

The
New
Testament
in a Year

Week 40
Gospel of John 1-5

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General Questions for Reflection

You might pick one part of each chapter and think about these questions.

- What does this tell me about God (including Jesus and the Holy Spirit)?
- What does this tell me about our world?
- What does it tell me about me?
- What does it say about following Jesus?
- Is there something here I'd like to learn more about?

Why not use these thoughts to shape your prayer today.

Thanks to Wellington Square UC for making this available.

Monday

John 1

In the first chapter, John the Baptist appears and he is thought to be the Messiah,

What were people hoping for in the Messiah? Why would they think John was this long-awaited deliverer?

John did baptize many people, but also tried to convince them that he was only a messenger. Jesus was God's messenger who will give light and life to the world. Jesus came to earth in human form to tell of God's love. In this chapter He chooses His disciples that would travel with Him and witness the miracles.

Tuesday

John 2

In this chapter Mary and Jesus were at a wedding in Cana. They had run out of wine and Mary was quite distraught and Jesus told her it was not time to tell Him what to do.

Jesus went to the servants and saw six stone jars full of water for the Jews ritual washing. Jesus told them to fill the jars with water and when they did, He turned into wine.

Why would He not tell Mary?

During this chapter it was almost time for the Passover Festival. Jesus went to the temple and saw people selling all kinds of livestock. He went in and overturned their tables and angrily told them to leave. He did not want His Father's house exploited in this way.

Wednesday

John 3

In this chapter, Jesus is approached by Nicodemus, a Jewish leader of the Pharisees. One night he came and tells Him that he knows that Jesus is a teacher sent by God. Also, that no one can see God unless he be born again. How can one enter their mother's womb and be born again?

Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must believe in God the Father and accept His teachings and then he will be born again. The familiar John 3;16 which we all learned in Sunday School sums it up. For God did love the world that He created. Jesus also began baptizing and so people left the baptizing from John and went to Him. John again reiterates that this is the Messiah.

Thursday

John 4

The Pharisees heard that Jesus was taking people away from John to be baptized. It was actually His disciples doing the baptizing and when Jesus heard what was being said He left.

Jesus was tired from His journey and sat down by a well. A woman came to draw water and Jesus asked her for a drink. She asked how He could dare ask her for a drink since He was a Jew and her a Samaritan. If she only knew who He was. Jesus told her that He could give her water that she would never thirst again. Go get your husband Jesus said and when she said she didn't have a husband. Jesus told her He knew that she had been married to five men. The woman asked Him for some of this life-giving water that He spoke of. The woman left as the disciples returned and went and told people of this man.

Jesus then went to Galilee where He was met a government official whose son was dying. He asked Him to prove he was the Messiah and heal his son. Jesus told him to go home, his son was well. The man returned and was greeted by his servants telling him that his son was well. The man asked when this happened and they said about 1:00. The man remembered this was when he asked, and believed.

Friday

John 5

Jesus went to Jerusalem for a religious festival. He went to a pool with five porches. There were many people with many ailments. One man had been sick for 38 years and Jesus asked him if he wanted to be well. He said he could not get to the pool to be cleansed. Jesus told the man to get up and pick up his mat. The man was healed.

It was on the Sabbath that the man had been healed. This made the authorities even more anxious to kill this man performing miracles on the Sabbath. Jesus told them He could do nothing without the authority of His Father. People will be judged and those who believe in these truths will have everlasting life. Is this so hard to believe? Jesus told them that they believed John was the Messiah and now that the true Messiah has come they question His acts. He tells them that they had put their hope in Moses and Moses wrote about Jesus so then He hoped they would believe.