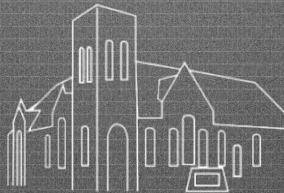




THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

— THE GOSPEL OF JOHN —
A STUDY GUIDE FOR CHAPTER 5 & 6
(MAY 2020)



first baptist durango

Overview

As we embark on our journey through John's Gospel account, our desire is that you find this study guide a useful tool to enrich your time in God's word. The questions and information in this study guide are designed to prompt personal growth, family devotion, and/or conversations within Gospel Community groups. Thus, there are three types or sub-sets of questions depending on the setting for which this guide is used. Feel free to use any sub-set of questions in any setting you wish.

Repetition is the foundation of learning and being familiar with the text prior to the sermon(s) will deepen your understanding of the treasures contained in the scriptures. As you read, we also encourage you to grab a notebook or journal and jot down thoughts or questions you may have. Perhaps your questions will be answered within a sermon, or perhaps your questions will be answered within the context of group conversation. Either way, we encourage you to engage the text and seek answers. We grow together when we are unified and engaged around the Word of God.

Suggested Method of Bible Study

We recommend the S.O.A.P. method. (Scripture, Observe, Application, Pray). While this method is not the only way to study scripture, it is a good way and a great place to start. To know God is to know who he is and what he has done. To love God is to respond to him. In scripture he meets us and the Holy Spirit changes us.

Scripture- Pray that God would reveal Himself as you read slowly through a passage or complete thought of scripture.

- What is happening in the passage?
- What is the passage saying?
- What immediately stands out?

Observe- write observations about the passage.

- What does it say about God?
- What does it say about man?

Application- As a result of this passage...

- Is there something I need to do or stop doing?
- How do you worship God more as a result of the passage?

Pray- God hears us and delights in our honest prayer.

- Thank God for the forgiveness of sin available in Jesus, confess the sin revealed in the passage, and ask him to change your heart and life based on what you just read.

Conferencing

Family, Group or Discipleship Sermon Discussion

Conferencing was a puritan practice to reflect on the most recently preached sermon. One of its primary goals was to increase all believers' understanding of and ability to apply Scripture in the context of listening to the preached word. While the format was fluid, conferencing was guided by two fundamental questions:

1. Was the pastor right on Sunday?
 - a. Prove and explain from scripture one way or another.
2. What did your heart do or how did you react when you heard that sermon?

The goal of these two questions was to both engage the heart and the head. The head in a desire to deeply know scripture. Christians were expected to have a deep and growing knowledge of Scripture, forcing congregants, families, and friends to search the Scriptures together. Even if you did believe the pastor was right, you had to use your own means to prove it. The heart in a desire to be moved by the word of God. The word of God should always affect our intellect and emotions in a desire to know Him and move our hearts to action.

Week 1

(John 5:1-18)

Memory Verse: John 5:1-18

This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

Read Chapter 5 – Focus on John 5:1-18.

(Practice the S.O.A.P method for vs. 1-18, see page 3)

Personal Reflection:

1. The man was healed but he was told to carry his bed with him while he walked. You have been healed from the power of sin. Is there something you carry with you that reminds you of what you have been saved from?
2. How does it encourage you that Jesus is always working and it is never too late?

Group Discussion:

1. Why do you think Jesus had the man carry his bed with him after he was healed?
2. What does this passage tell us about Jesus?
3. What is the Sabbath? What does it mean that Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath?

Family Devotion:

1. Why was the man next to the pool?
2. Why is it significant that this happened on the Sabbath?
3. What made the Jewish leaders so angry with Jesus?

Week 2

(John 5:17-47)

Memory Verse: John 5:24

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Read Chapter 5 - Focus on John 5:17-47.

(Practice the S.O.A.P method for vs. 17-47, see page 3)

Personal Reflection:

1. Summarize what Jesus is saying in your own words.
2. If you encountered Jesus through the Word of God, what have you gained by continuing to search the Scriptures after you found life in him?

