Agape House of Worship
Wednesday Bible Study – October 7, 2026

Study Series: THAT YOU MAY BELIEVE: A Journey Through the Gospel of John
Part 35: Conclusion of the Study of the Book of John **Teacher: Pastor Kip Wright**

Introduction

Congratulations! We have just completed a seven month study of the Gospel of John! Our hope is that you were blessed by this study series and that through your participation you believe more deeply and live more fully in Christ. We hope that this journey through this book of the Bible has presented a different viewpoint/perspective that invites you into a closer relationship with Jesus - the word made flesh, the Messiah, the Sovereign Savior, the Living Word! May this study be a catalyst for transformation in each one of us so we can become **"a disciple whom Jesus loves."**

Review Questions

1. **Who wrote the Gospel of John? What does the writer call himself?**
2. **When was it thought that this book was written?**
3. **Where was it written? What was the culture like in that city/region?**
4. **What was the main purpose of the Gospel of John? What is the scripture verse associated with the purpose?**
5. **PJ mentioned two goals for us in his introduction to this study, can you remember what they were?**
6. **There were seven miraculous signs mentioned in the book, can you name all seven?**
7. **There were seven "I Am" statements mentioned, can you name all seven?**
8. **There are many popular Bible scriptures in the Book of John, what is your favorite scripture from this book and why?**

Core Overview

- **Intro:** The Gospel of John presents Jesus as the divine Son of God and the eternal "Word" made flesh, written so that readers may believe and have eternal life.
- **Author:** Traditionally attributed to the Apostle John, "the disciple whom Jesus loved".
- **Purpose:** Explicitly stated in John 20:31- to inspire belief that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that believers have life in His name.
- **Distinctive Style:** Unlike Matthew, Mark, and Luke (the Synoptic Gospels), John contains no parables and places a heavy focus on the direct deity of Christ, symbolic "I Am" declarations, and long reflective discourses.

Key Structure

- **The Prologue (John 1:1–18):** Opens with the famous poem declaring Jesus as the pre-existent Word who created all things and became human ("dwelt among us").
- **The Book of Signs (John 1:19–12:50):** Focuses on seven miraculous signs (such as turning water to wine, healing the paralyzed man, feeding the 5,000, and raising Lazarus) paired with profound teachings and escalating conflict with religious leaders.
- **The Book of Glory (John 13:1–20:31):** Covers Jesus' final hours, including washing the disciples' feet, the Farewell Discourses on the Holy Spirit, His sacrificial crucifixion, and His bodily resurrection.
- **Epilogue (John Chapter 21):** Details Jesus' appearance to the disciples by the Sea of Galilee and the reinstatement of Peter.

Major Themes

- **Divinity of Christ:** Emphasizes that Jesus is fully God and the ultimate revelation of the Father.
- **Eternal Life:** Salvation is received instantly through faith and personal trust in Jesus.
- **The Holy Spirit (The Advocate):** Promised as a personal helper to guide, comfort, and empower believers after Jesus' departure. Read **John 16:13-14**

PJ's Wrap Up - To wrap up this journey, it is vital to understand the unique canvas upon which Jesus painted seven masterpieces of His identity.

- **The Theological Gospel:** Unlike the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke) which focus heavily on the historical chronology of Jesus' life, John's Gospel is explicitly theological and reflective. It is designed to take you **behind the scenes of Jesus' divinity**.
- **The Purpose Statement:** John explicitly tells us his writing strategy in **John 20:31**: *"But these are written **that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God**, and that by believing **you may have life in his name."***
- **Signs and Sayings:** John tightly couples **seven miraculous signs** (like turning water to wine or raising Lazarus) with these **seven "I Am" claims** to prove that Jesus' actions perfectly match His identity. He doesn't just perform miracles; **He *is* the miracle**.

Why the Gospel of John is Vital to Every Believer

Understanding this book is not just an academic exercise—it is essential for our daily walk with God for three primary reasons:

1. **It Reveals Jesus in High-Definition Intimacy:** John shows us a Savior **who wants to be close**. He is not a distant ruler; He is our daily food (Bread), our constant guide (Light), our protector (Door), our personal leader (Good Shepherd), our hope in grief (Resurrection), our certainty (Way, Truth, Life), and our source of strength (Vine).
2. **It Forces a Personal Verdict:** You cannot read John neutrally. Every "I Am" statement **demands a response**. It strips away casual religion and asks: *Do you personally trust Him to sustain, guide, protect, and prune you?*
3. **It Balances Truth and Grace:** John masterfully shows how Jesus perfectly manages the holy tension of ministry and life - He is uncompromised, unshakeable Truth, yet filled with boundless, sacrificial Grace.

Post-Study Action Items: Moving from Information to Transformation

Now that we have completed the study, here are the concrete steps everyone should take to live out what they've learned:

- **Audit Your Spiritual Diet (The Bread of Life)**: Identify what worldly "foods" (social media, consumerism, approval) you are using to fill your soul. Commit to a daily routine of "eating" God's Word first every morning to sustain your spiritual life.

- **Walk in Exposed Clarity (The Light of the World & The Way, Truth, and Life)**: Intentionally bring any hidden or dark areas of confusion, compromise, or fear into the light through prayer and confession. Actively align your weekly calendar and choices with His unshakeable truth, rather than shifting cultural norms.

- **Practice Listening to the Shepherd's Voice (The Door & The Good Shepherd)**: In a noisy world, quiet your environment to learn His specific tone. When making big decisions for your family or career, prioritize prayer and biblical counsel over secular advice so you can enter the right "doors."

- **Stand on Present Resurrection Power (The Resurrection and the Life)**: Bring your "dead situations" to the altar. Whether it is a broken relationship, a stalled dream, or a season of heavy grief, actively declare Christ's authority over it, trusting Him for "greater things" ahead.

- **Evaluate Your Connection to the Vine (The True Vine)**: Transition from striving to abiding. Stop trying to produce spiritual fruit through sheer willpower. Spend dedicated time in quiet, contemplative prayer—relying completely on His presence—and willingly welcome God's pruning process when He cuts away distractions to grow your maturity.