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He intends.

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List all topics needing further study:

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## Could This Be The Christ? Part 2 – “I AM”

Scripture: John chapter 8

### *Jesus the Light of the World*

1 But Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

2 Now early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came to Him; and He sat down and taught them. 3 Then the scribes and Pharisees brought to Him a woman caught in adultery. And when they had set her in the midst, 4 they said to Him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?” 6 This they said, testing Him, that they might have something of which to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down and wrote on the ground with His finger, as though He did not hear.

7 So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, “He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.” 8 And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. 10 When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, “Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?”

11 She said, “No one, Lord.”

And Jesus said to her, “Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.”

12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “**I am the light of the world.** He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”

### *Jesus Defends His Self-Witness*

13 The Pharisees then said to Him, “You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true.”

14 Jesus answered and said to them, “Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going. 15 You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. 16 And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me. 17 It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. 18 I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me.”

19 Then they said to Him, “Where is Your Father?”

Jesus answered, “You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also.”

20 These words Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple; and no one laid hands on Him, for His hour had not yet come.

### *Jesus Predicts His Departure*

21 Then Jesus said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. Where I go you cannot come."

22 So the Jews said, "Will He kill Himself, because He says, 'Where I go you cannot come'?"

23 And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. 24 Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."

25 Then they said to Him, "Who are You?"

And Jesus said to them, "Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning. 26 I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him."

27 They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father.

28 Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. 29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him." 30 As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.

### *The Truth Shall Make You Free*

31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, 'You will be made free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. 35 And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. 36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.

### *Abraham's Seed and Satan's*

37 "I know that you are Abraham's descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. 38 I speak what I have seen with My Father, and you do what you have seen with your father."

39 They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father."

Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this. 41 You do the deeds of your father."

Then they said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God.”

42 Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. 43 Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe Me. 46 Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me? 47 He who is of God hears God’s words; therefore you do not hear, because you are not of God.”

*Before Abraham Was, I AM*

48 Then the Jews answered and said to Him, “Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?”

49 Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. 50 And I do not seek My own glory; there is One who seeks and judges. 51 Most assuredly, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word he shall never see death.”

52 Then the Jews said to Him, “Now we know that You have a demon! Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and You say, ‘If anyone keeps My word he shall never taste death.’ 53 Are You greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Who do You make Yourself out to be?”

54 Jesus answered, “If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. 55 Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.”

57 Then the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?”

58 Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, **I AM.**”

59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.

**Reading Notes:**

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## Survey what the Bible says

Prayerfully read chapter 8 and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe with a different color

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

Put an arrowpoint next to words that suggest times, places or dates.

## Outline John 8

Begin by assigning a title for John 8 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 8

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## 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. The Romans didn't usually allow capital punishment by anyone but them. However, since children, women and slaves were not always considered fully human, this scene isn't out of the question. It still looks like a trap...what could entrap Jesus in this kind of event?
2. This scene with Jesus and the woman caught in adultery was added to the text after John had originally written. It seems to be a very good story, but it is not inerrant Scripture. Knowing this, how do you think you will treat these verses in the future?

3. What could Jesus mean by calling Himself ‘Light of the world’? What significance do you see in Jesus saying we should ‘follow the light’? (hint Exodus 13:21)
4. Why were the Pharisees making such a big deal over Jesus needing multiple witnesses? How is that consistent with their evil practices revealed in 7:14?
5. What terms and symbols did Jesus use to distinguish His followers from those who do not?
6. List and explain the meaning of the different symbols Jesus use to describe Himself? To answer the question “who are you”?
7. ‘Tetragrammaton’ is a big word to describe a Hebrew practice, what does it mean?
8. How many times did Jesus claim to be God in this chapter (including times when He took authority over things that otherwise belong to God)?
9. Did His opponents get the message? How can you tell?
10. Throughout this chapter there are many different signs of ‘belief’. Are you getting the feeling that Jesus is distinguishing between different form? Explain? (Hint 2:24)
- 10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### **Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He intends.

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## Blind Witness

Scripture: John chapter 9

### *A Man Born Blind Receives Sight*

1 Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. 2 And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

3 Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. 4 I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”

6 When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. 7 And He said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.

8 Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, “Is not this he who sat and begged?”

9 Some said, “This is he.” Others said, “He is like him.” He said, “I am he.”

10 Therefore they said to him, “How were your eyes opened?”

11 He answered and said, “A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed, and I received sight.”

12 Then they said to him, “Where is He?” He said, “I do not know.”

### *The Pharisees Excommunicate the Healed Man*

13 They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. 14 Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. 15 Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.”