Group Discussion:

1. Verse 27 says, "And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man." How does this extend the meaning of 3:17, "God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world.."?
2. Describe the relationship between the Father and the Son from this passage. Why does it matter? How does it affect us?
3. Jesus calls on several witnesses to himself in 5:30-47. What does each add to our understanding of Jesus?

Family Devotion:

1. What does Jesus say you must do to have eternal life?
2. Jesus talks about eternal life and resurrection of life. Are they the same?
3. Why are we to search the Scriptures?

Week 3

(John 6:1-15)

Memory Verse: John 6:11

Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted.

Read Chapter 6 - Focus on John 6:1-15.

(Practice the S.O.A.P method for vs. 1-15, see page 3)

Personal Reflection:

1. Verse 6 says that Jesus said this to test Philip. How has your faith been tested this week?
2. Do you identify more with Philip or Andrew? Why?
3. How were the expectations of the people wrong? Have you ever found your expectations of Jesus not matching the Bible?

Group Discussion:

1. What about this event would lead the people to think Jesus was the Prophet prophesied by Moses?
2. What do we learn about Jesus in this miracle? About God?
3. Verse 6 says that Jesus said this to test Philip. How has your faith been tested this week?

Family Devotion:

1. Why was this large crowd following Jesus?
2. How do we know Jesus had a plan to feed the people?
3. How many people we fed?
4. How much was left over?

Week 4

(John 6:16-21)

Memory Verse: John 6:20

But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."

Read Chapter 6 - Focus on John 6:16-21.

(Practice the S.O.A.P method for vs. 16-21, see page 3)

Personal Reflection:

1. When was the last time you felt overwhelmed by circumstances and Jesus appeared in an unexpected way?
2. We all encounter rough seas in our lives. How has God used rough seas to challenge and/or grow your faith?

Group Discussion:

1. How does John use darkness, the sea, and the wind in contrast to the "I am" statement of Jesus?
2. Why were the disciples frightened by Jesus? How does Jesus's speech change their attitude?
3. Explain how this story is a comfort in your life right now.

Family Devotion:

1. What time of day does this take place?
2. What else have we read about that happened at night?
3. How did the disciples feel when they saw Jesus?
4. What did Jesus say to calm them down?

Week 5

(John 6:22-71)

Memory Verse: John 6:35

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."

Read Chapter 6 - Focus on John 6:22-71.

(Practice the S.O.A.P method for vs. 22-71, see page 3)

Personal Reflection:

1. How do you know that what you are putting your effort into will "endure to eternal life"?
2. In what way does Jesus sustain you eternally and spiritually?
3. Explain in your own words what Jesus meant by "If anyone eats of this bread"?

Group Discussion:

1. How do you explain the relationship between verse 44, "No one can come to me unless the Father draws him" and verse 47, "Whoever believes has eternal life"?
2. Why are verse 52-59 so polarizing and strange? What is Jesus trying to explain?
3. How do you know that what you are putting your effort into will "endure to eternal life"?
4. In this passage we have 3 different groups of people: Jews, Jesus's disciples, and Jesus's disciples who "turned back and no longer walked with him." Why is this significant? How do you explain this? Why is this hard?

Family Devotion:

1. How was Jesus like the manna of the Old Testament?
2. We don't really eat Jesus. So what did he mean?
3. What reason did Peter give for not leaving Jesus?
4. Why do you think Jesus compared himself to food?

Gospel of John Resources

Bible and Study Bible

ESV Bible

ESV Study Bible

ESV Scripture Journal Bible – John (available at First B)

Basic Study Helps

Exalting Jesus in John (Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary) -
Carter, Matt

Let's Study John – Mark Johnston

John 1-12 For You – Josh Moody

Commentaries

The Gospel according to John (Pillar) – DA Carson

The Gospel of John – A Commentary – Craig Keener



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