

The Gospel of John (#1)

Faith Village Adult Education

Note: March 17th is a combined class in the auditorium as Clarence Darter launches our new study with the background of the Gospel of John.

March 24th, 2019 (John 1: 1-18)

- 1) Why does John introduce his gospel account with “the Word”? What does “the Word” mean?
- 2) Vs. 7 describes John the Baptist’s purpose. How does his purpose compare to your purpose? How does it impact the vision of your faith?
- 3) How do we, like Jesus, live *full* of “grace” *and* “truth” (Vs. 14)? Why is it often difficult to find balance with these virtues?
- 4) Is it really true that no one has seen God? (Vs. 18) What about men like Moses and Enoch?
- 5) In your opinion, what is most impressive about the incarnation of Jesus?

March 31st, 2019 (John 1: 19-28)

- 1) Why do you think John, the apostle, spends so much time discussing John the Baptist?
- 2) Why did the Jews send Priests *and* Levites to question John? Does this speak to their deceptive nature?
- 3) If someone asked you, “What do you say about yourself?” (Vs. 22), how would you respond?
- 4) How do we “make straight” our way(s) for the Lord? (Vs. 23)
- 5) Why did John the Baptist clarify that he *only* baptized with water? Why is that important?
- 6) What was the significance of sandals that John was unworthy to untie?

April 7th, 2019 (John 1: 29-42)

- 1) How did John know Jesus was the “Lamb of God”? Did someone tell him?
- 2) What is the significance and meaning of “Lamb of God”?
- 3) How did John the Baptist *not* know Jesus? Weren’t they cousins? (Do some research to see if you can find out)
- 4) John says the Spirit “remained” on Jesus (Vs. 32-33). Why is that noteworthy and what does it mean?
- 5) If Jesus looked at you and said, “What do you want?” (Vs. 38), how would you respond? What would you say or not say?
- 6) Upon seeing Jesus, the very *first* thing Andrew did was bring Peter, his brother, to meet the Messiah. What does that teach us about the urgency of evangelism? And how evangelism should work?

April 14th, 2019 (John 1: 43-51)

- 1) Why does the text describe the calling of Jesus' disciples? Why is this important? Why does it matter?
- 2) Did Nathanael possibly go by another name?
- 3) Why did Philip have reservations (hesitations/biases) about Nazareth? (Vs. 46)
- 4) What does this "second class" town say about the nature of God?
- 5) Is Nathanael's answer skewed in vs. 49 when he says Jesus is the Son of God *and* the King of Israel? To what type of "King" was Nathanael referring?
- 6) When would Nathanael see heaven open, and the angels ascending and descending on the Son of Man? (Vs. 51)
- 7) If you had been Nathanael, and if you had heard Jesus say that He saw you under the fig tree, how would you have responded?

April 21st, 2019 (John 2: 1-11)

- 1) Is it significant that John mentions it was the "third day"? Why or why not?
- 2) Why do you think John recorded this story when none of the other gospel writers (Matthew, Mark, Luke) did?
- 3) John says that Jesus' mother, Jesus, and His disciples were invited to this wedding (Vs. 2). Where were His brothers? His father, Joseph? Would missing events such as these have anything to do with them not believing in Jesus?
- 4) What did Jesus mean when he said, "My time has not yet come"? (Vs. 4)
- 5) Was that wine comparable to our wine today?
- 6) The question you can't wait to discuss—*does this story approve social drinking?* Why or why not? How do you know?
- 7) How did this miracle "reveal" Jesus' "glory?" (Vs. 11)

April 28th, 2019 (John 2: 12-25)

- 1) If you had been in the temple when this "cleansing/clearing" occurred, how would you have reacted? What images would be plugged into your memory forever?
- 2) Why do you suppose Jesus made a "whip" to drive out the money changers and sellers in the temple? Why not just ask them to leave? (Vs. 15)
- 3) Didn't they have to "sell" doves and other items at the temple for those who traveled great distances and would be staying for a few days? What was wrong with the "selling" and "distributing" of goods at the temple?
- 4) Why was authority required to do what Jesus did? (Vs. 18) What does this "authority" say about the role of Jesus?
- 5) When was the foreshadowing of vs. 22 fulfilled? Can you find it in the other gospel accounts?
- 6) Does this passage give us a deeper insight into the heart and nature of Jesus? If so, what insight(s)?
- 7) Think critically about vs. 25—Jesus didn't need man's testimony about man, because he knew what was in a man. What does that tell you about your life, your goals, and the sins you think you can hide?