16 Therefore some of the Pharisees said, “This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them.

17 They said to the blind man again, “What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. 19 And they asked them, saying, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”

20 His parents answered them and said, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21 but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He

is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself.” 22 His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

24 So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, “Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner.”

25 He answered and said, “Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.”

26 Then they said to him again, “What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?”

27 He answered them, “I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?”

28 Then they reviled him and said, “You are His disciple, but we are Moses’ disciples. 29 We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from.”

30 The man answered and said to them, “Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! 31 Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. 32 Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. 33 If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing.”

34 They answered and said to him, “You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?” And they cast him out.

#### *True Vision and True Blindness*

35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, “Do you believe in the Son of God?”

36 He answered and said, “Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?”

37 And Jesus said to him, “You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.”

38 Then he said, “Lord, I believe!” And he worshiped Him.

39 And Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.”

40 Then some of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, “Are we blind also?”

41 Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.



## Outline John 9

Begin by assigning a title for John 9 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 9

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### 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. Jesus' disciples were misinformed about sin and consequences in light of Old Testament Law (Deuteronomy 5:9, Ezekiel 18:20) discuss your understanding about God's intent.
2. Why do you think Jesus healed this man differently from others?
3. The source of the Pharisees irritation was again (if you trust their words) Jesus' healing on the Sabbath. John says (20:30) he didn't record everything Jesus did. Why then does he mention so many times issues between Jesus and the Pharisees over Sabbath?
4. What impressions do you receive from the blind man's parents?
5. Reflect on v.39. How would you describe what Jesus was saying to His audience?
6. The testimony of the blind man is priceless (vv.30-33) reflect on his words and list those that most inspired you.
7. The Pharisees said that they 'didn't know where this man (Jesus) was from'? Was that true? Shouldn't they have found out? Perhaps they were lying - - if they were, then what were they trying to accomplish? (see also 7:52)
8. What was the basis for the formerly blind man being 'thrown out' of the Temple? (note: if he had been defective, he would have been considered unclean).

9. Does Jesus make any claims about Himself in this Chapter? Explain.

10. From Jesus' description, is blindness a physical or spiritual condition? What causes each?

10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### **Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He intends.

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List any topics needing further study:

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## I Am The Good Shepherd Speaks

Scripture: John chapter 10

### *Jesus the True Shepherd*

1 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6 Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them.

### *Jesus the Good Shepherd*

7 Then Jesus said to them again, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **I am the door** of the sheep. 8 All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

11 “**I am the good shepherd**. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. 12 But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. 13 The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. 15 As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. 16 And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

17 “Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. 18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”

19 Therefore there was a division again among the Jews because of these sayings. 20 And many of them said, “He has a demon and is mad. Why do you listen to Him?”

21 Others said, “These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

### *The Shepherd Knows His Sheep*

22 Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. 23 And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon’s porch. 24 Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, “How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.”

25 Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father’s name, they bear witness of Me. 26 But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I

said to you. 27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. 30 I and My Father are one."

*Renewed Efforts to Stone Jesus*

31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. 32 Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?"

33 The Jews answered Him, saying, "For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."

34 Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your law, 'I said, "You are gods" '? 35 If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken), 36 do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'? 37 If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me; 38 but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.'" 39 Therefore they sought again to seize Him, but He escaped out of their hand.

*The Believers Beyond Jordan*

40 And He went away again beyond the Jordan to the place where John was baptizing at first, and there He stayed. 41 Then many came to Him and said, "John performed no sign, but all the things that John spoke about this Man were true." 42 And many believed in Him there.

**Reading Notes:**

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## Survey what the Bible says

Prayerfully read chapter 10 and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe with a different color

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

Put an arrowpoint next to words that suggest times, places or dates.

## Outline John 10

Begin by assigning a title for John 10 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 10

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## 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. Right after teaching about spiritual blindness, Jesus now adopts the symbol of a Shepherd and says that His sheep 'know his voice...' how does one become an obedient sheep in this way, and how can you and I *know* Jesus' voice in our present day?

