



The Book of John

10 WEEK STUDY

NC
CB

NAME



Introduction

THE BIBLE, WHICH IS GOD'S WORD, IS OUR STANDARD FOR LIFE, AND WE ARE CALLED UPON TO COMPLY WITH ITS REQUIREMENTS AND PRACTICE IT IN DAILY LIFE, AND WHEN WE DO THIS WE HONOUR BOTH GOD AND JESUS.

The **WORD** can only come alive to us with guidance and revelation from the **HOLY SPIRIT** because **HE** knows the thoughts, the will and purpose of **GOD**, and **HE** knows what pleases and honours **GOD**!

The **HOLY SPIRIT** helps us to understand the **WORD**, to be changed by **IT**; to be directed by **IT**, to live by **IT** and to examine our lives in the light of **IT**. When we desire **GOD'S WORD** to be stamped upon our spirit and woven into our life, then the **HOLY SPIRIT** enables the sanctifying effect of the **WORD** on our character and conduct. **GOD** is interested in the state of our heart, which in turn influences our character and conduct for **HIS** glory. It is therefore absolutely necessary to maintain unbroken fellowship with the **HOLY SPIRIT** who helps us saturate our heart with the holy and living **WORD**.

The 10 week study outline

Although the outline is presented as a ten-week course, it is preferable to allow the HOLY SPIRIT to lead you, and if more time is needed, then make that a priority.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GOSPEL OF JOHN, AS STATED BY JOHN HIMSELF, IS TO SHOW THAT JESUS OF NAZARETH WAS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD, AND THAT BELIEVERS IN HIM MIGHT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE. AS YOU GO THROUGH THE 10 WEEKS, MAY YOU ALLOW THE NOTES AND DISCUSSION POINTS TO HELP FOSTER MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS THAT ARE CENTERED AROUND MAKING THE MOST OF WHO JESUS IS.

Pray before reading and discussing the WORD. Ask the HOLY SPIRIT to help us understand the WORD, to be changed by IT; to be directed by IT, to live by IT and to examine our life daily in the light of IT.

1 The Word was with God

(John 1: 1 - 4 ESV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

WHAT A GREAT PORTION OF SCRIPTURE TO START THIS INCREDIBLE JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF JOHN. MANY TIMES WHEN WANTING TO UNDERSTAND WHY SOMETHING EXISTS, WE NEED TO GO RIGHT BACK TO THE BEGINNING TO DISCOVER WHERE IT ALL BEGAN AND WHY IT ALL BEGAN.

If you are an avid DIY person, and love purchasing items that need to be assembled, you will know how important it is to thoroughly read through all the instruction manuals. As much as you want a complete product standing before you, you need to go back and take the time to piece all the pieces together, constantly referencing the step by step guide as well as the completed picture. For us to stand complete, we need to start by getting some of the key areas of biblical doctrine in place.

It all started with God, it is all made by God, and it is all sustained by God.

DISCUSSIONS:

Below are some incredible questions that will help spark some powerful discussions.

1. **Who is GOD? - This is an enormous question that is worth attempting to answer.**
2. **Who is the 'WORD'?**
(John 1: 1- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the word was God.)
3. **How did GOD send HIS WORD to us?**
(John 1:14 - The WORD became flesh and made his dwelling among us). The name or title given to Jesus in the book of John is the Greek word 'Logos' which means WORD.
4. **Why did the WORD become a man?**
(John 1: 14 -18 + John 9: 39 - Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind".)
5. **Why did GOD send HIS 'WORD' to us?**
(John 1: 29, 33 - The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said. "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! / I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit'. + John 18: 37.)
6. **Why is the WORD so important?**
(John 8: 31 - 32 - So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free".)

Jesus reminds us of the importance to remain in him, and in doing so we will continue to produce fruit. It's through the word of truth (Jesus) that we are able to live lives that impact people around us.

2 JESUS said, “I am...”

(Exodus 3: 13-14 ESV - Then Moses said to God, If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ What shall I say to them?’ God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM”. And he said “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”)

Jesus picks this up in the book of John as He starts to unpack the clarity of what ‘I AM’ really means.

