

— WEEKLY —
**BIBLE
STUDY**
NOTES

Study on
The Book of John
Part 4

Introduction: John tells the story of a few of the disciples whom Jesus chose to follow him, each with an encouragement to all of us as the readers. Andrew was a follower whose highest priority was to see the lost find their way to the Father. Peter was a disciple in whom Jesus saw his future instead of his failings. Nathanael was a true disciple who would see more of the supernatural because of his faith in studying the scriptures. These three disciples have so much to teach those of us who are wanting to be used by God to touch our friends for Christ, who need to allow Jesus to transform the way we see ourselves and who have desired to see greater spiritual activity in our lives. John then begins to show us how the beginning of Jesus' ministry signified the start of a new life, a new era, a new covenant.

It was the seven days between Jesus' baptism and the first miracle, which happens at a wedding. John's gospel is called the "Book of Signs and Wonders" because it contains 7 miracles, first one at a wedding and the last at a funeral, and signifies the desire of the Father to be involved from the start to the end of our lives. This first miracle, the changing of water into wine at a wedding, is God showing us that He is a father that cares about ordinary people with ordinary problems. Even in a social situation, Jesus shows that anything he touches will transform from average to extraordinary.

He then shows another incredible aspect of his Father as he goes to Jerusalem for the Passover festival. He is enraged that those who are supposed to be displaying the love of the Father at the Synagogue had turned it into a marketplace. He

— WEEKLY —
**BIBLE
STUDY**
NOTES

drove the dove sellers and money changers out of Court of the Gentiles and fulfilled a Messianic prophesy in Psalms about his zeal for God's house.

Opening Prayer: Loving Father, I confess that sometimes I still operate out of an orphan mentality and view you as the judge and not the Father that Jesus revealed You to be. Transform my mind through your word so that I can see you properly and in turn see myself through your eyes.

Memorization Scripture:

John 1:11-12 “He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.” (KJV)

Opening Questions:

1. How can titles or positions help or hinder us in our desire to walk for Christ?

2. Describe how the Holy Spirit similar to the wind.

— WEEKLY —
**BIBLE
STUDY**
NOTES

3. Is it possible for anger to be an expression of love? How so?

Lesson 4: John 3:1-36.

1. Nicodemus had to stand against the position and prestige he enjoyed in order to come to Jesus.
 - a. We have to push past our titles, positions and social pressures to make a stand for Jesus. No matter how unpopular it may be.

2. (Vs. 2) Nicodemus models for us the balanced approach we much have with the Father.
 - a. Many believers know the scriptures and not the power of God.

 - b. Many believers know the power of God and not the scriptures.

— WEEKLY —
**BIBLE
STUDY**
NOTES

3. The kingdom of God is where God the Father rules. This rule come to earth through Jesus' words and deeds.
 - a. Jesus is saying to Nicodemus that if you are prepared to see a radical spiritual rebirth, you can see heaven invading your own life.
 - b. Are you seeing the Kingdom right now in your own life?
4. (Vs. 4) What does it actually mean to be born again?
 - a. Born anew by God's great mercy. (1 Peter 1:3;23)
 - b. Born by the word of truth (James 1:18)
 - c. Saved by the "washing of rebirth" (Titus 3:5)
 - d. New Christians are likened to babies who need spiritual milk (1 Peter 2:2)
5. Man-made religion gives birth to human (i.e. Non-supernatural) way of relating to God. But the Holy Spirit gives birth to a dynamic, spiritual relationship with the Father.
 - a. Very tempting to run churches on man-made programs. But they'll only give birth to man-made results.

— WEEKLY —
**BIBLE
STUDY**
NOTES

- b.** Presence not program should be the priority of our lives.

- 6.** (Vs. 8) Jesus compares the ways of the Holy Spirit with the ways of the wind. You may hear him moving, but the rest is a mystery. There are a variety of encounters with the Father. Be open!

- 7.** (Vs. 10-12) Nicodemus was guilty, like so many of our theologians of today, of having a knowledge about God and yet having no knowledge of God.
 - a.** Information doesn't save us, revelation does.

- 8.** (Vs. 14-15) Those of us who look to Jesus are saved, healed and delivered.

- 9.** (Vs. 16) The Father, Abba, takes the initiative to visit and save this fallen planet. He chooses to give up what was most precious to him, his one and only son. This is true love.
 - a.** The Greek word for the world is Kosmos. It's used 79 times in John's gospel. It doesn't just encompass one single nation or people group. It encompasses all the lost, spiritual and often hostile orphans of this fallen planet earth. It embraces everyone.

 - b.** Believing in Jesus is a phrased used often in John's gospel. It means choosing to put your faith and trust in the person of Jesu now and for the rest of your life.

— WEEKLY —
**BIBLE
STUDY**
NOTES

- 10.** (Vs. 17-19) The response to Jesus revealing himself to you will determine whether you come under condemnation or start on the journey to salvation.
- a.** When we choose not to believe in Jesus, we have opened the door to judgment.
 - b.** We have been condemned because of the penalty of sin.
- 11.** (Vs. 19-21) There must be a decision, a verdict, of acceptance of Christ or not.
- a.** Coming into the light exposes our shadows (hidden hurts, habits and hang-ups. We don't want to deal with these because we are afraid of condemnation.
- 12.** (Vs. 25-26) John the Baptist experiences one of the greatest tests on his character. It is a test of his security in the Father's love.
- a.** Character is just as important as charisma and if we are operating out of an orphan heart we will be threatened by other people's success. If we are sons and daughters, then we can't help celebrating the achievements of others.
- 13.** (Vs. 27-30) True humility is not only accepting who we are in Christ; it is accepting what we are called to be and do. True maturity is enjoying your identity and destiny, not striving for something that isn't yours.
- a.** In every situation, we can react in the flesh or respond in the Spirit.

— WEEKLY —
**BIBLE
STUDY**
NOTES

- b.** Do you live out of a secure and restful enjoyment of who you are? Or are you striving to be and to do something outside of the Father's plan for our lives?

- 14.** (Vs. 34) The Father gave the one whom He sent, Jesus, the Spirit without limit.
 - a.** Unlike the Old Testament era, where people received the Holy Spirit for particular tasks, Jesus' anointing was permanent. It remained. And it is available for us today.

- 15.** (Vs. 35) Our Heavenly Father loves the son. And placed everything in His hands.
 - a.** It is the Greek word, AGAPAO. Used 37 times in John's gospel. It has the connotation of self-giving, self-forgetful love. It is the kind of love that welcomes sacrifice and selflessness.

 - b.** The Father has placed everything in the Son's hands. He is not a controlling father who seeks to hold onto everything himself. He is a releasing Father who entrusts everything to his Son.

- 16.** (Vs. 36) The word wrath is used once, and only in this particular verse. It is an expression of the Father's love. It is the justified and measured anger over human sin, demonic wickedness and social injustice.

— WEEKLY —
**BIBLE
STUDY**
NOTES