



THE GOSPEL OF J O H N



SERIES LAYOUT

SERIES	TITLE	MONTHS	WEEKS
1	FOUNDATIONS — “Come and See”	February 4 th – March 25 th	8
<i>Break for 2 weeks</i>			
2	CHRISTOLOGY — “I AM”	April 15 th – May 27 th	7
<i>Break for 2 weeks</i>			
3	ENCOUNTERS — “When Jesus Meets People”	June 17 th – July 22 nd	6
<i>Break in August for Revivals</i>			
4	DISCIPLESHIP — “Abide”	September 2 nd – October 7 th	6
<i>Break for 2 weeks</i>			
5	CONFLICT & COST — “Light vs. Darkness”	October 28 th – November 25 th	5
<i>Break for holidays – return in 2027</i>			
6	PASSION & PROMISE — “Love to the End”	2027	6
40 weeks			

Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Bible Study Series

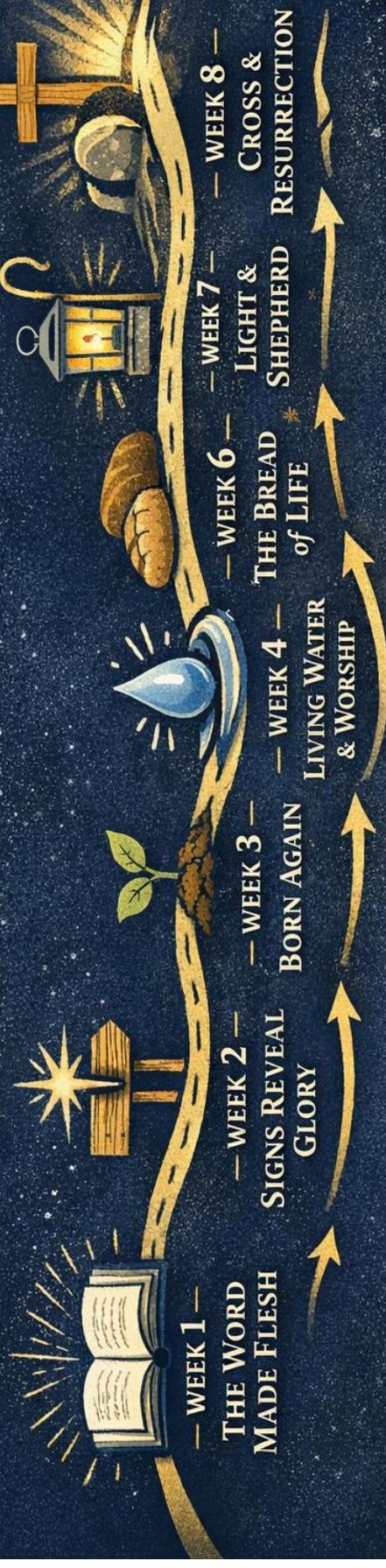


Wednesdays at 6:30PM

February & March 2026

Come and See:

FOUNDATIONS in the GOSPEL of JOHN



SERIES 1: FOUNDATIONS — “Come and See”

(Book Walk-Through | 8 Weeks)

Movement-Based Breakdown

Weeks	Focus	Chapters
1–2	The Word Revealed	John 1–2
3–4	New Birth & True Worship	John 3–4
5–6	Signs, Sabbath & Conflict	John 5–6
7–8	Light vs. Darkness	John 7–10
9	Glory Through Death	John 11–12
10	Love, Cross & Resurrection	John 13–21

Foundations in the Gospel of John

The Gospel of John was written with a clear purpose—not simply to inform us, but to **invite us into belief that transforms life.**

John tells us why he wrote this Gospel:

“These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”

— John 20:31

This study, **Come and See**, is an invitation to encounter Jesus as He truly is—not as culture defines Him, not as tradition assumes Him, but as Scripture reveals Him.

What Makes John Different

Unlike the other Gospels, John does not begin with Jesus’ birth or family history. He begins with **eternity**. From the very first verse, Jesus is presented as the eternal Word of God—fully divine, fully revealed, and fully present with humanity.

John’s Gospel is built around:

- **Signs** that reveal Jesus’ identity
- **Conversations** that challenge belief
- **Encounters** that demand response

Again and again, the reader is faced with a decision: *Will I believe?*

What This Study Is Designed to Do

This series is not just about gaining biblical knowledge—it is about deepening faith.

As a church, we will:

- Study Scripture carefully and faithfully
- Listen for what God is revealing about His Son
- Reflect honestly on our own beliefs and responses
- Allow God’s Word to shape how we live, worship, and serve

This study is for new believers, seasoned disciples, and those still seeking clarity. John’s Gospel speaks to all who are willing to come honestly before Christ.

