

Book Study - John

A tool to help with reading the Bible.



Produced by XA Denton Chi Alpha | UNT & TWU

The Book of John:

Jesus becomes human as the incarnation of the creator God of Israel, to share His love and the gift of eternal life with the world. Throughout the Gospel of John, we see that Jesus is God and the reality toward which all of Israel's history points. Not only is Jesus the Messiah, but He's also the Son of God who gives eternal life to everyone who believes on His name. We see this reality through the signs and miracles He performs, and seven times He answers "I Am" when people question His identity.

He also uses His time on earth to introduce people to the new birth. By believing that He is the Messiah and God's son, they have eternal life and freedom from sin and are empowered to perform radical acts of kindness, generosity and selfless love as they listen to His voice and obey Him. (Provided by the Bible Project)

Each Gospel was written with a theological agenda in mind, but only John, "the disciples Jesus loved" made his agenda explicit: "But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life". Because of this goal, John's Gospel takes on a different flavor than the other three accounts. John was less concerned with Jesus' actions than with what his actions said about him. John spoke of Jesus' miracles as "signs," and he recorded lengthy theological monologues by Jesus, including seven "I am" statements about himself. John opened his Gospel with an account of the preexistent Christ—"the Word" the unique Son of God—who became human and made God the Father known to us. After recounting details of John the Baptist and his ministry, John described Jesus' baptism. At this point the general outline of John's narrative breaks sharply from those of the other three accounts, rearranging some of the events and including different material. For instance, John's Gospel records more than one trip to Jerusalem by Jesus, unlike the other Gospels. After describing in detail Jesus' last supper with his disciples, John recounts Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. The book closes with some encounters between Jesus and his disciples. (Provided by *Tyndale's New Living Translation Bible* book preface)

Reading Checklist:

John 1: ____	John 10: ____	John 19: ____
John 2: ____	John 11: ____	John 20: ____
John 3: ____	John 12: ____	John 21: ____
John 4: ____	John 13: ____	
John 5: ____	John 14: ____	
John 6: ____	John 15: ____	
John 7: ____	John 16: ____	
John 8: ____	John 17: ____	
John 9: ____	John 18: ____	

John:

Descriptions provided by Tyndale's New Living Translation Bible book preface

- Author:** John, the apostle, son of Zebedee and brother of James the apostle
- Date:** Around 90 A.D.
- Purpose:** To show that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that all who believe in him will have eternal life.
- Themes:** Jesus as the unique Son of God, eternal life, the Holy Spirit, light vs. dark, Jesus' "I AM" statements

Milestones (Bibleproject.com)

- **God in Human:** Jesus is the Word and with the Word, meaning He is God's tabernacle in our midst, the one true God of Israel in human form.
- **Signs and Miracles:** Jesus performs signs and miracles that show He is God, introduce others to new life and demonstrate God's love but draws criticism from many leaders.
- **Raising Lazarus:** Jesus raises Lazarus. Then he demonstrates His love for others when He rides into Jerusalem as Israel's king even though leaders conspire to murder Him.
- **Final Message:** Before His death, Jesus demonstrates God's true nature of selfless love and asks the disciples to perform radical acts of service as they love others selflessly.
- **Commissioning:** Jesus commissions His disciples to tell others that He is the Messiah and God's Son. Their success will be greatest when they listen and obey.

For a video overview, visit: <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/john>

John 1-4: Jesus' pre-Galilean ministry

What are two things that you noticed about God's character in this section?

From what you read, what is something that you feel like God is showing you at this moment?

What is something that you learned or were challenged by that you can apply to your life?

What is something you read in this passage that you did not previously know or understand?

Additional Notes:

John 5-7: Jesus' Galilean ministry (part 1)

What are two things that you noticed about God's character in this section?

From what you read, what is something that you feel like God is showing you at this moment?

What is something that you learned or were challenged by that you can apply to your life?

What is something you read in this passage that you did not previously know or understand?

Additional Notes:

John chapters 8-10: Jesus' Galilean ministry (part 2)

What are two things that you noticed about God's character in this section?

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Additional Notes:

John chapter 11: The raising of Lazarus from the dead and the plot to kill Jesus

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Additional Notes:

John chapters 12-14: Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem

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What is something that you learned or were challenged by that you can apply to your life?

What is something you read in this passage that you did not previously know or understand?

Additional Notes:

John chapters 15-17: Jesus' final teachings

What are two things that you noticed about God's character in this section?

From what you read, what is something that you feel like God is showing you at this moment?

What is something that you learned or were challenged by that you can apply to your life?

What is something you read in this passage that you did not previously know or understand?

Additional Notes:

John chapters 18-21: Jesus' death and resurrection

What are two things that you noticed about God's character in this section?

From what you read, what is something that you feel like God is showing you at this moment?

What is something that you learned or were challenged by that you can apply to your life?

What is something you read in this passage that you did not previously know or understand?

Additional Notes:

Next, pick up one of these booklets from the XA store.

1. *Genesis* - 50 chapters
2. *The Torah* (Exodus - Deuteronomy) - 133 chapters
3. *Joshua and Judges* - 45 chapters
4. *Ruth and Esther* - 14 chapters
5. *The Kings* (1 Sam - 2 Chronicles) - 177 chapters
6. *After Babylon* (Ezra, Nehemiah, Daniel) - 35 chapters
7. *Psalms* - 150 Psalms
8. *Poetry* (Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs) - 93 chapters
9. *Isaiah & Ezekiel* - 110 chapters
10. *Jeremiah and Lamentations* - 57 chapters
11. *Minor Prophets, Pre-Exile* - 43 chapters
 - (Hosea, Joel, Amos, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk)
12. *Minor Prophets, Post-Exile* - 24 chapters
 - (Zephaniah, Obadiah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi)
13. *Synoptic Gospels* (Matthew, Mark, Luke) - 68 chapters
14. *John* - 21 chapters
15. *Acts* - 28 chapters
16. *Paul's Letters to churches* - 59 chapters
 - (Romans, 1 & 2 Cor., Galatians, 1 & 2 Thes.)
17. *Paul's Prison Epistles* - 15 chapters
 - (Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon)
18. *Paul's Letters to people* (1 & 2 Timothy, Titus) - 13 chapters
19. *Apostle's Letters* (Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1 2 3 John, Jude) - 34 chapters
20. *Revelation* - 22 chapters