**John, Revealing the Deity of Christ and His New Order of Love**

**Purpose:**

To testify that Jesus Christ is the \_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_so that we might \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

John's book is not a biography; it's a theological argument. John wants to convince us that Jesus has always existed and is the Creator and sustainer of all things. His love is the energy source in all life. Then he wants to show us how that fact will change how we see everything. John makes spiritual truths known in simple and approachable ways.

**Differences in the Gospels**

Matthew – Written to the Jews. Jesus as Messiah from the throne of David. Begins with the Genealogy of Jesus. Represented as the Lion.

Mark—Written to Christians in Rome to present the person, work, and teaching of Jesus. Jesus as the Lowly Servant. It starts with John the Baptist and does not include the Birth Story. Represented as the Ox.

Luke—Written to the Gentiles. Jesus as Son of Man. Most comprehensive. Begins with an Orderly Account. Represented as a Man.

John— Written to believers everywhere and searching non-Christians. Jesus is the Son of God, Creator of the Universe. The Eternal Logos—Only writer who begins with Christ's eternal existence rather than the time He appeared on earth. Represented as the Eagle.

**Nic at Night**

Read John 3: 1 – 16

You must be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Your whole structure must change. It is one thing to be physically alive. Being Born of God makes us spiritually alive and changes us from the inside out, rearranging our values, attitudes, desires, and motives.

*"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."* -C.S. Lewis

**Woman Caught in the Act of Adultery**

Read John 7:53—8:11

The Religious Leaders \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her and Jesus gave her \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

For the law was given through Moses; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ came through Jesus Christ. (John 1:17)

Jesus showed love and grace to the marginalized and truth to the religious leaders.

Seven Messianic Signs:

1. Jesus turns Water into Wine
2. Healing of the Official's Son
3. Healing on the Sabbath
4. Feeding of the Five Thousand
5. Jesus Walks on Water
6. Healing of the Blind Man
7. **Jesus raises Lazarus from the Dead**

Read John 11: 1 – 43.

In this story, Jesus shows His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Delay does not mean \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus's timing is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus raises \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Farewell/Upper Room Discourse**

Jesus's departing words to His Disciples, Chapters 13 to 16.

A New Commandment I give you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. As \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, so you must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (John 13:34)

The standard of self-love is limited. Agape love is steep.

**How Do We Love Like Jesus? (Personal Application)**

A Divine order— God's Love first so we can "Fill and Spill." God's Power, not Ours. Our identity and purpose are to be rooted in God's love.

We make Christ known through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (John 13:35)

We reflect the Deity of Christ through His impossible love. Forgiveness is part of this new order of love. Read Luke 6: 32-3*6*

Seven "I AM" Statements

1. Bread of Life
2. Light of the World
3. The Gate
4. The Good Shepherd
5. The Resurrection and the Life – Lazarus Story
6. The Way, the Truth, and the Life
7. **The Vine – John 15:5 (Farwell Discourse) We can only exercise Impossible Love through Abiding.**

*“And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”* (Ezekiel 36:26)

**Let's Discuss**

1. We are to love each other as Jesus loved us. That's a tall order, but how can we practice it in small and big ways?
2. What is your identity rooted in? (Your work? Your children? Your hobbies? Your skills, intellect, or knowledge?) Jesus says it should be rooted in His love, but how can we do that?

“It’s not what you do but who you become that matters.” (Dallas Willard)

1. Do you have a hard time receiving God's unconditional love? What gets in the way?
2. How do you guard against a hardened heart?
3. Does seeing Jesus as the Creator of all things strengthen your faith? What strengthens your faith?
4. How do we fan the gift of faith in each other's lives?
5. How has John opened your eyes today?

*The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.* (1 Samuel 16:7)