WHAT IS SO FASCINATING WHEN READING THIS ACCOUNT IN EXODUS, IS THAT MOSES WHO’S PROFESSION AT THE TIME WAS JUST A SHEPHERD ATTENDING HIS FATHER IN LAWS SHEEP, NOW IS ABLE TO LEAD A NATION BASED ON THE FACT THAT HE IS QUALIFIED BY ‘I AM’. IT’S LIKE A YOUNGER BROTHER GOING TO HIS OLDER BROTHER AND TELLING HIM TO DO SOMETHING, AND WHEN THE OLDER BROTHER QUESTIONS HIM AS TO WHY HE NEEDS TO DO IT, THE YOUNGER BROTHER SAYS, “BECAUSE DAD SAID SO.”

DISCUSSIONS:

As we go through the ‘I AM’ statements listed below, let us unpack the reasons why JESUS claimed to be each of them. When we allow this revelation to impact our lives, how does this bring assurance into my life?

1. **The LIGHT OF THE WORLD**
(John 8:12 ESV - Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”)
2. **The DOOR**
(John 10: 9 ESV - I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.)
3. **The GOOD SHEPHERD**
(John 10: 11/15 ESV - I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. Just as the Father knows me and I know the Father, and I lay down my life for the sheep.)
4. **The RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE**
(John 11: 25-26 ESV - “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”)
5. **The WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE**
(John 14: 6 ESV - Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”)
6. **The TRUE VINE**
(John 15: 1-2 ESV - “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine dresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.”)

How freeing it is to live with this revelation that the God we serve is ‘I AM...’

3 Belief in JESUS

(John 3:3-6 NIV - Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.)

THE NEW BIRTH IS ESSENTIAL FOR US TO WALK INTO ETERNAL LIFE. FOR NICODEMUS THIS WAS A CHALLENGING CONCEPT TO GET HIS HEAD AROUND. HOW ON EARTH MUST AN OLD MAN ENTER HIS MOTHER'S WOMB A SECOND TIME? JESUS MUST HAVE FOUND HIS RESPONSE A LITTLE HUMOROUS, BUT WHAT A MOMENT FOR JESUS TO HIGHLIGHT WHAT BEING BORN AGAIN SYMBOLIZES, AND THE IMPORTANCE FOR ALL MAN TO EXPERIENCE A SPIRITUAL REBIRTH FOR SALVATION.

DISCUSSIONS:

Allow the simple questions below to spark deep thought and conversations. Our Christian faith and belief in Jesus is not a fleeting idea or fad, for a specific season of our lives, but rather and eternal transformation of our Soul, Body, and Spirit.

• WHY IS BELIEF IN JESUS IMPERATIVE?

1. **We Become Children of God**
(John 1: 12-13 ESV - But to ALL who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.)

2. **We Receive Eternal Life**
(John 3:15-18, + John 6:47, + John 3:36 ESV - Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; Whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.)
3. **We See the Father**
(John 14:8-9 ESV - Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.")

• IS BELIEF ENOUGH?

1. **Walk in the Light**
(John 3: 21 ESV - "But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.")
2. **Actively seek**
(John 4:23-24 ESV - "But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for their Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.")
3. **Do His work**
(John 4: 34/36 ESV - "My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to accomplish his work. Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.")
4. **Live righteously (right standing)**
(John 5: 14/17 ESV - "See you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you. My Father is working until now, and I am working.")
5. **Keep His commandments**
(John 14:15 ESV - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.")

May we walk away from this time secure in our beliefs of who Jesus is.

4 The TRUTH will set you free

(John 8:31-36 ESV - So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, "You will become free?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever, the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.")

A mother was preparing a roast for her family's Easter meal while her young daughter helped. Knowing her daughter was very curious, the mother explained each step. As she was preparing to put the roast in the oven, the mother explained, "Now we cut the ends off of each side of the meat." As young children often do, the daughter asked, "Why?" The mother thought for a moment and replied, "Because that's the way it's done. That's how your grandma did it and that's how I do it."

