

Meet Jesus

ST. JOHN'S VANCOUVER
BIBLE STUDY // 2018



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Study 1

John 3:1-21

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

- 1 Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews.
- 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him,
“Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God,
for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.”
- 3 Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”
- 4 Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old?
Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”
- 5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.
That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
- 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’
8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound,
but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.
So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”
- 9 Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?”
- 10 Jesus answered him,
“Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things?”
- 11 Truly, truly, I say to you,
we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen,
but you do not receive our testimony.
- 12 If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things?
- 13 No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.
- 14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.
- 16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.
- 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,
but in order that the world might be saved through him.

-
- 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned,
but whoever does not believe is condemned already,
because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.
- 19 And this is the judgment:
the light has come into the world,
and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.
- 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light
and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed.
- 21 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.”

STEP 1 // THE TEXT

What does it say?

1. Look for:
 - Repetitions, contrasts, transition words (so, if, then, but...), surprises.
 - The characters.
 - The setting (timeline and place) and if and when it changes.
 - What kind of writing is this? (narrative, poetry, parable, teaching?)

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:
Share something you noticed.

2. How does the plot unfold? Where in the passage do you see:
 - The conflict?
 - The climax?
 - The resolution?

So what do you think the author's emphasis is?

Putting it all together...

3. Break the passage into sections and give a one line heading or picture to describe each part.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:
Have a couple of people share their answers for questions two and three.

STEP 3 // THINKING THROUGH THE GOSPEL

How is the gospel, and our need for Jesus, seen in this passage?

6. Write your answers to the questions asked on the bookmark here.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in understanding the gospel and your need for Jesus in this passage.

STEP 4 // TODAY

What does this mean for me?

Reflect on the big idea of the passage, and your life in Christ.

7. Write your answers to the questions asked on the bookmark here.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how this passage has shaped your perspective on what it looks like to live for Jesus.

8. What is one thing you are going to remember from this passage?

9. What is one thing you can ask for prayer for? This should be practical and personal.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Pray! As you are able, share your prayer point with the group. Remember to check in with one another in subsequent weeks for ongoing encouragement and prayer.

Study 2

John 4:1-30, 39-42

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

- 1 Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that Jesus was making and baptizing more disciples than John
- 2 (although Jesus himself did not baptize, but only his disciples),
- 3 he left Judea and departed again for Galilee.
- 4 And he had to pass through Samaria.
- 5 So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar,
near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.
- 6 Jacob's well was there;
so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well.
It was about the sixth hour.
- 7 A woman from Samaria came to draw water.
Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."
- 8 (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.)
- 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?"
(For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)
- 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,'
you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."
- 11 The woman said to him,
"Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep.
Where do you get that living water?"
- 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob?
He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."
- 13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again,
- 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again.
The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
- 15 The woman said to him,
"Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."
- 16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here."
- 17 The woman answered him, "I have no husband."
Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband';
- 18 for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband.
What you have said is true."

19 The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet.
20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain,
but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship."
21 Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me,
the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father.
22 You worship what you do not know;
we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.
23 But the hour is coming, and is now here,
when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth,
for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.
24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."
25 The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ).
When he comes, he will tell us all things."
26 Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."
27 Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman,
but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?"
28 So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people,
29 "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did.
Can this be the Christ?"
30 They went out of the town and were coming to him.

39 Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony,
"He told me all that I ever did."
40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them,
and he stayed there two days.
41 And many more believed because of his word.
42 They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for
ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

STEP 1 // THE TEXT

What does it say?

1. Look for:
 - Repetitions, contrasts, transition words (so, if, then, but...), surprises.
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 - What kind of writing is this? (narrative, poetry, parable, teaching?)

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:
Share something you noticed.

2. How does the plot unfold? Where in the passage do you see:
 - The conflict?
 - The climax?
 - The resolution?

So what do you think the author's emphasis is?

Putting it all together...

3. Break the passage into sections and give a one line heading or picture to describe each part.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:
Have a couple of people share their answers for questions two and three.

STEP 2 // TRAVELING THROUGH SCRIPTURE

What does it mean?

