

# Gospel of John Study 2026

Jan 8 Lesson 1 *In the beginning* (1:1-18)

Jan 15 Lesson 2 *Lamb of God* (1:19-2:11)

Jan 22 Lesson 3 *Living Water* (2:12-4:54)

Jan 29 Lesson 4 *Equal with God* (5:1-47)

Feb 5 Lesson 5 *Bread for the World* (6:1-71)

Feb 12 Lesson 6 *Light of the World* (7:1-8:59)

Feb 19 Lesson 7 *Good Shepherd* (9:1-10:42)

Feb 26 Lesson 8 *Resurrection and The Life* (11:1-57)

Mar 5 *NO CLASS*

Mar 12 Lesson 9 *Belief and Unbelief* (12:1-50)

Mar 19 Lesson 10 *The New Commandment* (13:1-17:26)

Mar 26 Lesson 11 *It is Finished* (18:1-21:25)

# Lesson 1 *In the Beginning* John 1:1-18

1. What is the purpose of this book according to John 20:30-31?
  - a. What is faith?
  - b. Why is faith so important to daily life?
2. Who was John? John 21:24; 1 John 1:1-3
  - a. Why doesn't he name himself?
  - b. What does it mean to be "the disciple whom Jesus loved?"
3. List the key words used in this passage. Describe the meaning of each word.

## Verses 1-5

4. What book of the Bible begins the same way? In Genesis 1-2, How does God create the world?
  - a. What does God make on the first day?
  - b. How is light the source of physical life on this planet?
  - c. Christ is spiritual light and his light is the source of what? (see John 8:12)
  - d. How is the Gospel a life and death matter?

## Verses 6-8

5. Who was John the Baptist and what was his purpose?
  - a. How do all Christians share his purpose?
  - b. What is your testimony?

## Verses 9-13

6. Who rejected Jesus? When have you rejected him?

7. What does it mean to receive and believe? (v12)
8. What is the difference between “born of the flesh” and “born of God”?
  - a. Why is it important to be spiritually born?
  - b. Have you been spiritually born?
  - c. What does spiritual birth mean for the living of your daily life?

### Verses 14-18

9. According to 1:14, who is Jesus? How does he make God known to us? (see Hb 1:1-3)
  - a. Who is the “we” of v 14?
  - b. What have you personally received from Jesus Christ?
10. In a world of many religions and philosophies what distinguishes Christian faith?
  - a. What is unique and compelling about Christian faith?
  - b. Compare the statement “All religions are the same” to the message of Jn 1:1-18.

### Personal application

11. What do you learn about yourself in this passage?
12. What do you learn about what God wants from you in this passage?

# Lesson 2 *Lamb of God* John 1:19-2:11

## Verses 1:19-51

1. Where do these events take place?
2. What are the key verses that seem most important or that puzzle you?

## Verses 19-35

3. What do we learn about John the Baptist?
4. Compare and contrast water baptism with Spirit baptism?
5. What is the meaning of “lamb of God”? Consider these passages:
  - a. Exodus 29:38-46
  - b. Isaiah 53:4-12
6. What is the meaning of the phrase “the Jews”?

## Verses 35-51

7. How is Jesus described? What labels and titles do the disciples assign to him?
8. What did Jesus mean when he said “Follow me?”
9. What miraculous quality does Jesus’ display?
10. How are we to understand Jesus’ claim in verse 51?

## Verses 2:1-11

11. Where does this take place? What are the circumstances? Who is present?
12. What does it mean to run out of wine? (see Psalm 104:14-16)
13. Jesus transforms. How have you seen Jesus transform people?
14. When does “the hour” come for Jesus? (See John 12:23)
15. How has the Cross of Christ transformed your life?

## Application

16. What do these scriptures say about what Jesus Christ wants to do in you?
17. What is one thing you can do this week to open the way for God's will to be done in you?

# Lesson 3 *Living Water* (2:12-4:54)

## Verses 2:12-22

What is a temple and why do people build them?

How is Jesus like a Temple?

## Verses 2:23-25

Some believed Jesus but He judged their faith defective. What is real faith?

