

GOSPEL OF JOHN BIBLE STUDY—A STUDY OF CHARACTER

WEEK 1: WHO IS JOHN?

PRE-WORK, READ HANDOUT “JOHN’S GOSPEL: A STUDY OF CHARACTER”

- Date of composition likely between 70 and 80 BCE, making it the latest gospel.
- Who isn’t John!?
- Is John a woman?
- Why is John different from the synoptic gospels?

WEEK 2: WHO IS JESUS IN JOHN’S GOSPEL?

PRE-WORK, READ PROLOGUE (1:1-18) AND BREAD OF LIFE DISCOURSE (6:22-59)

- The many names of Jesus
- Family man?
- Jesus’s purpose (see 18:37)
- Eternal life is . . . (17:3)
- He gets by with a little help from his friends, Lazarus and company.

WEEK 3: WHO ABIDES IN GOD? WHO ABIDES IN THE WORLD?

PRE-WORK, LAZARUS’S STORY (CHAPTER 11) AND THE FOLLOWING 14:15-31, CHAPTER 15, AND 16:4A-15

- Wait, who is Jesus really?!
- The Paraclete is Jesus? (14:15-31)
- Who is the world?
- Παραδίδομι (para-did-o-mi: hand over or betray) and how we hand over knowledge of Jesus.

WEEK 4: WHO ARE THE JEWS?

PRE-WORK, SCAN THE TEXT AND SEE HOW OFTEN THE PHRASE “THE JEWS” SHOWS UP

- How to responsibly love this gospel.
- “Besides, the world isn't split into good people and Death Eaters. We've all got both light and dark inside us. What matters is the part we choose to act on. That's who we really are.” From Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, by J. K. Rowling.
- What have we learned about handing over that we should use to understand ourselves in relation to Christ, his flock, and what are the important characteristics about people and what defines them as unified groups?
- Who is Pilate?

RESOURCES

Online access to printable copies of the New Revised Standard Version of John's Gospel.

English: http://www.drscottseay.com/uploads/9/6/6/8/96682354/the_gospel_of_john_nrsv.pdf

Greek (if you're interested in seeing it):

<http://www.drscottseay.com/uploads/9/6/6/8/96682354/64-sblgnt-john.pdf>