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STUDY**
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Study on
the Book of John
Part 2

Introduction: John begins his letter from the very beginning, even before time. He refers to Jesus as the “Word”, knowing that his original readers were of the Jewish and Greek cultures, and that they would understand that “logos” was actually God and that this power made the world orderly. He was actually saying, “I know for centuries you’ve been talking, thinking, and writing about **the Word** (the *logos*). Now I will tell you who He is.” John explains that Jesus was in the beginning, hanging out with the Father. Jesus came to earth to present this type of Father to us; one who is loving and life-giving, one who reveals His heart and communicates with His creation. There are seven occasions in Genesis where the phrase is spoken, “And God said...” John identifies that Jesus was the one through which everything was created. We need to appreciate the artistry that came through Jesus; every mountain he sat on, he had created. Every sea that he crossed, was formed by him. He was God and in coming to earth, Jesus brought life and light. He gives us the abundant life that brings a deep sense of fulfillment and lasts forever. He also gives us light; similarly to the sun, which brings energy to plants and oxygen into the air, Jesus the very light that we all need in order to survive.

Opening Prayer:

Dear Daddy God, we receive the word who was in the beginning with you. Help us to understand you from the perspective of your son, which will help us to experience your embrace and encounter your fatherly love. Teach us what it really means to be your child, through the power of your Holy Spirit, and in Jesus’ name. Amen.

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Memorization Scripture:

John 1:1-2 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.”

Beginning questions:

1. What is the purpose of creation?

2. What is the meaning of abundant life?

3. How do we live in the light?

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1. John 1:5

- a. There is a clear battle between light and darkness.
 - i. Light is more powerful than darkness.
 - ii. Proverbs 4:18

2. John 1:6-8

- a. The secret is in the words witness and testify.
 - i. The original verb of witness is translated marturein, where we get the word, martyr.
 - ii. While only few are called to lay down their lives for the cause of Christ and become martyrs, all of us are called to die to self and testify that Jesus is the light that illuminates our lives.
 - iii. John is using courtroom language in these verses
 - iv. Amateur is a French word that means “lover.” Lovers make the best witnesses.

3. John 1:11-13

- a. Everyone on the planet is not a child of God. John brings clarity to this misconception.
 - i. The world is divided into two distinct categories of people: those who have become the Father’s children as a result of believing in Jesus and those who are still spiritual orphans, people who do not know the Father because they haven’t yet received his Son into their hearts.

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- ii. Jesus came to his own-the Jewish people of the first century- and they didn't receive him. Others, however did receive him and to those they received the right to the title, "child of God."
- iii. We were created for love and the high aim of the cross was not salvation, but adoption.

4. John 1:14

- a. John says that the "Logos" became flesh. The Reason Why became a human being, a person, in Jesus of Nazareth.
 - i. Jesus was not some mythical figure as John points out that he and his friends had seen his glory with their own eyes- they touched, heard and saw the one and only Son who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.
 - 1. Order is very important in the bible. Jesus is first full of grace, and then full of truth- not the opposite.

5. John 1:18

- a. Three powerful nuggets of truth are presented in this one verse.
 - i. First, Jesus is not just the Messiah, He is God himself. He is "God the One and Only One." Also, Jesus is the One and Only Son by nature. He is one of a kind.
 - ii. Second, is that Jesus is at the Father's side.
 - 1. Acts 7:55-56
 - 2. Romans 8:34
 - 3. Ephesians 1:20
 - 4. Colossians 3:1

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5. Hebrews 8:1; 12:2

iii. Third, Jesus has made the Father known. He revealed the Father to us. The purpose of Jesus' coming was to show us the limitless vistas of the Father's love.

1. John 17:26.

6. John 1:19-23

- a. John is very clear to refer to himself as the voice, in distinction to Jesus being the word.
 - i. His only desire is to make Jesus famous. Nothing must detract from the priority and supremacy of Jesus.
 - ii. John's role was to "make straight the way for the Lord." It is our role as witnesses as well.

7. John 1:27-28

- a. The Pharisees are questioning John because he was baptizing Jewish people.
 - i. John was making the statement that everyone; Jew and Gentile is unclean and needs a wash.
 - ii. He identifies himself as lower than a slave to Jesus.
 - iii. We are not slaves or orphans; we are heirs and children of God.
 - 1. John 14:18

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8. John 1:29

- a. John speaks prophetically when he sees Jesus.
 - i. John announces to everyone that Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.
 - ii. Jesus is the true Passover Lamb. His blood shed on the cross will be our covering, our protection, and our salvation.

9. John 1:32-33

- a. This is truly a history-making moment. Why is this?
 - i. The presence of the Holy Spirit had been invisible in Israel for 400 years. (End of OT to the NT)
 - ii. In the OT era, the Spirit came and went. He visited but he didn't stay. In the NT, John says the Spirit of God came upon Jesus and remained.
 - iii. The Father told him that this person would be the one who baptized people in the Holy Spirit.
 - iv. We would be totally immersed in the Holy Spirit; dripping with the power of God.

Closing Prayer: Thank you, Father, for the precious Holy Spirit who came and stayed on Jesus. Thank you, Jesus, for drenching your followers in the Holy Spirit. Dear Holy Spirit, I ask that you would totally immerse me in the power of the Father's love and presence, in Jesus' name, Amen.

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