

# THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE — WEEK 6

## The Gospel of John

[Video Guide](#)

### Free Indeed

John 8:31–59; 9:1–41

8:31–36 - Jesus frees. *The truth will set you free.*

8:37–47 - Jesus exposes. *Whose children are you?*

8:48–59 - Jesus Is I AM. *Before Abraham was, I AM.*

9:1–12 - Jesus works. *That the works of God might be displayed.*

9:13–34 - Jesus is witnessed. *The man who could really see.*

9:35–41 - Jesus sees. *Who is really blind?*

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)*

[crcnorfolk.com/john](http://crcnorfolk.com/john)

# SUNDAY — John 8:31–36

## THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE

Jesus frees us from slavery to sin and invites us into true freedom through abiding in His word. The Son alone has the authority to set us free.

### DISCUSS

1. **Jesus says, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples” (8:31).** What does abiding in Jesus’ word look like in everyday life?
2. **Jesus says, “Everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin” (8:34).** What does this reveal about sin and our need for freedom?
3. **Where do you experience tension** between wanting freedom and returning to what controls you?

### UP → IN → OUT →

**UP:** What does Jesus’ authority to set us free reveal about Who He Is?

**IN:** How can Christian community help us remain in Jesus’ word and walk honestly toward freedom?

**OUT:** Who may be looking for freedom without knowing the freedom Jesus offers?

### INVITATION

What is God saying about freedom, and what is He inviting you to surrender?

### CHALLENGE

What will you do today to abide in Jesus’ word rather than return to what enslaves you?

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# MONDAY — John 8:37–47

## WHOSE CHILDREN ARE YOU?

Jesus exposes the difference between claiming a spiritual identity and actually belonging to God. Our true spiritual family is revealed by how we respond to Jesus.

### DISCUSS

1. **They point to Abraham as their father (8:33, 39).** Why can religious background or identity become a substitute for genuine faith?
2. **Jesus says, “If God were your Father, you would love me” (8:42).** What does our response to Jesus reveal about our relationship with God?
3. **What identities or credentials** are you tempted to rely on instead of your relationship with Jesus?

### UP → IN → OUT →

**UP:** What does Jesus’ unique relationship with the Father reveal about Who He Is?

**IN:** How can Christian community help us move from religious identity to genuine relationship with God?

**OUT:** Who might assume closeness to God because of their background, but need a personal encounter with Jesus?

### INVITATION

What is God saying about where your identity is rooted, and what is He inviting you to trust?

### CHALLENGE

What identity or credential will you refuse to use as a substitute for dependence on Jesus?

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# TUESDAY — John 8:48–59

## BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS, I AM

Jesus makes an extraordinary claim about His identity, declaring, “Before Abraham was, I am.” The crowd recognizes the weight of His words, but refuses to believe.

### DISCUSS

1. **Jesus says Abraham rejoiced to see His day (8:56).** What does this suggest about Jesus’ place in God’s larger story?
2. **Jesus says, “Before Abraham was, I am” (8:58).** Why is this more than simply saying Jesus existed before Abraham?
3. **How does Jesus’ identity as the eternal “I AM” change how you think about who He is and what He deserves?**

### UP → IN → OUT →

**UP:** What does Jesus’ claim “I AM” reveal about His divine identity?

**IN:** How can we help one another keep the greatness and uniqueness of Jesus central in our lives?

**OUT:** Who needs to encounter Jesus as more than a teacher, example, or religious figure?

### INVITATION

What is God saying about who Jesus truly is, and what is He inviting you to believe?

### CHALLENGE

How will Jesus’ identity as Lord shape your worship and obedience today?

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# WEDNESDAY — John 9:1–12

## THAT THE WORKS OF GOD MIGHT BE DISPLAYED

Jesus refuses to reduce suffering to a simple explanation. Instead, He sees an opportunity for the works of God to be displayed and gives sight to a man born blind.

### DISCUSS

- 1. The disciples assume the man's blindness is connected to sin (9:2).** Why are we tempted to explain suffering too quickly?
- 2. Jesus says this happened "that the works of God might be displayed in him" (9:3).** What does this reveal about how Jesus sees people and circumstances others may see only as problems?
- 3. How might your response to suffering change** if you looked for where God might work rather than only asking why it happened?

### UP → IN → OUT →

**UP:** What does Jesus' power to bring sight reveal about His authority and compassion?

**IN:** How can we help one another face suffering without relying on simplistic explanations?

**OUT:** Who needs someone to see them with the compassion of Jesus?

### INVITATION

What is God saying about a suffering or circumstance you don't understand, and what is He inviting you to trust?

### CHALLENGE

Who will you intentionally see and care for today instead of simply explaining their circumstances?

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# THURSDAY — John 9:13–34

## THE MAN WHO COULD REALLY SEE

The man who was healed becomes an increasingly bold witness to what Jesus has done, even while religious leaders reject his testimony.

### DISCUSS

- 1. The man repeatedly tells what happened (9:15, 25, 30–33).** What stands out about the simplicity and growing confidence of his testimony?
- 2. The leaders reject Jesus despite the evidence (9:16, 24–29).** What can keep someone from accepting the truth even when confronted with it?
- 3. What has Jesus done in your life** that you could speak about even without having every theological answer?

### UP → IN → OUT →

**UP:** How does this man's testimony point us toward Jesus?

**IN:** How can Christian community help us grow in confidence as witnesses?

**OUT:** Who could you simply tell about what Jesus has done?

### INVITATION

What is God saying about your story and witness, and what is He inviting you to share?

### CHALLENGE

Who is one person you will tell this week about what Jesus has done?

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# FRIDAY — John 9:35–41

## WHO IS REALLY BLIND?

Jesus finds the man who was rejected and reveals Himself to him. The man responds with belief and worship, while those who claim to see remain blind to their need for Jesus.

### DISCUSS

- 1. Jesus seeks out the man after he has been cast out (9:35).** What does this reveal about how Jesus responds to those who are rejected?
- 2. The man asks, “Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” (9:36).** Why is recognizing who Jesus is at the center of genuine faith?
- 3. Jesus says those who claim to see are blind (9:39–41).** Where can confidence in what you know keep you from recognizing your need for Jesus?

### UP → IN → OUT →

**UP:** What do Jesus’ actions of seeking, revealing Himself, and receiving worship show us about Who He Is?

**IN:** How can we be a community where rejected people find grace, truth, and belonging in Jesus?

**OUT:** Who feels unseen or rejected and needs the welcome of Jesus?

### INVITATION

What is God saying about your spiritual sight, and what is He inviting you to see more clearly?

### CHALLENGE

What will you do? Where will you choose humility and ask Jesus to show you what you may not yet see?

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