

THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE — WEEK 3

The Gospel of John

Jesus Has Authority to Give Life

John 5:1–6:15

5:1–9 - Jesus heals. *Do you want to be healed?*

5:10–18 - Jesus is opposed. *Who has authority?*

5:19–29 - Jesus gives life. *The Son has authority.*

5:30–38 - Jesus is witnessed. *The evidence points to Him.*

5:39–47 - Jesus is revealed. *The Scriptures testify about Him.*

6:1–15 - Jesus provides. *The Bread of Life satisfies.*

As we continue our journey through The Gospel of John, take time with the **Scriptures**, think through the **questions**, process **UP** (our worship) → **IN** (our community) → **OUT** (our neighbors) →, and ask where God may be giving you an **Invitation** (Repent/turn to Him) and a **Challenge** (Believe/live for Him).

*“...these are written so **that you may believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name” -John 20:31 (ESV)*

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SUNDAY — John 5:1–9

DO YOU WANT TO BE HEALED?

Big Idea:

Jesus meets a man who has been unable to walk for decades and asks him a surprising question: “Do you want to be healed?” Jesus has authority over what seems hopeless and calls us to trust Him enough to respond when He speaks.

DISCUSS

- 1. Jesus asks the man, “Do you want to be healed?” (5:6).** Why might that question be deeper than it initially sounds? Are there areas where we can become accustomed to living with something rather than bringing it honestly to Jesus?
- 2. The man immediately explains why he hasn’t been healed (5:7).** Why do we sometimes respond to Jesus’ invitation with explanations, obstacles, or reasons something cannot change?
- 3. Jesus simply says, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk” (5:8).** What does this passage teach us about Jesus’ authority and our responsibility to respond in faith?

UP → IN → OUT →

UP — Worship/Jesus:

What does Jesus’ authority over this man’s physical condition reveal about Who He Is?

IN — Community/Church:

How can we help one another move from excuses or hopelessness toward trusting Jesus and taking steps of faith?

OUT — Mission/Neighbors:

Who around you may feel hopeless or stuck, and how might you point them toward the hope found in Christ?

INVITATION

Where might Jesus be inviting you to honestly acknowledge an area of your life where you need His help?

CHALLENGE

What is one step of obedience you know Jesus is calling you to take rather than continuing to wait, explain, or make excuses?

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MONDAY — John 5:10–18

WHO HAS AUTHORITY?

Big Idea:

Instead of celebrating a man's healing, religious leaders focus on the fact that it happened on the Sabbath. Jesus reveals that His authority and the Father's work are greater than religious expectations.

DISCUSS

- 1. The religious leaders focus on the man carrying his bed rather than the fact that he has been healed (5:10).** How can we become so focused on rules, preferences, or expectations that we miss what God is doing?
- 2. Jesus says, “My Father is working until now, and I am working” (5:17).** What does this statement reveal about Jesus' relationship with God the Father?
- 3. The leaders understood Jesus' words as making Himself equal with God (5:18).** Why is Jesus' identity central to understanding everything He says and does?

UP → IN → OUT →

UP: How should Jesus' authority change the way you worship and submit to Him?

IN: Where might we allow preferences, traditions, or expectations to become more important than people encountering Jesus?

OUT: How can we represent Jesus in a way that invites people toward Him rather than unnecessarily putting obstacles in their way?

INVITATION

Is God inviting you to examine an area where religion, routine, or personal preference has become more important than Jesus Himself?

CHALLENGE

Choose one area where you need to submit your expectations to Jesus and ask Him to help you see what He is doing.

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TUESDAY — John 5:19–29

THE SON GIVES LIFE

Big Idea:

Jesus makes an extraordinary claim: the Son does what the Father does, gives life, and has authority to judge. Eternal life is connected to hearing His Word and believing the One who sent Him.

DISCUSS

1. **Jesus says that the Son does what He sees the Father doing (5:19).** What does this reveal about the unity and relationship between the Father and the Son?
2. **“Whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life” (5:24).** According to Jesus, what is the connection between hearing, believing, and receiving life?
3. **Jesus says a time is coming when those in the tombs will hear His voice (5:28, 29).** How should Jesus' authority over both life and death shape the way we understand Him?