Our Baptist Foundations

This study is grounded in historic Baptist convictions that align closely with the Gospel of John:

- **The Authority of Scripture**
God’s Word is our final authority for faith and practice.
- **Regenerate Church Membership**
Following Christ begins with new birth, not religious association.
- **Personal Faith and Response**
Each person must respond individually to Jesus Christ.
- **The Priesthood of the Believer**
Every believer has direct access to God through Christ.
- **Christ as the Sole Mediator**
Salvation is found in Jesus alone.

The Invitation

Early in John’s Gospel, Jesus extends a simple invitation:

“Come and see.”

That invitation remains open today.

As you journey through this study, may you come with an open heart, see Jesus clearly, believe Him deeply, and experience the life He promises.

WEEK 1 - The Word Made Flesh

SESSION OVERVIEW

BIG IDEA

Jesus Christ is the eternal Word of God, fully divine, who came to reveal God and bring life to humanity.

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

This lesson invites us to see Jesus not merely as a historical figure, but as **God revealed**, worthy of belief, trust, and obedience.

KEY SCRIPTURE

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

— John 1:14 (NKJV)

CONNECTION

- **Authority of Scripture:** John begins with divine revelation, not opinion.
- **Christ as Sole Mediator:** Jesus alone reveals the Father fully.

SCRIPTURE READING

READ: John 1:1–18

As you read, underline or circle:

- Words describing **Jesus**
- References to **light, life, or glory**
- Any phrases that raise questions

Initial Observation:

What words or phrases stand out most to you on this first reading?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

CONTEXT NOTES

- “The Word” (Logos) refers to God’s divine self-expression.
- John places Jesus **before creation**, not within it.
- This passage establishes Jesus’ identity before His actions.

KEY TRUTHS FROM THE PASSAGE

Check all that apply:

- Jesus existed before time
- Jesus participated in creation
- Jesus is the source of life
- Jesus reveals God’s glory
- Jesus brings grace and truth
- Knowing Jesus is the same as knowing God

REFLECTION QUESTION

Why do you think John begins his Gospel this way instead of with Jesus’ birth?

DIGGING DEEPER

WORD STUDY

“Dwelt among us” (John 1:14) literally means “tabernacled” or “made His dwelling.”

What does this tell us about God’s desire for relationship with humanity?

THINK ABOUT THIS:

John contrasts:

- Light vs. darkness
- Life vs. death

- Belief vs. rejection

Where do you see these contrasts playing out in today's world?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

HEART CHECK

Answer honestly (no one else will read this):

- Have I ever reduced Jesus to only a teacher, helper, or example?
- In what ways do my actions reflect what I say I believe about Jesus?

LIFE APPLICATION

If Jesus is truly God made flesh, how should that affect:

- My obedience?
- My worship?
- My daily decisions?

RESPONSE & PRAYER

PERSONAL RESPONSE STATEMENT

Complete the sentence below:

Because Jesus is the eternal Word made flesh, I am committing to:

PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

Help me to see You clearly—not as I want You to be, but as You truly are.

Strengthen my belief, deepen my faith, and shape my life according to Your truth.

Amen.

WEEKLY PRACTICE

This week, read **John 1** again slowly.

Ask God daily: “What are You revealing to me about who Jesus is?”

ADDITIONAL NOTES

WEEK 2 - Signs That Reveal Glory

SESSION OVERVIEW

BIG IDEA

Jesus reveals His glory through signs that point beyond the miracle to the Messiah.

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

To recognize that Jesus' works are not entertainment—they are **revelation**, calling us to belief.

KEY SCRIPTURE

"This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him."

— John 2:11 (NKJV)

CONNECTION

- **Authority of Scripture:** Our faith is grounded in what God has revealed.
- **Personal faith and response:** Signs require a response—belief or rejection.

SCRIPTURE READING

READ: John 1:19–2:11

As you read, underline or circle:

- What John the Baptist says about Jesus
- Any titles for Jesus (Lamb of God, Rabbi, Son of God, etc.)
- Details in the Cana miracle that stand out

Initial Observation:

What does this passage teach you about who Jesus is?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

CONTEXT NOTES

- John the Baptist points away from himself toward Christ.
- The first disciples follow because they are curious—and then convinced.
- Cana is the first “sign” in John—showing Jesus’ authority and identity.

KEY TRUTHS (check all that apply)

- True ministry points to Jesus, not self
- Following Jesus often begins with an invitation
- Jesus’ signs reveal His glory
- Belief grows through encounter and obedience
- Jesus cares about everyday needs

REFLECTION QUESTION

Why is it important that John calls miracles “signs”?