## Verses 3:1-15

Why would Nicodemus come at night?

What does Nicodemus think about Jesus? Is it enough?

What does Nicodemus think about new birth?

What does Jesus mean by new birth?

Nicodemus would have been familiar with God's promise in Ezekiel 36:25-28. How does this promise coincide with what Jesus is saying here?

Do you believe Jesus can change people? What evidence of transformation have you experienced or seen? (see 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Jesus refers to Numbers 21:4-9. What is the point of comparison between this story and Jesus?

How is the Cross the cure for sin? (see 2 Corinthians 5:21)

## Verses 3:31-36

How is Christ superior to all other religious authorities?

What kinds of authorities do people follow these days?

How does this affect the way they live their lives?

## Verses 4:4-42

What circumstances might make this a scandalous conversation for Jesus?

What is the gift of God?

Who is Jesus?

What is “Living Water?”

Is the woman aware of her moral and spiritual need? How does Jesus bring it out?

For Jesus why is the object of worship more important than the place of worship?

The Samaritans knew from Deuteronomy 18:18 of the Messiah. What do you make of Jesus’ self-identification to her?

## Application

How do you seek Spiritual transformation in your life?

What is one thing you can do this week to get closer to Jesus in your daily life?

# Lesson 4 *Equal with God* (5:1-47)

## Verses 1-18

1. What is the time and place of this story?
2. Who are the main characters?
3. Why does Jesus ask him if he wanted to be healed? What do you make of his answer?
4. The healing comes in the form of a command. After 38 years of paralysis, how would you have responded to such a command? What does this man's response reveal about him?
5. How do the Jews react to this healing?
6. Jesus gives the man a second command, "sin no more." What is the relationship between this second command and the first one?

## Verses 19-29

7. Jesus gives 4 reasons why he is equal with God. What are they?
8. How does he define "eternal life"? When does it begin?
9. What does Jesus say about human destiny? How does this affect how we should live now?

## Verses 30-47

10. Jesus points out 4 witnesses that testify to his authority. Who are they?
11. According to Jesus, what was the bottom-line spiritual obstacle of his opponents?
12. What does it mean to "have the love of God" in you? (see Romans 5:5)
13. What is the main purpose of scripture? Why should we read it?
14. What is the difference between living for the glory of man and living for the glory of God?
15. In this chapter, what do we learn about God?
16. What do we learn about human nature?

17. What kind of relationship does God want with us?

## Application

18. Is there a specific sin that is paralyzing you? Have you become apathetic about it? If you trusted Jesus to empower you to overcome it, what might be the first step you should take this week?

19. If Jesus is all that he claims to be in this chapter, what are the implications for our obedience? What is the relationship between your faith and your obedience?

20. "Unbelief does not make us bad people; it makes us dead people." What do you make of this statement?

# Lesson 5 Bread for the World (6:1-71)

## Verses 1-15

1. Where does this take place and what time is it?
2. Why did a large crowd follow Jesus?
3. What is the difference between seeking miracles and seeking faith?
4. Why did Jesus test Phillip?
5. What did the people mean when they called Jesus "The Prophet"? (see Dt 18:15)
6. Why did Jesus walk away from the chance to be king? (see John 18:36)

## Verses 16-20

7. What do we learn about Jesus in these verses?
8. What do we learn about his followers?
9. Why was Jesus always telling his disciples not to be afraid?

## Verses 22-59

10. Scene change: where are we now and what time is it?
11. Jesus speaks of two kinds of food and two kinds of work. What are they? How do people seek them today?
12. Why did the crowds ask for another sign?
13. What kind of hunger and thirst does he satisfy? (Dt 8:3)
14. What will happen on the last day?
15. Why did the Jews grumble? How did Jesus respond to them?
16. Where did Jesus come from and what has he seen that no one else has ever seen? What do you make of this claim?

