

Volunteer Sign Ups

As you pray about activating and engaging in the church as part of the body of Christ, consider signing up to serve as a volunteer! It is an honor and true blessing to serve others and be an active part of the mission of the church. We currently have many areas in need!



ENCOUNTER JESUS

Week 1 | Who Is The Real Jesus? | John 1:1-5

OTHER GOSPEL ACCOUNTS START WITH JESUS' HUMAN LINEAGE WHEREAS JOHN TRAVELS BACK BEFORE TIME ITSELF TO IDENTIFY CHRIST AS THE ETERNAL GOD.

This may be hard to believe, but over the summer, someone created a false Instagram account pretending to be me. They had carefully pulled content off my account, fabricating a false account that looked nearly the same as the true one. And then, as is always the case, they started asking people for money. Needless to say, we nipped it in the bud but not before it caused some confusion. People knew something was wrong, but there was just enough content from my account that it seemed to be me until we set the record straight. The Apostle John didn't have social media, but enough false accounts were circulating about Christ that he needed to set the record straight. John knew that there was a lot at stake. You see, just as a fake social account won't lead you to the real person, distortions of Jesus will keep you from truly encountering Him and experiencing all that He is able to bring to you. John's gospel is an invitation to encounter the real Jesus in a beautiful and radically life-transforming kind of way. The prologue to this account is like an identification verification; I call it the fingerprint of God. From what John says about Jesus, He is absolutely unmistakable because there is no one else like Him!

Leaders: Take your group through each section: **Pray, Reflect, and Reach.** Keep in mind the time allowances. In the **Reflect** section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



PRAY (10 min)

As a Life Group, take time to reflect and pray over this weekend's message. Spend some time in prayer thanking God for Jesus.



REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. As a group, discuss what it means to encounter Jesus. Remember, this study is purposed to lead you to the person of Christ, not just to more information about Him. As you establish what it means to encounter, share what your personal expectations are. **By that, I mean, what are you expecting to experience in your relationship with Jesus through this study? How are you expecting to grow and change?**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN IS NOT JUST A DEFENSE AGAINST GNOSTICISM IT'S AN INVITATION TO DISCOVER AND ENCOUNTER THE TRUE JESUS CHRIST AND EVERYTHING HE BRINGS TO YOU.

2. There are six attributes that John identifies in his prologue. **How do they verify the true Jesus? If these attributes are distorted or denied, what impact does that have? Is there any other person that has these attributes? What are some other Scriptures that substantiate these attributes? Consider the Study section in your Encounter Jesus Journal.**



YOU, LORD, LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH IN THE BEGINNING, AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS; THEY WILL PERISH, BUT YOU REMAIN; THEY WILL ALL WEAR OUT LIKE A GARMENT, LIKE A ROBE YOU WILL ROLL THEM UP, LIKE A GARMENT THEY WILL BE CHANGED. BUT YOU ARE THE SAME, AND YOUR YEARS WILL HAVE NO END.

HEBREWS 1:10-12

3. As the prologue distinguishes Jesus, it also sets the table for all that He does and declares what He is able to do in this gospel account.

How do these verses encourage you to believe that Jesus is able to fulfill all His promises in your life? What are some of the needs you have today? If you feel comfortable, share them with the group and pray for one another.

BECAUSE JESUS IS GOD, HE CAN DO ALL HE SAYS THAT HE CAN DO IN THIS BOOK.



WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

John 20:31

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.



REACH (5 min)

Considering what God revealed to you this week, spend more time in prayerful communion with Him. Seek space from the distractions of life and really prepare your heart for this new work that God desires to do.

We will be waiting with anticipation to hear how God blessed your time of communion with Him.