UP → IN → OUT →

UP: How does Jesus' authority to give life deepen your worship of Him?

IN: How should the reality of eternal life affect the way Christians encourage and care for one another?

OUT: Who in your life needs to hear that Jesus offers more than temporary improvement—He offers eternal life?

INVITATION

What might God be inviting you to believe more deeply about Jesus as the One who gives life?

CHALLENGE

Share the hope of eternal life with someone this week through both your words and your actions.

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WEDNESDAY — John 5:30–38

THE EVIDENCE POINTS TO JESUS

Big Idea:

Jesus does not ask people to believe blindly. His identity is supported by testimony—from John the Baptist, His works, and ultimately the Father Himself.

DISCUSS

1. Jesus speaks about multiple witnesses that testify to Who He Is (5:31–36). Why do you think God provides evidence and testimony rather than asking for uninformed belief?

2. Jesus says His works testify that the Father has sent Him (5:36). How can the works of Jesus help us understand His identity?

3. Jesus says the Father who sent Him has borne witness to Him (5:36-38). What is the difference between knowing information about Jesus and personally responding to the evidence about Him ?

UP → IN → OUT →

UP: What evidence in Jesus' life and works strengthens your confidence in Who He Is?

IN: How can we help one another wrestle honestly with questions while continuing to seek truth?

OUT: How might you share your own reasons for believing in Jesus with someone who has questions about faith?

INVITATION

Where might God be inviting you to move from simply knowing about Jesus to trusting Him more personally?

CHALLENGE

Can you share one reason why you believe Jesus is Who He claimed to be?

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THURSDAY — John 5:39–47

THE SCRIPTURES TESTIFY ABOUT HIM

Big Idea:

The religious leaders searched the Scriptures but missed the One the Scriptures were pointing toward. Bible knowledge is meant to lead us to Jesus—not simply make us more knowledgeable.

DISCUSS

1. Jesus says, “You search the Scriptures... and it is they that bear witness about me” (5:39). How is it possible to know Scripture while still missing its central purpose?

2. Jesus tells them, “You refuse to come to me that you may have life” (5:40). What is the difference between studying Jesus and actually coming to Jesus?

3. Jesus challenges their desire to receive glory from one another rather than from God (5:41–44). How can the desire for human approval affect our ability to believe and follow Jesus?

UP → IN → OUT →

UP: How does seeing Jesus as the center of Scripture change the way you worship and read God's Word?

IN: How can we help one another pursue transformation rather than simply accumulating biblical knowledge?

OUT: How might a life genuinely changed by Scripture make Jesus more visible to our neighbors?

INVITATION

What might God be inviting you to do differently as you read His Word?

CHALLENGE

As you continue reading John, ask each day: **What does this passage reveal about Jesus, and how should I respond to Him?**

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FRIDAY — John 6:1–15

JESUS PROVIDES

Big Idea:

Faced with an impossible need, the disciples focus on what they lack. Jesus takes what is available, provides more than enough, and reveals His power and compassion.

DISCUSS

1. Philip sees the size of the problem and immediately calculates what they don't have (6:5–7). Why is that often our first response when facing something overwhelming?

2. Andrew brings Jesus what seems like an insignificant amount of food (6:8, 9). What does this teach us about bringing what we have to Jesus rather than waiting until we think we have enough?

3. Everyone eats and there is food left over (6:11–13). What does this miracle reveal about Jesus' ability to provide?

UP → IN → OUT →

UP: What does Jesus' provision reveal about His power, compassion, and ability to meet needs?

IN: How can we become a community that brings what we have together rather than focusing on what we lack individually?

OUT: What need around you might God be calling you to help meet with what He has already placed in your hands?

INVITATION

Where is God inviting you to trust Him with something that currently feels insufficient?

CHALLENGE

Instead of focusing on what you don't have, identify what you do have and ask God how you can use it for His purposes.

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