



the  
gospel  
of

# JOHN

part one:  
*who is  
Jesus?*

# WEEK SEVEN READING PLAN

## CHANGE OF VENUE

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026  
THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

JOHN 2:22

JOHN 2:22  
**SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON  
AND MEMORIZE THIS WEEK**  
JOHN 2:22

*Then they believed the  
scripture and the words  
that Jesus had spoken.*

JOHN 2:22

Spend a few minutes each day repeating this  
verse aloud slowly. Ask the Lord to make it  
true in you, not merely known by you.



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# JOHN

*who is Jesus?*

# WEEKLY SUMMARY

WEEK OF SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026 THROUGH SATURDAY, MARCH 21 2026

## CHANGE OF VENUE

In John 2:12–25, Jesus enters the temple courts and disrupts what had become a system of religious routine. What should have been a place of worship had become a place of transaction. Instead of helping people draw near to God, the temple activity was creating distance between people and the very God it was meant to house. Jesus' strong response reveals something important about the heart of God: God cares deeply about genuine worship and authentic relationship.

But this moment is about more than correcting corruption. Jesus is also announcing a profound shift in how humanity encounters God. For generations, the temple had been the place people traveled to in order to meet God. Yet Jesus declares that the true meeting place between God and humanity is no longer a building. It is Himself. The incarnation means that God has come near. In Christ, the distance between heaven and earth has begun to close.

The passage ends with a sobering insight. Many people believed in Jesus because of the signs they saw, yet Jesus knew what was in their hearts. Admiration alone is not the same as allegiance. The question confronting every reader of John's Gospel is not merely whether we are impressed by Jesus, but whether we will truly follow Him. This week invites us to examine where we are seeking God, how we are approaching Him, and whether we are allowing Jesus to lead our lives.

# SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

## *When Worship Becomes Routine*

### **READ**

John 2:13–17; Psalm 69:9; Isaiah 29:13; Matthew 15:8–9; Amos 5:21–24

### **REFLECT**

The scene in the temple reveals how easily religious activities can drift away from its original purpose. The temple courts were meant to help people worship and offer sacrifices to God. Yet over time, systems developed that prioritized efficiency, commerce, and convenience. What began as something helpful eventually became something harmful. Jesus' reaction is not a moment of unhinged anger. It is grief over the way people had subverted true worship.

This tension continues today. Faith can slowly become a collection of habits, routines, or external behaviors rather than a living relationship with God. It is possible to attend services, sing songs, and participate in spiritual practices while our hearts remain distant from the God those practices are meant to point us toward. Jesus' actions remind us that God desires more than ritual; He desires relationship.

### **QUESTIONS**

- Where might faith in your life have become routine rather than relational?
- What practices could help renew your sense of genuine connection with God?

# MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026

## *Zeal for God's Presence*

### **READ**

John 2:15-17; Psalm 69:7-9; Malachi 3:1-3; Luke 19:41-44; Jeremiah 7:9-11

### **REFLECT**

John tells us that the disciples later connected Jesus' actions in the temple with Psalm 69:9: "Zeal for your house will consume me." This verse reveals that Jesus' intensity came from deep love for the Father and concern for the integrity of worship. His actions were not driven by rage but by a passion to restore the temple to its intended purpose.

Luke's account adds another dimension. Before confronting the corruption of Jerusalem's religious system, Jesus wept over the city. His grief shows that divine zeal is never detached from compassion. God's heart is not to condemn people but to restore them. Jesus confronts what is broken because He longs to bring people back into genuine relationship with God.

### **QUESTIONS**

- What does Jesus' passion for true worship reveal about the heart of God?
- How can you cultivate a deeper love for God's presence in your life?

# TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026

## *A New Meeting Place*

### READ

John 2:18–21; John 1:14; Exodus 25:8; 1 Kings 8:10–13; Hebrews 9:11–12

### REFLECT

When religious leaders ask Jesus to explain His authority, He responds with a mysterious statement about destroying the temple and raising it again in three days. John later clarifies that Jesus was speaking about His body. The temple had long represented the place where God's presence dwelled among His people. But Jesus was declaring that He Himself would become the new and ultimate meeting place between God and humanity.