2. Do you recognize Jesus' foretelling aspects of His crucifixion? What's His message?
3. What does the image of Good Shepherd mean (hints Gen 48:24; Ps 23; Is 53:6; Ez 34)
4. When and where did events in Chapter 10 occur?
5. What did Jesus mean by His words in v.22? Had He told them? Did they really want to know? Was this a form of spiritual blindness? Does it happen today?
6. In this same paragraph (vv.25-30) did Jesus just tell them again? What and how?
7. How can we tell if they understood Jesus' meaning?
8. What did Jesus say in this chapter about belief?
9. Think about all the times John records a mix of responses from the onlookers...why do you think he is doing that?
10. Where did Jesus go? Who lived there then?
- 10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### **Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He intends.

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## **I Am The Resurrection and Life**

Scripture: John chapter 11

### *The Death of Lazarus*

11 Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 It was that Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. 3 Therefore the sisters sent to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick."

4 When Jesus heard that, He said, "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So, when He heard that he was sick, He stayed two more days in the place where He was. 7 Then after this He said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

8 The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, lately the Jews sought to stone You, and are You going there again?"

9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. 10 But if one walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." 11 These things He said, and after that He said to them, "Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up."

12 Then His disciples said, "Lord, if he sleeps he will get well." 13 However, Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking about taking rest in sleep.

14 Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. 15 And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him."

16 Then Thomas, who is called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

### *I Am the Resurrection and the Life*

17 So when Jesus came, He found that he had already been in the tomb four days. 18 Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. 19 And many of the Jews had joined the women around Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.

20 Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met Him, but Mary was sitting in the house. 21 Now Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You."

23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

24 Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her, “**I am the resurrection and the life.** He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

27 She said to Him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

### *Jesus and Death, the Last Enemy*

28 And when she had said these things, she went her way and secretly called Mary her sister, saying, “The Teacher has come and is calling for you.” 29 As soon as she heard that, she arose quickly and came to Him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the town, but was in the place where Martha met Him. 31 Then the Jews who were with her in the house, and comforting her, when they saw that Mary rose up quickly and went out, followed her, saying, “She is going to the tomb to weep there.”

32 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, “Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died.”

33 Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. 34 And He said, “Where have you laid him?”

They said to Him, “Lord, come and see.”

35 Jesus wept. 36 Then the Jews said, “See how He loved him!”

37 And some of them said, “Could not this Man, who opened the eyes of the blind, also have kept this man from dying?”

### *Lazarus Raised from the Dead*

38 Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. 39 Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days.”

40 Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?” 41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. 42 And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me.” 43 Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth!” 44 And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Loose him, and let him go.”

*The Plot to Kill Jesus*

45 Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him. 46 But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did. 47 Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, “What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. 48 If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation.”

49 And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all, 50 nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish.” 51 Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, 52 and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad.

53 Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death. 54 Therefore Jesus no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there into the country near the wilderness, to a city called Ephraim, and there remained with His disciples.

55 And the Passover of the Jews was near, and many went from the country up to Jerusalem before the Passover, to purify themselves. 56 Then they sought Jesus, and spoke among themselves as they stood in the temple, “What do you think—that He will not come to the feast?” 57 Now both the chief priests and the Pharisees had given a command, that if anyone knew where He was, he should report it, that they might seize Him.

**Reading Notes:**

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## Survey what the Bible says

Prayerfully read chapter 11 and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe with a different color

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

Put an arrowpoint next to words that suggest times, places or dates.

## Outline John 11

Begin by assigning a title for John 11 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 11

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## 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. A beloved friend in a beloved family was very sick. What do you recall about Mary and Martha? Also, explain Jesus' response in v.4 and give some reasons why he waited an additional 2 days before going to the family?

2. Jesus was in the Judean countryside and the family lived in Bethany (2 days away). What conflict arose among the disciples? How did Thomas put it?

3. When Martha went out to meet Jesus, how do you interpret her comments? Rebuking, faithful, anguished, or something else?
4. Jesus said “I am the resurrection and the life...” in less that 50 pages (just kidding) explain what Jesus meant. Did Martha understand what Jesus meant?
5. When Mary got there, how do you interpret her comments to Jesus?
6. In vv. 33 & 38 (twice) Jesus expresses emotion intended for them and us to hear. Some Bible translations water-down the translation, but it’s common translation is groaning or growling. With that in mind, read these verses and give your interpretation. Also, if Jesus was angry or displeased, what or who might he have been unhappy with?
7. Despite Martha’s practical yet unfaithful scolding (sound familiar see Luke 10:38) Jesus had the stone rolled away and then prayed. Had He and God not talked? Did Jesus need to verbalize like that to pray? For whose ears was this prayer? What was Jesus’ message to them/us?
8. The council that Caiaphas gathered were groups that didn’t usually get along. In fact, they would be considered separate sects within the Jewish faith. What does that say about their united hatred for Jesus and resolve to kill Him?
9. Does v.48 answer the question about the Pharisees and religious elite’s real motive for wanting to dispose of Jesus? Describe what Caiaphas meant by his comments.
10. Do you know about the doctrine or philosophy of *pragmatism*? How might it relate to what Caiaphas proposed?
- 10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### **Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He intends.