Not satisfied with this answer, the young girl asked if she could call her grandma. The young girl called and asked, "Grandma, why do you cut the ends off the roast?" Her grandma thought for a moment and said, "Because that's the way it's done. That's how my mom did it and that's how I do it."

Still not satisfied, the young girl called her great grandma, who was now living in a nursing home. "Great grandma," she said, "Why do you cut the ends off the roast?" Her great grandma said, "When I was a young mother, we had a very small oven. The pot roast wouldn't fit in the oven if I didn't cut the ends off."

For the little girl, hearing the explanation from her mother, 'that's the way it's done', could have easily satisfied her as the truth... but to get to a place where she 'KNOWS' the truth, she would have to go all the way back to the establisher of

the truth which was her Great grandma. Without doing this, she would have perpetuated a culture to her children and children's children without fully understanding why. Knowing the Truth will set you free, no longer having to cut the roast, but being able to step into a place of freedom. Because she now knows the truth about why the roast was cut, she could move forward and start cooking the roast very differently.

JESUS CHARGES HIS DISCIPLES TO KNOW THE TRUTH, SO THAT THE TRUTH WOULD SET THEM FREE FROM AN OLD WAY OF LIFE. THIS HAPPENS THROUGH A JOURNEY OF ABIDING IN HIM, AND WHEN YOU KNOW HIM, THE ESTABLISHER OF TRUTH, YOU WILL BE MADE FREE.

DISCUSSIONS:

A life of freedom is definitely a life worth living. It is imperative that we settle things pertaining to truth not because we have been told to accept it, but rather because we have given ourselves to wrestle through some tough statements. Let's take some time to chat through a few things.

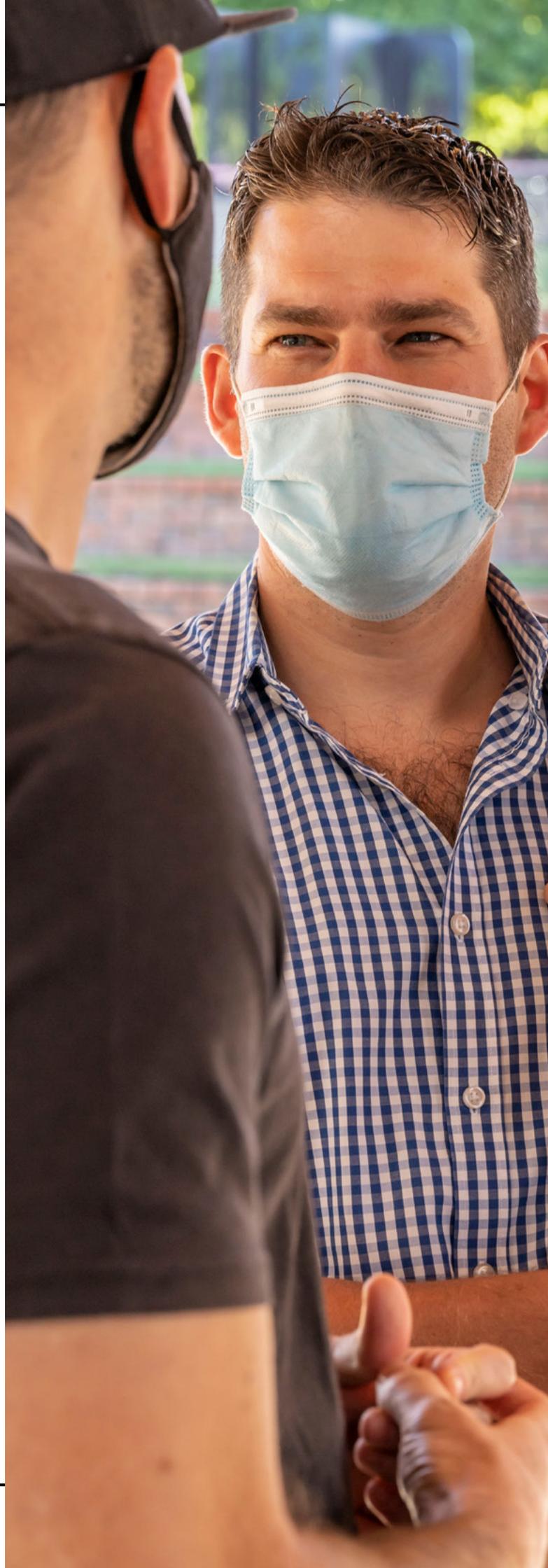
1. What is the TRUTH?