DIGGING DEEPER

LOOK CLOSER: JOHN THE BAPTIST’S WITNESS

What stands out to you about John’s humility and clarity? (John 1:19–34)

LOOK CLOSER: THE CANA SIGN (John 2:1–11)

What do you notice about:

- Mary’s instruction (“Whatever He says to you, do it”)
- The servants’ obedience
- The result (glory → belief)

PERSONAL APPLICATION**HEART CHECK**

Am I more drawn to what Jesus can do for me—or who Jesus is?

LIFE APPLICATION

Where is Jesus calling me to simple obedience this week?

RESPONSE & PRAYER**PERSONAL RESPONSE STATEMENT**

Because Jesus reveals His glory through His works, I will:

PRAYER

Lord, open my eyes to Your glory. Help me obey what You say even when I don't understand the outcome. Grow my belief through faithful response. Amen.

OPTIONAL WEEKLY PRACTICE

Read **John 1:35–51** daily and ask: “**What am I learning about following Jesus?**”

ADDITIONAL NOTES

WEEK 3 - You Must Be Born Again

SESSION OVERVIEW

BIG IDEA

Salvation is not achieved through religion—it is received through spiritual rebirth by faith in Christ.

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

To understand the necessity of regeneration (“new birth”) and respond personally to the Gospel.

KEY SCRIPTURE

“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

— John 3:3 (NKJV)

CONNECTION

- **Regenerate church membership:** New birth precedes true discipleship.
- **Personal faith and response:** Each person must believe in Christ.

SCRIPTURE READING

READ: John 3

Underline or circle:

- “born again / born of the Spirit”
- anything about belief, eternal life, condemnation
- what surprises or confuses you

Initial Observation:

What is Nicodemus struggling to understand?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

CONTEXT NOTES

- Nicodemus is religious, respected, and sincere—but still lacks new birth.
- Jesus distinguishes physical birth from spiritual birth.
- John 3:16 is the Gospel’s invitation and explanation.

KEY TRUTHS (check all that apply)

- Religious activity is not the same as salvation
- The Spirit gives new life
- Belief in Christ brings eternal life
- Light exposes what darkness hides
- Salvation is God’s initiative and our response

REFLECTION QUESTION

What is the difference between knowing about Jesus and believing in Jesus?

DIGGING DEEPER

“BORN AGAIN” / “BORN FROM ABOVE”

How does this concept challenge the idea that salvation is earned?

LIGHT AND DARKNESS (John 3:19–21)

What does this passage reveal about why people resist Christ?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

HEART CHECK

Where do I rely on tradition, church involvement, or “being a good person” instead of Jesus?

LIFE APPLICATION

If I am born again, what evidence should be seen in my life?

RESPONSE & PRAYER

PERSONAL RESPONSE STATEMENT

Because new birth comes through faith in Christ, I will:

PRAYER

Father, give me a true new birth by Your Spirit. Strengthen my faith in Jesus and make my life reflect Your saving grace. Amen.

OPTIONAL WEEKLY PRACTICE

Memorize **John 3:16–17** and pray it daily for yourself and one person you know.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

WEEK 4 - True Worship & Living Water

SESSION OVERVIEW

BIG IDEA

Jesus offers living water that satisfies the soul and calls us into worship in spirit and truth.

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

To see how Jesus meets people in broken places and turns encounters into transformation and witness.

KEY SCRIPTURE

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

— John 4:24 (NKJV)

CONNECTION

- **Priesthood of the believer:** Jesus meets people directly.
- **Personal faith and response:** Encounter leads to testimony.

SCRIPTURE READING

READ: John 4

Underline or circle:

- “living water”
- anything about worship
- the woman’s responses as her understanding changes

Initial Observation:

What changes in the woman from the beginning to the end of the story?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

CONTEXT NOTES

- Jesus crosses social, ethnic, and moral barriers.
- He exposes sin without crushing the person.
- The result is worship and witness.

KEY TRUTHS (check all that apply)

- Jesus pursues people others avoid
- He offers satisfaction deeper than circumstances
- True worship is spiritual and truthful
- Jesus knows the truth about us—and still invites us
- Testimony flows from encounter

REFLECTION QUESTION

Why is “spirit and truth” worship essential for the church today?

DIGGING DEEPER

LIVING WATER

What “wells” do people run to today that never satisfy?

FROM SHAME TO WITNESS

What does the woman’s story teach about God using imperfect people?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

HEART CHECK

Where am I trying to satisfy a spiritual thirst with temporary things?

