

Gospel of JOHN: That You May Believe

Sermon Series Setup • Winter 2021 • John (pt.1): chs. 1-12

Book-of-the-bible preaching series from The Village Church



WHAT IS THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN ABOUT?

Jesus came to bring God's love and the gift of eternal life to the world. Not only is Jesus the Messiah, but he's also the son of God who gives eternal life to everyone who believes in his name. We see this reality through the signs and miracles he performs. And when people question if he's the son of God, seven times Jesus responds, "I Am."

John emphasizes Jesus' unique ability to give eternal life—something only God has the authority to do. He also introduces people to a new life in him. 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 live according to God's Kingdom.

The Gospel of John emphasizes Jesus as God incarnate and the reality to which the entire biblical story points. John emphasizes this with his opening passages that states that Jesus was with God at creation and that Jesus is God. It's a bold statement, and John spends the rest of his Gospel account emphasizing Jesus' identity as God in human form. - Bible Project

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT?

The most agreed upon date of writing is the period between A.D. 70 (the date of the destruction of the temple) and A.D. 100 (the end of John's lifetime), but there is not enough evidence to be much more precise.

The Gospel of John was written by the apostle John, most likely the son of Zebedee. John was a Palestinian Jew and a member of Jesus' inner apostolic circle during his earthly ministry. John's original audience consisted of both Jews and Gentiles living in the larger Greco-Roman world in Ephesus and beyond toward the close of the first century A.D. He frequently explains Jewish customs and Palestinian geography and translates Aramaic terms into Greek (see note on 1:38), thus showing awareness of non-Jewish readers. He also presents Jesus as the-Word-became-flesh against the backdrop of Greek thought that included Stoicism and early Gnosticism. But John also shows awareness of Jewish readers as he demonstrates Jesus to be the Jewish Messiah, the fulfillment of many OT themes, and the Son of God who was sent by God the Father to reveal the only true God and to provide redemption for humanity.

The purpose statement in 20:30-31 makes it appear that John wrote with an evangelistic intent. However, his depth of teaching shows that he wanted readers not only to come to initial saving faith in Jesus but also to grow into a rich, well-informed faith. John's central contention is that Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah and Son of God, and that by believing in him people may have eternal life.

HOPES?

// Our hope is that The Village would *grow as disciples who*:

- ...witness the historical life of Jesus through the pen and lens of John.
- ...have increased faith to believe in the life & work of Jesus for eternal life.
- ...bear witness to the authority & miracles of Jesus, so that we might believe in a mighty God who does mighty works among his people.
- ...are challenged to see & hear accounts of Jesus confronting opposition and embrace the truth that he does indeed overcome the world.



The Breakdown? // [calendar](#)

(Advent 2021)

11/2/22	1:1-18	Jesus, Light of the World
12/5/21	1:19-34	Jesus, Paving the Long Road
12/12/21	1:35-51	Jesus, Assembles His Crew
12/19/21	2:1-12	Jesus, Water to Wine

(2022 Continued)

1/2/22	2:13-25	Jesus, the Risen Temple
1/9/22	3:1-21	Jesus, the New Life
1/16/22	3:22-36	Jesus, One above All
1/23/22	4:1-45	Jesus the Sacred Well
1/30/22	4:46-54	Jesus, Heals the Official's Son
2/6/22	5:1-18	Jesus, God of the Sabbath
2/13/22	5:19-29	Jesus, Obedient to the Father
2/20/22	5:30-47	Jesus, Eternal Witness
2/27/22	6:1-15	Jesus, Provider
3/6/22	6:16-21	Jesus Overcomes Gravity
3/13/22	6:22-59	Jesus, Bread of Life
3/20/22	6:60-71	Jesus, Forsaken
3/27/22	7:1-31	Jesus, Misunderstood at Dinner
4/3/22	7:32-52	Jesus, Living Water
4/10/22	8:1-11	Jesus, Forgiver of Sins
4/17/22	8:12-30	Jesus, True Judge
4/24/22	8:31-38	Jesus, Liberator from Sin
5/1/22	8:39-47	Jesus, Truth Slinger
5/8/22	8:48-59	Jesus, the Better Abraham
5/15/22	9:1-41	Jesus, Giver of Sight
5/22/22	10:1-18	Jesus, the Good Shepherd
5/29/22	10:22-42	Jesus, One with the Father
6/5/22	11:1-44	Jesus, Resurrection and Life
6/12/22	11:45-57	Jesus, Murder for Hire
6/19/22	12:1-8	Jesus, the Anointed
6/26/22	12:9-19	Jesus, Triumphant King
7/3/22	12:20-26	Jesus, Worthy to Follow
7/10/22	12:27-36a	Jesus, Glorifier of The Father
7/17/22	12:36b-43	Jesus, Disbelieved
7/24/22	12:44-50	Jesus, Savior of the World

SUPPLEMENTS & RESOURCES

» [ESV.org: Background](#)

» [Bible Project:](#)

- [video overview](#) (part 1)**

- [dig deeper](#) / [overview poster](#)

» ["Best Commentaries:"](#)

- [Tim Challies](#) (list) / [Ligonier](#) (list)