Christianity is based on a belief that what Jesus said and did is true. Below is a list of statements that are true according to our belief.

- **Jesus was born of a virgin through the power of the Holy Spirit.**
- **Jesus lived a sinless life.**
- **Jesus willingly died on the cross as the substitute payment for the sins of man.**
- **Jesus rose from the dead on the third day, and then ascended to Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**
- **Whoever places their faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ are forgiven of their sins and can live for Him in the present.**

- Jesus is preparing a place for His followers and will return one day to receive them to Himself.
 - Jesus is exactly who He continually claimed to be, God Himself in human flesh.
2. What is the consequence of knowing the TRUTH?

Romans 6:22-23 ESV - But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.



5 JESUS' Equality with GOD

*John 10:30,38 ESV - "I and the Father are one."
"But if I do them (Jesus speaking about the works of the Father), even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father."*

The definition of equal is someone or something with the same quantity or value, or someone having the same rights as another. Things that are the same size or have the same traits are said to be equal. The portion of scripture we have just read in John 10 highlights the fact that if you see Jesus you see the Father, and if the Father is present and at work, then the Son will be at work as well.

John 14:9 NIV - Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Phillip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'."

JESUS CHALLENGED PHILLIP BY HIGHLIGHTING THAT EVEN THOUGH HE HAS HAD THE LUXURY OF WALKING DAY BY DAY WITH JESUS, HE HADN'T MADE THE EFFORT TO GET TO KNOW JESUS IN A GREATER WAY. PHILLIP WAS SO DETERMINED TO SEE THE FATHER, YET THE FATHER WAS ALREADY THERE, WALKING WITH HIM EVERY-DAY BUT HE DID NOT KNOW.

DISCUSSIONS:

Let's take the time to work through the following scriptures to better understand how we see Jesus and God.

- **HOW IS JESUS EQUAL TO GOD?**
- 1. **THROUGH IMITATION (John 5:19-21 ESV - So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all the he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.)**
- 2. **THROUGH HONOUR (John 5: 23 ESV - that all may honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.)**
- 3. **THROUGH REPRESENTATION (John 7:28-29 ESV - So Jesus proclaimed, as he taught in the temple, "You know me, and you know where I come from? But I have come of my own accord. He who sent me is true, and him you do not know. I know him, for I come from him, and he sent me.)**
- 4. **THROUGH WORKS (John 14:11 ESV - Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.)**

Jesus reminds us that if we have seen Him we have seen the Father. Our continued pursuit of being more like Jesus comes from a supernatural desire to be one with God our creator.

6 Miracles, Signs and Wonders

John 20:30 ESV - Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book.

Jesus Christ performed many miracles recorded through the Gospels, demonstrating his power over nature and spirits, thus confirming and declaring that the Kingdom of God is at hand. Some of the miracles recorded in scripture involved turning water to wine, healing people, walking on water, giving the blind man his sight, delivering a man from spirits, raising Lazarus and aiding his disciples in a great catch of fish, and many more. In the book of John chapter 6 the account of the feeding of the 5000 is recorded. This is probably the most commonly referenced miracle as it involves a little boys lunch that feeds 5000 people and after everyone was finished there were 12 baskets full of left overs.