LIFE APPLICATION

Who is one person I need to “go tell” this week?

RESPONSE & PRAYER

PERSONAL RESPONSE STATEMENT

Because Jesus gives living water, I will:

PRAYER

Jesus, satisfy my soul with Your presence. Teach me to worship in spirit and truth, and make me bold to share what You’ve done. Amen.

OPTIONAL WEEKLY PRACTICE

Write a 3–5 sentence testimony: “Come see a Man who...” and pray for an opportunity to share it.

WEEK 5 - Authority, Healing, and Obedience

SESSION OVERVIEW

BIG IDEA

Jesus has authority to heal and to command, and belief is proven through obedience.

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

To understand that Jesus' authority challenges comfort, tradition, and excuses.

KEY SCRIPTURE

"Rise, take up your bed and walk."

— John 5:8 (NKJV)

CONNECTION

- **Authority of Scripture:** Jesus interprets the Father's will with authority.
- **Personal faith and response:** Obedience follows encounter.

SCRIPTURE READING

READ: John 5

Underline or circle:

- Jesus' commands
- how people respond (the healed man, the leaders)
- anything about witness/testimony

Initial Observation:

Who resists Jesus—and why?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

CONTEXT NOTES

- Healing on the Sabbath triggers confrontation.
- Jesus claims unity with the Father (strong Christology).
- The chapter includes witnesses: John, works, Father, Scripture.

KEY TRUTHS (check all that apply)

- Jesus' authority disrupts religious systems
- Healing is a sign pointing to identity
- Scripture testifies about Jesus
- People can study Scripture and still miss Christ
- Belief must lead to obedience

REFLECTION QUESTION

What warning do you hear in John 5:39–40?

DIGGING DEEPER

EXCUSES VS. OBEDIENCE

The man had reasons—Jesus gave a command. Where do excuses keep people stuck today?

WHO TESTIFIES ABOUT JESUS?

List the “witnesses” in John 5 and what they show.

PERSONAL APPLICATION**HEART CHECK**

Is there an area where I'm knowledgeable about Scripture but slow to obey Jesus?

LIFE APPLICATION

What is one clear command of Christ I need to practice this week?

RESPONSE & PRAYER**PERSONAL RESPONSE STATEMENT**

Because Jesus has authority, I will:

PRAYER

Lord, forgive me for resisting Your authority. Give me a willing heart to obey Your Word and follow You fully. Amen.

OPTIONAL WEEKLY PRACTICE

Read Psalm 119:33–40 and pray, “Incline my heart to Your testimonies.”

ADDITIONAL NOTES

WEEK 6 - Bread of Life

SESSION OVERVIEW

BIG IDEA

Jesus provides, but He also confronts: He is not just the giver—He is the Bread.

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

To distinguish between seeking Jesus for what He does and following Him for who He is.

KEY SCRIPTURE

“I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger...”

— John 6:35 (NKJV)

CONNECTION

- **Personal faith and response:** True discipleship remains when teachings are hard.
- **Christ as sole mediator:** Only Jesus satisfies spiritual hunger.

SCRIPTURE READING

READ: John 6

Underline or circle:

- the crowd's motives
- Jesus' "I AM" statement
- where people turn away

Initial Observation:

What do people want from Jesus in this chapter?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

CONTEXT NOTES

- Feeding and walking on water reveal authority.
- The Bread of Life discourse challenges shallow faith.
- Some disciples leave when Jesus doesn't fit expectations.

KEY TRUTHS (check all that apply)

- Miracles do not automatically produce faith
- Jesus addresses deeper hunger than food
- Following Jesus requires trust, not control
- True faith perseveres
- Peter's confession models steadfast belief

REFLECTION QUESTION

What does it mean to "come to" Jesus and "believe in" Him (John 6:35)?

DIGGING DEEPER

WHEN TEACHING IS HARD

Why do you think some walked away? What "hard sayings" challenge believers today?

PETER'S RESPONSE (John 6:68–69)

What stands out about Peter's confession?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

HEART CHECK

When have I been tempted to follow Jesus only when life is easier?

LIFE APPLICATION

What would it look like for me to choose Jesus even when I don't understand?

RESPONSE & PRAYER

PERSONAL RESPONSE STATEMENT

Because Jesus is the Bread of Life, I will:

PRAYER

Jesus, forgive me for chasing blessings more than Your presence. Teach me to trust You when Your Word challenges me. Keep me faithful. Amen.

OPTIONAL WEEKLY PRACTICE

Fast from one comfort for a day and replace it with prayer: "Lord, satisfy me with You."

