

SERMON OUTLINE The Gospel According to John

That You May Believe and Have Life

AUTHOR AND DATE

JOHN AND THE SYNOPTICS

STRUCTURE

Introduction (1:1-18)

Jesus' Ministry (1:19-12:50)

Last Days (13:1-20:31)

Conclusion (21)

DISTINCTIVENESS

Theological

Christological

AIM

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

John's Gospel was written, John tells us in chapter 20, "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." John was not interested in merely conveying facts or information about Jesus. His main aim was to help his readers understand and accept the shocking fact that Jesus is the Christ that God had long promised to send, in order that they (we) might believe upon Him and have life.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. Have you spent much time in the Gospel of John? How would you describe its tone, message, and purpose? Pastor Dave mentioned that it is easy to tell that John is different from Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Do you agree?
3. Have you ever considered that the Gospels are autobiographical? How might that change how you read them?
4. Do you enjoy knowing more about the historical and literary details of the books of the Bible (author, date, culture, genre, etc.)? How have you found them to enhance or distract from your reading?
5. Have you ever wondered why John both includes and excludes so much information covered by the other Gospel writers? Does this seem any different to you than if four people were asked to give an account of a football game or a traffic accident? Are there any ways that might change how you read John (or the other Gospels)?
6. Does it strike you at all as odd that John dedicated just over half of his Gospel to the three+ years of Jesus ministry and most of the other half to the final few days of Jesus' life? What does that tell you about what John believes to be most important?
7. Before hearing Pastor Dave's sermon, did you think of John as exceptionally theological? Do you have a clear understanding of what that means?
8. What do you make of John's stated purpose for writing his Gospel? Does it make you more or less interested in it? Why?
9. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God in John?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

10. Commit to listening to every sermon on John (even if you miss a week in the service) so that you can have the fullest picture of Jesus as the Christ.
11. Read and/or listen to John as many times as you can in the next week.
12. Look up the OT promises of the Messiah/Christ to be better prepared to understand why John wrote what he wrote.
13. Invite a non-Christian friend to join you at Grace in order that they might believe in Jesus as the Christ and have life.
14. Watch the [Gospel Project's overview of John](#) with your kids or DG.
15. Try to capture John in a picture, painting, drawing, song, or some other artistic expression.
16. What is one specific thing you mean to do differently in the power of the Spirit as a result of the things you saw or heard in this text or sermon?

PRAYER POINTS

17. Adoration. Praise God for being the creator, light, lamb, truth, way, Christ, miracle worker, life-giver, healer, provider, forgiver, shepherd, resurrection, life, servant. Lord, and King. Praise Him for being full of grace and love. (All things revealed in John.)
18. Confession. Confess your doubt, disobedience, indifference, denial, laziness, and pride. He will forgive you in Jesus!
19. Thanksgiving. Thank God for Jesus Christ, His story told in John's Gospel, and a church committed to proclaiming Him.
20. Supplication. Pray for our church to be strengthened by John and our neighbors to be saved by Jesus.