MIRACLES ARE ALSO CALLED 'SIGNS' AND 'WONDERS' IN SCRIPTURE. SIGNS AND WONDERS ARE EVENTS THAT CANNOT BE EXPLAINED THROUGH SCIENCE OR THE LAWS OF NATURE. THE FINAL INSTRUCTION TO THE DISCIPLES IN THE BOOK OF MARK BEFORE JESUS ASCENDED TO HEAVEN IS FOUND IN MARK 16:17 - "AND THESE SIGNS WILL ACCOMPANY THOSE WHO BELIEVE: IN MY NAME THEY WILL DRIVE OUT DEMONS; THEY WILL SPEAK IN NEW TONGUES; THEY WILL PICK

UP SNAKES WITH THEIR HANDS; AND WHEN THEY DRINK DEADLY POISON, IT WILL NO HURT THEM AT ALL; THEY WILL PLACE THEIR HANDS ON SICK PEOPLE, AND THEY WILL GET WELL."

DISCUSSIONS:

Take the time to share with one another if you have seen or experienced God perform a miracle in your life or anyone you may know before going through the questions.

1. What do I learn about GOD from these miracles?

- GOD chooses to use us: (Acts 2:22 ESV- "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst".)
- GOD'S authority qualifies us: (John 14: 10 ESV - "Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works".)
- GOD wants to reach everyone: (Hebrews 2:3-4 NIV - This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.)

2. Why are these miracles recorded?

(John 20:31 ESV - But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name).

3. What is established in our lives because of miracles? (Matthew 12:28 NIV - "But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you").

The Weymouth New Testament translation puts Luke 10:9 like this: Cure the sick in that town, and tell them, "The Kingdom of God is now at your door".

7 A New Commandment

*John 10:30,38 ESV - "I and the Father are one."
"But if I do them (Jesus speaking about the works of the Father), even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father."*

The expectation here in this scripture we have just read, is that we ought to love others like God loves us.

1 John 4:19-21 ESV - We love because He first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loved God must also love his brother.

THE WORD 'LOVE' IS A COMPLEX SET OF EMOTIONS, BEHAVIOURS, AND BELIEFS ASSOCIATED WITH STRONG FEELINGS OF AFFECTION, PROTECTIVENESS, WARMTH, AND RESPECT FOR ANOTHER PERSON. IT BECOMES A LITTLE GREY WHEN PEOPLE SAY THAT HE OR SHE LOVES HIS OR HER DOG, LOVES FREEDOM, OR LOVES GOD... THE SAME WORD IS USED FOR ALL THREE, BUT DOES IT CARRY THE SAME MEANING?

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 describes love as: Patient, kind, does not envy, or boast, not arrogant or rude, it does not insist on its own way, it is not irritable or resentful, it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things...Love never ends.

DISCUSSIONS:

Three questions we need to ask before continuing:

- 1. How has God loved us? (John 3:16 ESV - "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only Son".)**
- 2. How do we love others? (Philippians 2:2-4 ESV - Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.)**
- 3. Who should we love? (Matthew 5:44 ESV - "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you". If you have time, read from vs43-48.)**
 - WHY DID JESUS GIVE THIS NEW COMMANDMENT?
 - To love others is not a new commandment - Leviticus 19:18 ESV - "You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your Neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord. "The 10 commandments were established as a covenant between God and Israel, a foundation for what was to come, pointing forward to a Saviour. The new covenant describes the fulfillment of God's promise by Jesus Christ between God and Christians. To love others as much as Christ loved others (a sacrificial love), would trump all other commandments. This would only be possible through Christ, pointing to our total dependence in Jesus.
 - What does this new commandment testify? John 13:35 ESV - "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

How do we love more like Jesus, and where in our lives do we need to allow Jesus to help us?

8 Holy Spirit

John 14:16-17 ESV - "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you".

“The Holy Spirit illuminates the minds of people, makes us yearn for God, and takes spiritual truth and makes it understandable to us.” - Billy Graham

It's not enough to exist with the belief that The Father and the Son are first and the Holy Spirit is secondary. They are equal and work in harmony with each other. The uniqueness of the Holy Spirit is His presence within us. Jesus said before he ascended to heaven that the Holy Spirit would come and dwell within us as believers. With that, He empowers us to live victoriously for the cause of Christ and glory of the Father.

DISCUSSIONS:

Spend this time allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal himself as we discuss the questions below.