4. Read the passages before and after this week's text. Does this add to your understanding in any way?
5. If you have time...
 - Look up some of the cross references in your Bible for this passage.
 - Read John 7:37-39 and Philippians 3:3 for more big picture Bible context.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share one way travelling through scripture has helped you understand the meaning of this passage.

What do you think the big idea of this week's passage is?

BIG IDEA

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share your big idea.
Work together on it!

STOP TO PRAY

Thank God for all he has already revealed to you,
and ask him to help you see him more clearly,
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

STEP 3 // THINKING THROUGH THE GOSPEL

How is the gospel, and our need for Jesus, seen in this passage?

6. Write your answers to the questions asked on the bookmark here.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in understanding the gospel and your need for Jesus in this passage.

STEP 4 // TODAY

What does this mean for me?

Reflect on the big idea of the passage, and your life in Christ.

7. Write your answers to the questions asked on the bookmark here.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how this passage has shaped your perspective on what it looks like to live for Jesus.

8. What is one thing you are going to remember from this passage?

9. What is one thing you can ask for prayer for? This should be practical and personal.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Pray! As you are able, share your prayer point with the group. Remember to check in with one another in subsequent weeks for ongoing encouragement and prayer.

Study 3

John 9:1-41

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

- 1 As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth.
- 2 And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”
- 3 Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents,
but that the works of God might be displayed in him.
- 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day;
night is coming, when no one can work.
- 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”
- 6 Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva.
Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud
- 7 and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent).
So he went and washed and came back seeing.
- 8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying,
“Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?”
- 9 Some said, “It is he.”
Others said, “No, but he is like him.”
He kept saying, “I am the man.”
- 10 So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?”
- 11 He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me,
‘Go to Siloam and wash.’
So I went and washed and received my sight.”
- 12 They said to him, “Where is he?”
He said, “I do not know.”
- 13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.
- 14 Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.
- 15 So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight.
And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.”
- 16 Some of the Pharisees said,
“This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.”
But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?”
And there was a division among them.
- 17 So they said again to the blind man,
“What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?”

He said, "He is a prophet."

18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight,
until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight

19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind?
How then does he now see?"

20 His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.
21 But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes.
Ask him; he is of age.
He will speak for himself."

22 (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews,
for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ,
he was to be put out of the synagogue.)

23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

24 So for the second time they called the man who had been blind
and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner."

25 He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know.
One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

26 They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

27 He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen.
Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"

28 And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.
29 We know that God has spoken to Moses,
but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."

30 The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing!
You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.

31 We know that God does not listen to sinners,
but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.

32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind.
33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

34 They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?"
And they cast him out.

35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out,
and having found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

- 36 He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?”
- 37 Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.”
- 38 He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.
- 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.”
- 40 Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things,
and said to him, “Are we also blind?”
- 41 Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt;
but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.

STEP 1 // THE TEXT

What does it say?

1. Look for:
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IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:
Share something you noticed.

2. How does the plot unfold? Where in the passage do you see:
 - The conflict?
 - The climax?
 - The resolution?

So what do you think the author’s emphasis is?

Putting it all together...

3. Break the passage into sections and give a one line heading or picture to describe each part.

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their answers for questions two and three.

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How is the gospel, and our need for Jesus, seen in this passage?

6. Write your answers to the questions asked on the bookmark here.

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STEP 4 // TODAY

What does this mean for me?

Reflect on the big idea of the passage, and your life in Christ.

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Study 4

Luke 14:34-15:10

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

- 34 “Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored?
35 It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile.
It is thrown away.
He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”
- 1 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.
2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled,
saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”
- 3 So he told them this parable:
4 “What man of you, having a hundred sheep,
if he has lost one of them,
does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country,
and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?
5 And when he has found it,
he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.
6 And when he comes home,
he calls together his friends and his neighbors,
saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’
7 Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents
than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.
8 “Or what woman, having ten silver coins,
if she loses one coin,
does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it?
9 And when she has found it,
she calls together her friends and neighbors,
saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’
10 Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

STEP 1 // THE TEXT

What does it say?

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STEP 3 // THINKING THROUGH THE GOSPEL

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IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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STEP 4 // TODAY

What does this mean for me?

Reflect on the big idea of the passage, and your life in Christ.

7. Write your answers to the questions asked on the bookmark here.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how this passage has shaped your perspective on what it looks like to live for Jesus.