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List any topics needing further study:

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Sermon Notes:

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## Hosanna! The King Has Arrived

Scripture: John chapter 12

### *The Anointing at Bethany*

1 Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. 2 There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. 3 Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

4 But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, 5 "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" 6 This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

7 But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial. 8 For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always."

### *The Plot to Kill Lazarus*

9 Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. 10 But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, 11 because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

### *The Triumphal Entry*

12 The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 13 took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out:

"Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' The King of Israel!"

14 Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written:

15 "Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming,  
Sitting on a donkey's colt."

16 His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.

17 Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. 18 For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign. 19 The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, "You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!"

### *The Fruitful Grain of Wheat*

20 Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. 21 Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”

22 Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus.

23 But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. 24 Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. 25 He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.

### *Jesus Predicts His Death on the Cross*

27 “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name.”

Then a voice came from heaven, saying, “I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.”

29 Therefore the people who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.”

30 Jesus answered and said, “This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. 32 And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.” 33 This He said, signifying by what death He would die.

34 The people answered Him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains forever; and how can You say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this Son of Man?”

35 Then Jesus said to them, “A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. 36 While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.

### *Who Has Believed Our Report?*

37 But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, 38 that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:

“Lord, who has believed our report?  
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

39 Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again:

40 “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts,  
Lest they should see with their eyes,  
Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn,  
So that I should heal them.”

41 These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.

*Walk in the Light*

42 Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; 43 for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

44 Then Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. 45 And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. 46 I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. 47 And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. 48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. 49 For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. 50 And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”

**Reading Notes:**

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## Survey what the Bible says

Prayerfully read chapter 12 and ask the Holy Spirit to give insight and instruction. After your first read, go through the text and highlight symbols and phrases you want to remember.

Draw a key in the margin next to the central theme (or themes) of this chapter.

Highlight the words spoken by Jesus

Highlight believe with a different color

Underline text that has Old Testament / prophetic connections

Place a red cross over words that symbolize Jesus or His work

Use other marks or symbols that help you like...

Draw a red star next to the sign or miracle John records in this chapter

Put an arrowpoint next to words that suggest times, places or dates.

## Outline John 12

Begin by assigning a title for John 12 \_\_\_\_\_

Write an outline that overviews the main topics or events and sub-categories for John 12

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## 10 Questions for Reflection and Study

*Consider these questions as the basis for your devotional study and reflection. Use the back of these pages or added sheets to record your answers. Pay particular attention to question 10b.*

1. Is John drawing a *loud* distinction between people's attitudes towards Him by putting the records of Caiaphas' council meeting and Mary's adoration back-to-back? Can we empathize with Mary's emotion at this moment?

*(I'm not even going to ask a question about Judas, but you can write something if you want)*

2. Interpret Jesus' meaning about the poor in v. 8.

3. Why do you think the religious leaders plotted to kill Lazarus?
4. Read Psalms 118. What do you know about this Psalm? List verses quoted here in John 12.
5. Read Zechariah 9. Summarize the prophecies Jesus fulfilled by the Triumphal Entry.
6. Review vv. 27-35: What did the hearers gain from God’s audible reply? What misconception re: Messiah are the onlookers exposing in this section? Discuss the source of that misconception.
7. Reflect on the symbol Jesus uses for Himself “*Light*” Summarize what Jesus means by this important symbol.
8. What is the significance of Jesus quoting Isaiah here? What are His messages from Isaiah?
9. In your view, what are the 3 most compelling messages in chapter 12 about believing in Jesus?
10. Explain what Jesus says about believing and not believing in vv. 47-48.
- 10-b. What questions would you have asked that I missed?

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### **Application**

What did you learn about Jesus? Is there anything you need to do with that knowledge?

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Write a prayer that appropriately responds to what God said, and how you feel. Ask God to help you listen and do as He intends.

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## Summary

How does one close a study series of this magnitude? Actually, as I am writing before we have gone through it together, I really don't know.

