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## Study 1 - John 1: 1-18

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

- 4. What does this passage tell us about:
- a) The attributes and activities of the Word?

b) What God has done? (v. 6-13)

5. The word "light" is used seven times in verses 4-9. To what is it referring?

6. According to verses 14-18, what specific aspects of God's character are revealed to us through Jesus?

7. What do you think John means when he describes Jesus as being "full of grace and truth" (v14, 17)?

8. How does this passage challenge how you may understand who Jesus is? Does the Jesus who is described here match your image of Jesus?

9. What does it mean to you personally that the Word became flesh?

## Study 2 - John 1: 19-51

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

4. What do we learn from John the Baptist about 'the One who is coming'?

5. John calls Jesus the 'Lamb of God'. What does this name for Jesus teach us about what his ministry will be? (Remember Passover- Exodus 12 and Isaiah 53)

6. Verse 51 is a key to the passage (and book). What OT story is it referring to? (see Genesis 28:10-18) and what is Jesus teaching about himself in verse 51?

7. What do Jesus and these first disciples show us about sharing our faith?

#### Study 3 - John 2:1-22

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

4. This is Jesus' first miracle. What is the significance of the setting and why do you think he did this as his first miracle? (see also Amos 9:13-15 and Joel 2:18-32)

5. According to verse 11, what is the primary purpose of this miracle and how does it achieve this purpose?

6. Read the OT quote from Psalm 69:9 (v. 17) in its context. How is king David's experience fulfilled by Jesus?

7. What different responses to Jesus do we see in this passage?

8. How is your understanding of Jesus strengthened or challenged by this passage?

## Study 4 - John 2:23 – 3:21

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

4. Jesus assumes Nicodemus should know about this new birth and the requirements for entering heaven, from the OT. How does Ezekiel 36:24-29 explain this?

5. Jesus claims to have unique authority to speak about heavenly things....on what grounds?

6. What do verses 19-21 tell us about why people do or don't believe?

7. From what we learn in this passage, how would you respond to someone who says there are many ways to heaven?

## Study 5 - John 3:22-36

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

4. John the Baptist emerges again in this section. How does he fulfill his role here, as described in 1:6-8, and why is his ministry so important?

5. What several things do we learn about God and what he has done, from this passage?

6. According to John, in v. 30-36, why is Jesus the one we should listen to and how is our eternal destiny affected?

7. These verses contain some tough teaching. How would you respond to a friend who might even find it offensive? (remembering that Jesus is 'full of grace and truth')

#### Study 6 - John 4:1-30

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

4. Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman follows his meeting with Nicodemus in chapter 3. What do you think is his point in placing one after the other? List some of the similarities and differences.

5. How does the Samaritan woman's understanding of who Jesus is change and progress throughout this story?

6. How does this passage expand your understanding of what John means by having 'life in Jesus' name'?

7. What do we learn from this Samaritan woman about what it really means to 'worship in spirit and in truth'?

## Study 7 - John 4:31-45

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

4. Read Ezekiel 37:15-28. How does it throw light on this chapter?

5. Jesus uses 2 proverbs in his teaching in this section (v. 34-38). What do you think he intends for his disciples and us to understand by them?

6. What does this passage teach us about evangelism and particularly about sharing our own testimony?

7. Has there been a particular time when you took an opportunity to share your faith with another that you can share with your group?

8. Pray together for openness and opportunity to share with those among your family and friends who don't yet know the Lord.

## Study 8 - John 4:46-54

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

4. This healing of the official's son is the second sign in John, and it serves as a closing bracket to the section that began with the first sign in 2:1. How does this sign add to their/our understanding of who Jesus is?

5. How does this second sign summarize the mains points that John has been teaching since 2:1?

6. Already we are seeing two types of responses to Jesus. From this chapter, what does the right response look like?

7. What kind of response to Jesus do you have personally, and can you share that with your group?

## Study 9 - John 5:1-18

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

4. Take note of the considerable amount of specific information in this passage. What do you think is the reason for this?

5. What did the Jews find so offensive about Jesus' actions?

6. What further truths about Jesus does this  $3^{rd}$  sign point to?

7. What are the things that challenge or disturb you in this passage? What are the things that encourage you?

## Study 10 - John 5:19-29

1. Very briefly summarize this passage, breaking it into a simple structure.

2. Note words of interest: For example, words or phrases that are repeated, contrasts, connecting words, 'big Bible' words, or OT references. Think about how the repetitions or contrasts help to make a particular point. Do these help to shape an emphasis of the passage?

4. How do Jesus' words in v. 19-30 answer the Jews' concerns and objections seen in v. 18?

5. In v. 19-23 Jesus implies that the earlier healing is only a foretaste to two greater things that God will 'show'. What are they and what is the Father's purpose in revealing them?

6. What does v. 24 teach us about the implications of a right response to Jesus?

7. How has God been teaching you personally through this passage?