

Jesus by John

Part 1: SEARCHING FOR GOD



* P52, 130AD

INTRODUCTION – Making the Most of this Series

1. Bring your Bibles and a pencil to Sunday service (NIV).
2. Use the sermon notes provided for extra study.
3. Attend Home Church (or Distance Group) and bring your questions.
4. Talk to God about your questions and your insights.
5. Turn conviction into conduct. Make small, ongoing changes in your life as you learn.

DINE IN – A “Spiritual Gospel” for Spiritual Seekers

Who was this author?

- John, brother of James. “Sons of Thunder” (**Mark 3:17**)
- Originally a disciple of John the Baptist.
- Young with a fiery temperament (**Luke 9:49, 54**)
- One of Christ’s inner circle of friends (**Mark 5:37; 9:2; 14:33**)
- The disciple Jesus loved (**John 13:23**)

What did he write?

- John’s Gospel is a blend of Greco-Roman biography and personal testimony. Not just “The Life of Jesus”, but “My Life with Jesus”.
- A portrait versus a photograph...
- Written in elementary Greek with a child’s vocabulary.

Why did he write it?...

Faith = 1. to acknowledge truth; 2. to trust a person.

Faith has content. Faith is personal.

WORD ORDER:

That you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God.

GRAMMATICAL EMPHASIS:

That you may believe that the Messiah, the Son of God, is Jesus.

John 20:30-31

Therefore...

TAKE OUT – I’ll Have That to Go Please

The Word of God in print acts like a preservative. It helps keeps the content of our faith free of corruption. But it is never meant to operate apart from the Word of God in people (**2 Corinthians 3:3**).

CONCLUSION – My Next Step Will Be...

Getting a Bible
 Going to Home Church
 Taking notes
 Asking God for help
 Switching churches

Bringing my Bible
 Joining a Home Church
 Reading at home
 Forming a Meeting House “Distance Group”
 Inviting a friend

Other _____

Q & Eh? Text 647.330.2789 or email ask@themeetinghouse.ca.

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

Warming Up...

1. Exegetical Bible teaching. It doesn’t sound that exciting. On a scale of 1-10, how much are you looking forward to this new series? Why?
2. After reviewing the message, talk about what stood out to you the most.

Look to the Book...

3. Read **John 20:24-31**. A) What verse or idea stands out to you the most? Why? B) How much and in what ways do you relate to “Doubting Thomas”? C) Jesus declares as blessed all those who believe in Jesus without seeing him personally. That’s us! How might we be blessed in ways the original disciples weren’t? D) Thomas believed when he saw Jesus. What moves *you* to faith in Jesus? Why do you believe? E) How might you respond to someone who said, “The Gospel writers weren’t objective, so I won’t believe them. They’re biased!” F) How might you respond to someone who said, “I’m a person of faith. It doesn’t matter what you believe, as long as you believe something.” G) Which describes you better: “I want to experience all that I can of Jesus, but I’m not as motivated to study the Bible closely.” OR “I love to study the Bible in depth, but praying and worshipping come harder for me.” What are the disadvantages of being only one or the other kind of person without a balance? H) Review **verse 31**. Why do you think *believing* gives us “life in his name”? Why not some other mechanism? Why is *faith* THE appropriate response to the Gospel?

So What?...

4. What “next step” did you indicate in your notes? How can your Home Church help?
5. Who are you going to invite to this series?

The Meeting House | Sunday, January 8, 2012 | Bruxy Cavey

Notes are available online at themeetinghouse.ca/teaching
 or on your mobile device at youversion.com (search for *The Meeting House*)
 Twitter -- @TheMeetingHouse / @bruxy -- #TMHJesusByJohn