17. According to Jesus, what is the mark of having eternal life? (verse 47)
18. How is faith compared to eating food in these verses?
19. Unpack the concept of faith: what is Jesus inviting us to do when he asks us to believe?
20. What are three things that will happen to those who believe?
21. Eating is a life-or-death activity and so is faith in Jesus Christ. How do you exercise your faith? Why is it so urgent that we share our faith with others?
22. Why did some take offense at Jesus? How do people take offense at him today?
23. How is Jesus' statement in verse 63 like the remark he made in John 3:5-8?
24. Consider verses 68-69. If we really believed this, how would it affect how we live?

## Application

25. Who is Jesus to you? What does he expect of you?
26. What is one thing you can do this week to respond to Jesus?

# Lesson 6 *Light of the World* (7:1-8:59)

## Verses 7:1-24

1. Why did Jesus leave the territory of Judea?
2. Why would Jesus avoid the publicity-seeking proposal of his brothers?
3. How does social media magnify the human desire for publicity? What does this do to people?
4. Who in this passage is operating out of fear? What motivates Jesus?

## Verses 7:25-31

5. Where did Jesus get his teaching? How is he validated?
6. How does Jesus justify his performance of healings on the Sabbath?
7. What do you make of judging by appearances versus judging with right judgment?
8. The discussion about Jesus' teaching and works leads to questions about his identity. How does Jesus challenge the assumptions people made about him?
9. What do people commonly assume about Jesus today? How would Jesus respond to these assumptions?

## Verses 7:32-37

10. Where is Jesus going that they cannot come?
11. How is the Pharisees response similar to Nicodemus or the Samaritan Woman?

*On the last day of the feast of tabernacles, the priests poured a large quantity of water on the altar of sacrifice as an annual ritual act of cleansing.*

How might this inform Jesus' references to water?

12. For Jesus, what does water symbolize?

13. Jesus will teach in detail about the Holy Spirit in chapters 14-16. But for now, what promise does he make about the Holy Spirit?

14. According to Romans 5:5 what is the defining characteristic of having Christian faith?

### Verses 7:53-8:11

15. Where and when does this episode take place? Who is there?

16. What is the nature of the test of Jesus? What might happen when he responds?

17. How does Jesus flip the script and challenge his accusers?

18. In the end, does Jesus condone adultery? What is the lesson for church people today?

### Verses 8:12-30

*During the feast of Tabernacles, a giant menorah (candelabra) was lit to symbolize the pillar of fire in the book of Exodus.*

19. How is Jesus the light of the world? What does it mean to walk in darkness?

20. Who is Jesus' Father? How is Jesus his Son? How does this help us understand the Trinity?

### Verses 8:31-47

21. What does it mean to abide in his word?

22. What truth does he refer to?

23. What kind of freedom do disciples experience? ( see Romans 8:1-4)

### Application

24. What are the implications of these chapters for your personal obedience to Jesus?

25. From what specifically does Jesus want to set you free? What small step can you take right now?

# Lesson 7 *Good Shepherd* (9:1-10:42)

## Verses 9:1-6

1. How does Jesus answer the question who sinned?
2. Why is it important that Jesus touches the blind man's eyes with the mud?
3. What does the blind man need to do before the healing is complete?

## Verses 9:8-23

4. What do the neighbors think? How does the man describe Jesus to them?
5. What do the Pharisees think? How does the man describe Jesus to them?
6. Why do they interview his parents? Why do people deny testimonies of people's personal experience with Jesus?

## Verses 9:24-34

7. What have the Pharisees concluded about Jesus and why?
8. How does the healed man respond? How does the man describe Jesus to them?
9. Where did Jesus come from?

## Verses 9:35-38

10. What are the key words in this passage?
11. What is significant about Jesus coming to this man a second time?
12. How does this fit with John's stated purpose in John 20:30-31?

## Verses 10:1-18

13. How did Ezekiel 34:1-10 prophesy against the shepherds of Israel? Who were these “shepherds?”
14. In their treatment of the blind man, how were the Pharisees bad shepherds?
15. According to Jesus’ parable what are the characteristics of the Good Shepherd?
16. The door and the shepherd are the same image since shepherds slept across the gate opening of their sheepfolds at night. They literally were the door to the flock. As the Good Shepherd, what promises does Jesus make to the sheep?
17. What does Jesus say about his death? Why is it important?
18. What are the responsibilities of the sheep? What does this mean for being a disciple? What does it mean for you?