8. What is one thing you are going to remember from this passage?

9. What is one thing you can ask for prayer for? This should be practical and personal.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Pray! As you are able, share your prayer point with the group. Remember to check in with one another in subsequent weeks for ongoing encouragement and prayer.

Study 5

Matthew 26:1-16

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

- 1 When Jesus had finished all these sayings,
he said to his disciples,
- 2 “You know that after two days the Passover is coming,
and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”
- 3 Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered
in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas,
- 4 and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him.
- 5 But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.”
- 6 Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper,
- 7 a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment,
and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table.
- 8 And when the disciples saw it,
they were indignant, saying, “Why this waste?
- 9 For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor.”
- 10 But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman?
For she has done a beautiful thing to me.
- 11 For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me.
- 12 In pouring this ointment on my body,
she has done it to prepare me for burial.
- 13 Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world,
what she has done will also be told in memory of her.”
- 14 Then one of the twelve, whose name was Judas Iscariot,
went to the chief priests
- 15 and said, “What will you give me if I deliver him over to you?”
And they paid him thirty pieces of silver.
- 16 And from that moment he sought an opportunity to betray him.

STEP 1 // THE TEXT

What does it say?

1. Look for:
 - Repetitions, contrasts, transition words (so, if, then, but...), surprises.
 - The characters.
 - The setting (timeline and place) and if and when it changes.
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IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:
Share something you noticed.

2. How does the plot unfold? Where in the passage do you see:
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So what do you think the author's emphasis is?

Putting it all together...

3. Break the passage into sections and give a one line heading or picture to describe each part.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:
Have a couple of people share their answers for questions two and three.

STEP 3 // THINKING THROUGH THE GOSPEL

How is the gospel, and our need for Jesus, seen in this passage?

6. Write your answers to the questions asked on the bookmark here.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in understanding the gospel and your need for Jesus in this passage.

STEP 4 // TODAY

What does this mean for me?

Reflect on the big idea of the passage, and your life in Christ.

7. Write your answers to the questions asked on the bookmark here.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how this passage has shaped your perspective on what it looks like to live for Jesus.

8. What is one thing you are going to remember from this passage?

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IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Pray! As you are able, share your prayer point with the group. Remember to check in with one another in subsequent weeks for ongoing encouragement and prayer.

START WITH PRAYER

GOSPELS

STEP 1

TEXT

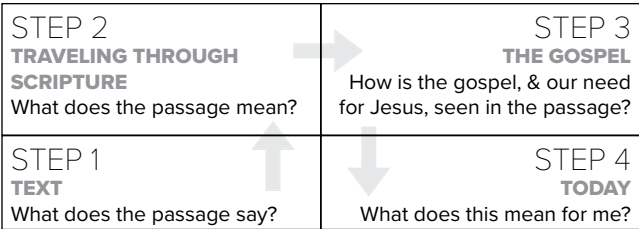
What does it say?

Look for:

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises !
- Transition words (ie. so, if, then, but, therefore, for)
- Characters
- Setting (timeline and place), and if and when it changes
- What kind of writing is this? (ie. narrative, poetry, parable, teaching)

How does the plot unfold? Where do you see...

- The conflict?
- The resolution?
- The climax?
- What do you think the author's emphasis is?



STEP 2

TRAVELING THROUGH SCRIPTURE

What does it mean?

- Read the passages before and after the passage. Does this add to your understanding?
- Look up cross references provided for this passage.

What do you think the big idea of the passage is?

STOP TO PRAY

STEP 3

THINKING THROUGH THE GOSPEL

How is the gospel, and our need for Jesus, seen in this passage?

- What do we learn about who Jesus is in this passage?
- What does Jesus say he has come to do?
- How does Jesus help people to see their need of him?
- What appears to be keeping or have kept people from responding to Jesus?
- What response is Jesus calling from those he meets in this passage?

STEP 4

TODAY

What does this mean for me?

What is one practical thing you have learned from Jesus about how to reach out to those around you with the Gospel?

How has meeting Jesus in this passage changed your relationship with him?

- Who you know him to be?
- Why you need him?
- What he is calling you to repent and turn away from?
- What is he calling you to do?

FINISH IN PRAYER