I pray it will end with having gained deep, life changing insights.

I pray that we have grown closer as a body and love each other and Jesus more than ever before.

I pray that some have discovered new calls from the Holy Spirit on their lives, and that we finish the study with new souls in our class who accepted Christ during the journey.

Most of all, I pray that as we end this series, we can look back and say with all sincere truthfulness that we did everything we could to ***listen to God and do what He says.***

No doubt we've announced our next series and may even have started. What ever the case, when I finally read these words some 15 or 20 weeks after I wrote them, I hope that you will be secure in the center of God's will for your life. Which, I am confident includes continuing to study the truths and motivations the good apostle inspiringly included in this gospel.

Blessings,

Pastor dave

# Appendices

## Appendix #1

### Events after Jesus public ministry:

Our series has ended but it's only covered a little over half of the book of John (in fact 12/21 chapters or 57%). There remains much more essential content that we hope you will consider continuing to study devotionally.

Below is a summary outline of the remainder of the book. As you can see, the majority (13-17) contains descriptions found nowhere else in the Bible. John is the only writer who details events of the night in the upper room just before Jesus' trial and crucifixion.

John is also the only gospel writer to report the restoration of Peter (21) by the Sea of Galilee.

Those are only two of the many reasons why we suggest you continue to study John. Perhaps someday soon we can do a "*second-half*" series. Until then - - enjoy and be blessed!!

### Post Jesus' Public Ministry

John 13-17 "*Mundy Thursday*", Jesus in the upper room with His disciples

- 13 – washes His disciples feet
- 14 – 'Let not your heart be troubled...'
- 15 – 'I am the vine...'
- 16 – Jesus warns and promises the Holy Spirit
- 17 – Priestly prayer

John 18-19 Trial, Crucifixion and Burial

- 18 – Betrayal and trials
- 20 – Crucifixion and Burial

John 20 Resurrection

John 21 Peter's Restoration

## Appendix #2

### I AM statements in John

As John's purpose was to prove Jesus is the Son of God and God Himself, he reported times when Jesus used the "I AM" personal pronoun structure to refer to Himself. This inflamed the religious elite of His day, but also made clear what He was saying about His credentials.

Jesus' "I am" statements would have particular significance to the first-century Jewish listener. God had revealed Himself to Moses with a resounding "I AM" (Ex. 3:14). Jesus used the same words to describe Himself (4:26; 6:20; 13:19).

Below is a list of Jesus' seven "I Am" statements in the book of John.

1. "I am the bread of life." (John 6:35, 41, 48, 51) As bread sustains physical life, so Christ offers and sustains spiritual life.
2. "I am the light of the world." (John 8:12) To a world lost in darkness, Christ offers Himself as a guide.
3. "I am the door of the sheep." (John 10:7,9) Jesus protects His followers as shepherds protect their flocks from predators.
4. "I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25) Death is not the final word for those in Christ.
5. "I am the good shepherd." (John 10:11, 14) Jesus is committed to caring and watching over those who are His.
6. "I am the way, the truth, and the life." (John 14:6) Jesus is the source of all truth and knowledge about God.
7. "I am the true vine." (John 15:1, 5) By attached ourselves to Christ, we enable His life to flow in and through us. Then we cannot help but bear fruit that will honor the Father.

There are two more "**I am**" statements of Jesus in the Gospel of John. These are not metaphors; rather, they are declarations of God's name, as applied by Jesus to Himself. The first instance comes as Jesus responds to a complaint by the Pharisees. "I tell you the truth," Jesus says, "before Abraham was born, I am!" (John 8:58). The verbs Jesus uses are in stark contrast with each other: Abraham was, but I am. There is no doubt that the Jews understood Jesus' claim to be the eternal God incarnate, because they took up stones to kill Him (verse 59).

The second instance of Jesus applying to Himself the name I AM comes in the Garden of Gethsemane. When the mob came to arrest Jesus, He asked them whom they sought. They said, "Jesus of Nazareth," and Jesus replied, "I am he" (John 18:4-5). Then something strange happened: "When Jesus said, 'I am he,' they drew back and fell to the ground" (verse 6). Perhaps explaining the mob's reaction is the fact that the word he has been provided by our English translators. Jesus simply said, "I am." Applying God's covenant name to Himself, Jesus demonstrated His power over His foes and showed that His surrender to them was entirely voluntary (see John 10:17-18; 19:11).