## Application

19. What comfort do you take from chapters 9 and 10?
20. What response is God asking from you personally? What is your first step to take?

# Lesson 8 Resurrection and Life (11:1-57)

## Verses 1-16

1. Where is Jesus and who is with him when he hears the report of Lazarus' illness?
2. Who is Lazarus and where does he live?
3. Jesus states 2 reasons for his delay in going. What are they? (v 4, 15)
4. The hours of the day proceed without regard to circumstances and they are to be used. What is Jesus saying about his mission?
5. What is the risk for Jesus? How was he treated in Jerusalem in chapter 10?

## Verses 17-27

6. What do we know about Martha and Mary from Luke 10:38-42?
7. Define Jesus' key words: resurrection, life and faith?
8. How does Martha's confession in v 27 compare to John's purpose in John 20:30-31?

## Verses 28-37

9. How does Mary react to Jesus?
10. Why was Jesus moved and troubled?
11. Why did he weep? What does this say about human grief?

## Verses 38-44

12. Where the people aware of what Jesus was about to do?
13. How was this tomb like Jesus' own tomb?
14. What was Martha's objection?
15. What does Jesus emphasize in his prayer?

16. Readers are “one of those standing around this miracle”. What do you make of it?

### Verses 45-57

17. How do the Pharisees respond to the miracle?

18. What is their fear?

19. What important principle is established by Caiphas’ prophecy? How does it help us understand the meaning of the Cross? (see Isaiah 53:4-6)

20. How does one receive the atonement of Christ? (see Romans 8:1-4)

### Application

21. What is the difference between believing in a doctrine and believing in Jesus?

22. How are you trusting in Jesus in the graveyards of your life?

# Lesson 9 *Belief and Unbelief* (12:1-50)

## Verses 12:1-8

1. Where does this take place? Who is present? What time is it?
2. What do we learn about Mary? How do her actions challenge us in our discipleship?
3. What do we learn about Judas? How could someone on the inner circle of Jesus be such a deceitful thief?
4. How does greed and dishonesty affect you?
5. What did Jesus mean when he spoke in verse 8?

## Verses 12:9-11

6. What makes the crowd gather?
7. What do you suspect about their believing in Jesus? What is genuine faith?

## Verses 12:12-19

8. Compare the crowd's chant with Psalm 118:25-26. What does this imply about how they view Jesus?
9. What is the symbolic meaning of Jesus riding on a donkey?
10. What kind of a king do you think Jesus understands himself to be, given what you've read so far in John?
11. What is the danger in trusting in popularity and crowd-approval?

## Verses 12:20-26

12. Who do you know who would really like to meet Jesus? How can you share your faith with them?
13. How is Jesus like a grain of wheat?

14. How does he ask his disciples to be like a grain of wheat? (see Ephesians 4:20-24)
15. What steps can you take this week to serve and follow Jesus?

### Verses 12:27-36

16. How did God glorify him and how will God glorify him again?
17. How does the cross judge the world?
18. Who is the ruler of this world? From where is he cast out?
19. Describe the nature of Jesus' drawing power?
20. What does the darkness represent?
21. What does it mean to walk in the light? (see 1 John 1:6-7)

### Verses 12:37-43

22. Why didn't the miracles of Jesus convince people to believe in him?
23. In Isaiah 6:10, Isaiah faces the same challenge—the more he speaks, the more people harden their hearts. Who is responsible for unbelief?
24. Isaiah describes the glory of the Messiah in Isaiah 53. Read this chapter.

### Verses 12:44-50

25. Jesus makes his final statement on belief and unbelief. How does he encourage believers and warn unbelievers?

### Application

26. How has your faith put you at odds with the darkness of this world?
27. Describe a time when the light of Jesus guided you through a challenging time?