This claim echoes the opening of John's Gospel, which says the Word became flesh and "dwelt" among us. The language intentionally recalls the tabernacle where God's presence once rested. Through Jesus, God has come near in a way the temple only foreshadowed. Instead of traveling to a building to encounter God, people can now encounter God directly through Christ.

### QUESTIONS

- How does Jesus' claim to replace the temple change the way we think about worship?
- What does it mean for you personally that God has come near through Jesus?

# WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026

## *God Draws Near*

### **READ**

John 1:14; Colossians 1:15–20; Hebrews 1:1–3; Philippians 2:6–8; John 14:6–9

### **REFLECT**

The incarnation is one of the most profound truths in Scripture. In Jesus, God does not remain distant or abstract. He steps into human history, takes on flesh, and lives among us. This is the ultimate demonstration that God desires relationship with His creation. The distance created by sin is not ignored. It is addressed through the presence and mission of Christ.

Because Jesus reveals the Father, knowing Him becomes the pathway to knowing God. Worship, prayer, and spiritual practices are no longer about finding a location where God might appear. Instead, they are centered on responding to the Person who has already come near. The invitation of the Gospel is not simply to believe that God exists but to know Him through Jesus.

### **QUESTIONS**

- How does the incarnation shape your understanding of who God is?
- What practices help you remain aware of Christ's presence in your daily life?

# THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

## *Admiration of Allegiance*

### **READ**

John 2:23-25; Matthew 7:21-23; James 2:14-17; Luke 6:46-49; 1 Timothy 2:19

### **REFLECT**

The closing verses of John 2 introduce a sobering insight. Many people believed in Jesus because they saw the miracles He performed. Yet John tells us that Jesus did not entrust Himself to them because He knew what was in their hearts. This moment reveals the difference between superficial belief and genuine discipleship. Admiration can be based on excitement, curiosity, or fascination with what Jesus can do.

True faith, however, involves allegiance. It means trusting Jesus not only for His blessing but also for His leadership in our lives. The apostle Paul later echoes this truth when he writes that the Lord knows those who truly belong to Him. Authentic faith is not measured merely by enthusiasm but by the willingness to follow Christ with our lives.

### **QUESTIONS**

- How can admiration for Jesus differ from genuine commitment to Him?
- What would deeper allegiance to Christ look like in your life today?

# FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

## *Following Jesus*

### **READ**

John 2:1-8; Proverbs 3:5-6; Ecclesiastes 11:4-6; Luke 11:28; James 1:22-25

### **REFLECT**

Following Jesus involves more than believing certain truths about Him. It means entrusting our lives to Him and allowing His teaching to shape our decisions, priorities, and identity. Jesus describes His followers as those who hear His voice and follow Him. This relationship involves trust, obedience, and ongoing transformation.

The call to follow Jesus is both challenging and life-changing. It requires surrendering control and allowing Christ to lead. Yet, it also brings freedom and purpose. When we align our lives with Him, we begin to experience the life God originally intended for us; a life shaped by grace, truth, and the transforming presence of Christ.

### **QUESTIONS**

- In what ways is Jesus currently inviting you to follow Him more closely?
- What step of obedience might God be asking you to take this week?

# SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

## *Drawing Near to God*

### **READ**

John 15:1-11; Hebrews 10:19-23; Psalm 16:8-11; James 4:8; Revelation 21:22-23

### **REFLECT**

Because of Jesus, the way to God is open to us. Hebrews reminds us that through Christ we have confidence to enter God's presence. This access is not based on our performance or religious activity but on what Jesus has accomplished. The barriers that once separated humanity from God have been removed through His life, death, and resurrection.

Scripture ultimately points toward a future where God's presence fills all things. Revelation describes a new creation where no temple is needed because the Lord Himself is the temple. The story that began with God walking with humanity in the garden will end with God dwelling fully among His people. Until that day, believers are invited to live in daily awareness of God's presence and to draw near through Christ.

### **QUESTIONS**

- How does knowing you have direct access to God through Jesus impact your daily life?
- What practices help you draw near to God and remain aware of His presence throughout the day?