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**Study on
The Book of John
Part 6**

Summary: Jesus was prompted by the Spirit to take an unusual route through Samaria to get from Jerusalem to Galilee. He had to go because he needed to breakdown cultural prejudices and show the disciples that He came to establish the Kingdom of God, which is open and available to all. Jesus makes himself relevant to everyone, including a Samaritan woman who was trying to hide from society. He used his prophetic insight to lead this woman into a transformation that would not only affect her life, but the entire community. She admits that He must be sent from God and then explains her perspective on God and the proper way to worship Him. Jesus uses the conversation about worship to give her a better understanding of the Father. Through taking a drink from Jesus, He explains to this woman that the Father's love is available to her and will satisfy her thirsty soul, which up to this point she had been trying to find in the arms of various men. She comes to the well with shame, but leaves with honor, worth and value. An encounter with the love of the Father does the same thing for us. It will transform those of us who are desperate for real life and real love into passionate lovers of the Father and His kingdom.

Introduction:

Through John's gospel, he is continuing to reveal Jesus as the connector between the Father and us. He connects us to the healing power of a loving Daddy and His desire to connect to us through relationship instead of religion. We must change our mindsets from understanding God through a slave-master perspective to relate to God in a child-Father way.

Opening Prayer:

Abba Father, I thank you for the example of your Son, Jesus who is teaching us to relate to you as he did. Help me take captive the mindset of an orphan and to

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accept the perfect love you have for me as your child. I recognize that the enemy's constant weapon against me is to think from the carnal mind but I declare that he, and his constant lies are defeated in my life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Memorization Scripture:

John 4:24-25 " _____ and has now come when the _____ will worship the Father in the _____ and in _____, for they are the kind of _____ the Father _____. God is _____, and his _____ must _____ in the _____ and in _____."

John 5:1-42

1. (Vs. 1-3) The proven authenticity of John's account helps to further solidify our faith in Jesus as the Christ.

2. Why is it important to have proven authenticity of John's account?

3. (Vs. 5) It is in Jesus alone that we find salvation, healing and freedom.

a. Bethesda literally means "House of Mercy" or "House of Grace." This blind man is about to meet the source of all mercy and grace.

b. The blind man is seeking healing near the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem. He is about to be healed by the one who will later call himself the Gate. (John 10:7-9)

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c. Whereas so many are searching for spiritual answers and spiritual experiences, we have a relationship with the truth.

d. In your own words, explain what a relationship with the truth looks like.

4. This man, like so many of us, had become dependent on the dysfunction in his life.

a. Jesus must challenge him to confront his ambivalence.

b. Go beyond the surface of your own life and ask what dysfunction have you accepted as part of your identity?

5. **(Vs. 7-9)** Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. As he spoke to the blind man, he speaks to us today, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”

6. What area of healing has the Father been pushing you to surrender?

7. **(Vs. 9-10)** The spirit of religion will always try to lure you back into bondage so that freedom is never really experienced. “You may can walk, but you’ll never really be free.”

a. An encounter with Jesus puts you at war with the Spirit of Religion.

b. A stand with Jesus is a radical declaration against the world.

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8. How has the Spirit of Religion hindered you in your understanding of who God truly is?

9. **(Vs. 16-18)** This passage shows the utter irreconcilability of relationship and religion.

- a. Revelation of the kind of relationship God wants to have with us as his children.
- b. This is opposed to the enemy who wants us to worship a remote God and relate to him in a slave-master way.

10. **(Vs. 19-20)** The wellspring of Jesus' life was intimacy with the Father.

- a. This models the connection we are to have with the Father. That we only say what we hear the Father saying, and that we only do what we see the Father doing.

11. **(Vs. 24)** Jesus' challenges his listeners to put their trust in the one whom Jesus' reveals, Abba Father. By doing this they crossed over from death to life.

- a. It is only in the acceptance of the Father can we truly belong to him.

12. **(Vs.27)** Human institutions will come and go, but what Jesus began will last for eternity.

- a. They are the sons of men.
- b. He is the Son of Man.

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- 13. (Vs. 30)** Jesus did not seek the acceptance or applause of those around him. His only desire is to ensure that he lives his life in such a way that his Father is always pleased with him.
- a. Living under the Father's smile and enjoying the Father's pleasure was the greatest goal of Jesus' life.
 - b. All lesser ambitions are eclipsed by this one supreme dream- to bring pride and joy to the heart of the Father.
 - c. People pleasing is one of the hardest habits to break.
 - d. Receiving the freedom that comes from this verse.
- 14. (Vs. 31-32)** The Father is the one who validates Jesus' life and words. And he does the same for us!
- 15. (Vs. 35)** John the Baptist is added to the list of those who validate Jesus' claims.
- a. There is no better description for a child of God than "a lamp that burns and gives light."
 - b. How bright do we shine for Jesus?
 - c. Ecclesiastes 9:11 and Mt. 24:13.
- 16. (Vs. 36)** The word "work" is used in a variety of ways in John's gospel.
- a. (3:19-21) Referring to the works or deeds of human beings.
 - b. (14:10-12) Referring to the miraculous works that Jesus performed during his ministry.
 - c. (4:34: 5:36) Works or the purpose that the Father had given to Jesus- the work of coming into the world to save human beings.

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- d. Each of us has a unique assignment given to us by our heavenly Father and we are called to find this overarching plan for our lives. It is the two works (human deeds and miraculous acts) combined. James 2:14-26.
- 17. **(Vs. 37-38)** Jesus speaks directly to his accusers to show them that they don't in fact know the Father at all. If they knew Him, and His word was in them, they would have responded positively to Jesus.
 - a. Voice, in the Greek is the word *phone*, from which we get the word phonetic.
 - b. Word, in the Greek is the word *logos*.
 - c. We can know the Father through prophecy and what is written in the scriptures.
- 18. **(Vs. 39-40)** The scriptures are far more than information, they are revelation. You cannot truly understand the Bible unless you believe in Jesus.
 - a. Scriptures speak to you personally not just academically.
 - b. The scriptures help us to know the Lord of the Book, not just the Book of the Lord.
- 19. **(Vs. 42-27)** Jesus tells his listeners that the love of the Father isn't in them because they don't believe or receive him.
 - a. May these words never be true of any of us.

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