# Lesson 10 *New Commandment* (13-17)

## Verses 13:1-20

1. When did Jesus know that his hour had come?
2. How did Jesus love his own completely? (See Romans 5:8)
3. How would you describe the love God demonstrated on the Cross?
4. What did Jesus want to accomplish by washing the disciple's feet?
5. What are some ways we can follow his example in our daily lives?

## Verses 13:31-35

6. What does it mean to glorify God?
7. How does Jesus define the basis and motivation of real love?
8. Explain what it would look like in daily life to keep Jesus' "New Commandment"?

## Verses 14:1-7

9. According to Jesus, what is the antidote to a troubled heart?
10. Why was it important for Jesus to make the promises in verses 2-3?
11. What is the way to these promises? (see 10:3-4)
12. In what sense is Jesus the way, the truth and the life for you?

## Verses 15:1-17

13. How do these verses describe the closeness of Jesus and the Father?
14. What kind of relationship does Jesus seek from his disciples?
15. Describe the difference between being cast out and being pruned?
16. How will abiding in Jesus affect our prayer life? (verse 7)
17. What is the importance of obedience for discipleship?
18. What does the fruit represent?

## Verses 16:5-15

19. Who is the Holy Spirit?
20. Where does he come from?

21. What does he do?

22. How have you experienced the Holy Spirit in your faith life?

### Verses 17:1-26

23. What is the definition of eternal life?

24. How does the Father glorify the Son? How does the Son glorify the Father?

25. How can believers glorify the Father and the Son?

26. What do we learn here about the Trinity?

27. What has Jesus done for his disciples?

28. What four things does Jesus pray for his disciples?

29. Who does he begin to pray for in verse 20? What does he pray for them?

### Application:

30. What is Jesus asking of you personally through this passage?

31. What is one step you can take in response to him?

# Lesson 11 *It is Finished* (18:1-21:25)

## Verses 18:28-40

1. *The Jews wish not to be ritually defiled but inwardly they are moving to kill an innocent man. It's intense hypocrisy.* Why is it so important to deal with our inward condition first in coming to God?
2. How do the Jews betray the principles of their own religion?
3. In what way is Jesus a king? Why is it wrong to reduce Christianity to a political movement?
4. Jesus' mission was to bear witness to the truth? How did he do this in the gospel?
5. Why is it significant that Pilate declares Jesus innocent? (see 2 Corinthians 5:21)

## Verses 19:1-16

6. If Pilate thought Jesus innocent, why do you think did he had him flogged?
7. How does Pilate betray the principles of justice in this trial?
8. Pilate says "Behold the man!" How does Jesus represent the human race at this point? (see Isaiah 53:4-9)
9. What does it mean to you that Jesus stood in your place on this day of judgment?

## Verses 19:23-37

10. Based on this passage, how would you describe the state of relations between Pilate and the Priests of the Jews?
11. The soldiers' gambling fulfills Psalm 22:18. Carefully review this Psalm for other prophecies of the cross.
12. How do these fulfillments affect the way you view scripture?
13. What do you make of Jesus' words to his mother and John (verses 26-27)?
14. Review John 10:15-16. How might Jesus be forming his flock at the Cross?
15. What do we learn about Jesus when he says, "I thirst"?

16. "It is finished" What is it? (see Romans 3:23-25, Hebrews 9:10; 1 Peter 3:18)

### Verses 20:1-18

17. Recall John 1:5. How is this fulfilled in these verses?

18. What motivation could there be to rob a grave?

19. What is the meaning of the grave clothes and head cloth?

20. The historical fact of the empty tomb is accepted by Mary, Peter and John but is it enough to ignite faith in the Resurrection?

21. What event did move Mary to faith?

22. What makes this account trustworthy?

23. What is the importance of the Resurrection?

### Verses 21:1-19

24. What evidence do you see in this fishing story that it is an eyewitness account?

25. Jesus' three questions to Peter correspond to Peter's three denials of Jesus. What is the significance of this?

26. What hope do you see in this story for Christians who have failed?

27. The Gospel ends with the words Jesus gives at the beginning, "follow me." What does it mean to follow Jesus?

### Application

28. In light of all you've learned from the Gospel of John, what is your next step in following Jesus?