ADDITIONAL NOTES

WEEK 7 - Light vs. Darkness

SESSION OVERVIEW

BIG IDEA

Jesus' truth exposes darkness, demands decision, and reveals Him as the true Shepherd.

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

To see how Jesus' identity divides opinions—and calls us to courageous belief.

KEY SCRIPTURE

"I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness..."

— John 8:12 (NKJV)

CONNECTION

- **Personal faith and response:** Everyone must decide who Jesus is.
- **Authority of Scripture:** Truth is not negotiated; it is received.

SCRIPTURE READING

READ (suggested selections):

John 7:37–52; 8:12–30; 9:1–7, 24–38; 10:1–18

Underline or circle:

- statements about light, truth, freedom
- responses of belief and rejection
- descriptions of the Shepherd

Initial Observation:

Where do you see people resisting truth even when evidence is present?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

CONTEXT NOTES

- Conflict increases as Jesus reveals Himself more clearly.
- The man born blind becomes a living testimony.
- Jesus contrasts false shepherds with Himself.

KEY TRUTHS (check all that apply)

Truth often creates conflict before unity
 Spiritual blindness can be chosen
 Jesus brings freedom through truth
 Faith can grow through suffering and pressure
 Jesus knows His people and lays down His life

REFLECTION QUESTION

Why does Jesus' light provoke both worship and hostility?

DIGGING DEEPER

THE MAN BORN BLIND (John 9)

How does his testimony grow stronger under pressure?

GOOD SHEPHERD (John 10)

What comfort and challenge do you find in Jesus being the Shepherd?

PERSONAL APPLICATION

HEART CHECK

Where might I be avoiding truth because it would require change?

LIFE APPLICATION

What does following Jesus “in the light” look like in my habits, relationships, and witness?

RESPONSE & PRAYER

PERSONAL RESPONSE STATEMENT

Because Jesus is the Light and Shepherd, I will

PRAYER

Lord, shine Your light on every dark place in me. Give me courage to follow You and confidence to trust Your voice above every other voice. Amen.

OPTIONAL WEEKLY PRACTICE

Pray daily: “Jesus, lead me today—help me recognize Your voice and follow.”

ADDITIONAL NOTES

WEEK 8 - Glory Through Death & Resurrection

SESSION OVERVIEW

BIG IDEA

God's glory is revealed through Jesus' sacrificial love, victorious resurrection, and restoring grace.

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

To see how belief is tested by delay, strengthened at the cross, and confirmed in the resurrection.

KEY SCRIPTURE

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live."

— John 11:25 (NKJV)

CONNECTION

- **Christ as sole mediator:** Salvation and life are in Jesus alone.
- **Regenerate church membership:** Resurrection belief produces resurrected living.

SCRIPTURE READING

READ (suggested highlights):

John 11:1–27, 32–44; 13:1–17; 14:1–6; 17:20–23; 19:16–30; 20:1–18, 24–31; 21:15–19

Underline or circle:

- moments of grief, love, sacrifice
- statements Jesus makes about identity
- restoration and commissioning

Initial Observation:

Which moment most strengthens your faith—and why?

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

CONTEXT NOTES

- Lazarus shows Jesus' power over death and His compassion in grief.
- The Upper Room teaches love, service, and promise of the Spirit.
- The cross reveals substitutionary sacrifice; resurrection confirms victory.

KEY TRUTHS (check all that apply)

- Jesus is present in grief and delay
- Love expresses itself in service
- The cross is central, not incidental
- Resurrection invites belief and mission
- Jesus restores failures and recommissions disciples

REFLECTION QUESTION

How does the resurrection change what “life” means right now?

DIGGING DEEPER

WHEN GOD DELAYS (John 11)

What do you learn about faith when Jesus doesn't arrive on your timeline?

RESTORATION (John 21)

How does Jesus restore Peter, and what does that teach about grace after failure?

PERSONAL APPLICATION**HEART CHECK**

Where do I need resurrection hope: in grief, fear, guilt, or purpose?

LIFE APPLICATION

Because Jesus is alive, what should change about my priorities and witness?

RESPONSE & PRAYER**PERSONAL RESPONSE STATEMENT**

Because Jesus died, rose, and restores, I will

PRAYER

Risen Lord, strengthen my belief. Restore what is broken in me, renew my purpose, and help me live as a witness to Your victory. Amen.

OPTIONAL WEEKLY PRACTICE:

Write a “because Jesus is alive...” list (10 statements). Pray over it for 7 days.

1

2

3

4

5

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10

NOTES

PARTICIPANT WORKBOOK

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