1. Who is the HOLY SPIRIT?

Matthew 28:19 ESV - "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

2. How are we empowered by the HOLY SPIRIT?

REPENTANCE Acts 2:38 ESV - And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

RECEIVING Acts 2:1-4 ESV - "Being

therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing."

3. What is HIS role?

TO GIVE LIFE - John 6: 63 ESV - "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words I have spoken are spirit and life."

TO TEACH - John14:26 ESV - "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

TO ESTABLISH TRUTH - John 16:13 ESV- "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come."

TO CONVICT - John16:8 ESV - "And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning son and righteousness and judgment."

TO EMPOWER - Acts 1:8 ESV - "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

TO TRANSFORM - 2 Corinthians 3:18 ESV- "And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."

WON'T YOU ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TO WORK IN YOUR LIFE AND EMPOWER YOU FOR WHAT HE HAS CALLED YOU TO.

9 The body and blood of JESUS

John 6:53-58 (ESV) - So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

Was Jesus talking about His actual body and blood?

It's not enough to exist with the belief that the Father and the Son are first and the Holy Spirit is secondary. They are equal and work in harmony with each other. The uniqueness of the Holy Spirit is His presence within us. Jesus said before he ascended to heaven that the Holy Spirit would come and dwell within us as believers. With that, He empowers us to live victoriously for the cause of Christ and glory of the Father.

DISCUSSIONS:

The cross of Jesus is powerful, so let's take this time to discuss the power of the body and blood of Jesus.

John 6:35 ESV - 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."

1. BODY

Matthew 26:26 ESV - Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body".

1 Corinthians 11:24 ESV - and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This

is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me". Key phrases worth looking at: Broke it and gave / This is my body for you / A reminder.

- NATURAL BREAD

Bread is for the nourishment of the natural body. Our bodies will not survive unless it is fed on a regular basis. The bread in communion is not meant to nourish but remind us of our need for spiritual nourishment.

- SPIRITUAL BREAD

The Bread represents our Lord. He walked this earth and through Christ Jesus, a whole new eternal dimension of living has been made available for those who receive Him.

Ephesians 1:7 ESV - In Him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

2. BLOOD

Matthew 26:27-28 ESV - And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins". 1

Corinthians 11:25 ESV - In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me". Key phrases worth looking at: New Covenant in my blood / Forgiveness of sin / A reminder.

- NATURAL BLOOD

Our bodies are completely dependent on the blood that keeps us alive. When talking about life and death, it all points back to the Power of the Blood. In the old covenant, blood was needed for the forgiveness of sin, and that is why an animal was sacrificed. Jesus became our sacrifice in the new covenant to position us in righteousness.

- SPIRITUAL BLOOD

When we take the cup and drink of Christ's blood, we are not literally drinking the blood of Jesus, but it represents the power of the blood that is at work in us to wash, cleanse, purify, heal, guide, and protect us from all evil.

10 The FATHER draws and enables.

John 6:44 ESV - "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day". John 6:65 ESV - And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father".

To be granted permission to do something, or go somewhere you were not allowed to, needs the person who has the authority to give you the permission you need to grant you the authority to do what is needed to be done, or go where you were previously not allowed to go.

The fall which took place in the book of Genesis is an account of where Adam and Eve gave that authority over to Satan removing themselves from the presence of God.

DISCUSSIONS:

When discussing the below points lets be reminded that no matter how hard we try, our right standing with God is found in what Jesus has done.

1. THE FATHER'S WILL

(John 6:40 ESV - For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.)

2. TO BE A DISCIPLE

(John 17:13-26 ESV - Read) The segment to

be raised is vs21 - "that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

3. JESUS EQUIPPED US TO BE HIS DISCIPLES

(2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV - All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.)

4. THE CALL AND RESPONSIBILITY TO LOVE

Jesus asked Simon Peter three times, "...do you love me. (John 21:15-17 ESV - When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him a third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.")

AS GOD DRAWS US NEAR SO HE CAN ENABLES US TO DO ALL THAT HE HAS CALLED US TO DO. LET US CONTINUE TO DO GOOD UNTIL THE DAY OF HIS RETURN.





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