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WEEK ONE

DAY 1: INTRODUCTION TO JOHN / JOHN 1:1-18

Jesus' life and teaching are not only communicated but also confirmed by four different Gospel accounts. The Gospels are similar to four biographies of a person, or four witnesses of an event. Each one provides selected perspectives, details, and sequences that are not all recorded by the others.

John's purpose is stated in 20:31, where he presents Jesus as the Messiah (or Christ), the Son of God. And throughout his Gospel, John shows that Jesus makes *himself* the center of his message.

1. Who is the Word and the light? Who bears witness to the light?
2. How is the Word both *life* and *light*?
3. What does it mean to become a child of God? Have you experienced that?
4. Why did the Word become flesh?

DAY 2: JOHN 1:19-34

1. How does John bear witness to Jesus, the Messiah?
2. In what ways are you making *straight the way for the Lord*?
3. How might you proclaim and point to Jesus more than yourself?
4. Compare the baptisms of John and of Jesus.
5. What does verse 29 mean to you personally?

DAY 3: JOHN 1:35-51

1. How does John identify Jesus?
2. Compare the ways that John's two disciples and Nathanael meet Christ.
3. How does Philip answer Nathanael's question?
4. How does Jesus overcome Nathanael's prejudice?
5. What do you learn from this passage that can help you present Jesus to your friends and family?

DAY 4: JOHN 2:1-12

1. Who is attending this wedding? What problem arises?
2. How do Mary, Jesus, and the master of the banquet get involved?
3. What power of Christ does this miracle reveal?
4. What do you expect Jesus will demonstrate or reveal today?

DAY 5: JOHN 2:13-25

1. What happens in the temple?
2. What sign does Jesus give the Jewish leaders? How do they interpret his words?
3. Why do many people believe in Jesus during this Passover?
4. What factors have caused you to believe in Jesus?

**DAY 6: INTRODUCTION TO
PSALMS / PSALMS 1 AND 2**

Psalms are personal and public poems and prayers of worship, hymns representing many emotions and subjects, written by

several different authors. One characteristic of Hebrew poetry is parallelism, where an expressed thought is followed by another line rephrasing that idea. Reading Psalms aloud—with their images, metaphors, and similes—can enhance your identification with the writers.

1. In Psalm 1, contrast the wicked and the righteous.
2. How are delight and meditation related? In your daily study of God's Word, how do you find delight?
3. Describe the tree that represents a righteous person. What fruit is God producing in you?
4. In Psalm 2, what are the actions of evil nations? How does God respond to them?
5. What warning is given to kings and rulers?

WEEK TWO

DAY 1: JOHN 3:1-21

1. What does Nicodemus know about Jesus? Can this knowledge get him into the kingdom of God?
2. How does Jesus explain being *born again*? Why do you think this Pharisee and teacher does not understand?
3. How does the image of Moses lifting up the bronze snake (Numbers 21:4-9) relate to the Son of Man?
4. Why did God send his Son into the world? (See also John 1:14.)
5. What are people's reactions to the light? What's your reaction?