

# Encounters with Jesus in the Gospel of John



**Readings, Questions for Reflection, and Notes**  
**A Study at St. John's Presbyterian Church**  
**Winter 2024**

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*"These things are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name." John 20:31*

- January 17** A Personal Word, an Invitation, and a Sign  
**John 1:1-18, 35-51, and John 2:1-11**
- January 24** Life-Giving Encounters with Nicodemus, a Samaritan Woman, and a Royal Official (Part 1)  
**John 3:1-21**
- January 31** Life-Giving Encounters with Nicodemus, a Samaritan Woman, and a Royal Official (Part 2)  
**John 4:1-42, John 4:43-54**
- February 7** A Life-Changing Encounter on the Sabbath with a Paralytic  
**John 5:1-47**
- February 14** A Life-Changing Encounter with a Hungry Crowd  
**John 6:1-59**
- February 21** A Life-Changing Encounter with a Blind Man  
**John 8:12-20; 9:1-41**
- February 28** Close Encounters with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus  
**John 11:1-54; 12:1-11**
- March 6** Farewell Encounters  
**John 13, 14, 15, 16, 17**
- March 13** Encountering Death: Jesus' Passion  
**John 18, 19**
- March 20** Encounters with the Risen Lord  
**John 20, 21**

## **Only in the Gospel of John**

**John 1:1-5, 14** – In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**John 3:16** – “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”

**John 4:23-24** – “The hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

**John 6:27, 35** – “Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal. . . . I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

**John 8:12** – “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”

**John 8:31-32** – “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

**John 8:58** – “Very truly I tell you, before Abraham was, I am.”

**John 10:7-10** – “I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life abundantly.”

**John 10:11,14-15** – “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father. I lay down my life for the sheep.”

**John 11:25-26** – “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.”

**John 11:35** – Jesus wept.

**John 13:34-35** – “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

**John 14:1-4, 6** – “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going. . . . I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

**John 14:15-17** – “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.”

**John 14:18-19** – “I will not leave you desolate; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see; because I live, you also will live.”

**John 14:27** – “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”

**John 15:4-5** – “Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.”

**John 15:12-17** – “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you, and I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

**John 19:26-27** – When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

**John 19:28, 30** – When Jesus knew that all was now finished, he said (to fulfill the scripture), “I am thirsty.” After he received the wine, he said, “It is finished.” Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**John 20:19** – Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

**John 20:21-23** – Jesus said to them, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” He breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

**John 20:25** – “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it.” (Thomas’ words to the Risen Christ)

**John 20:29** – “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

### **And, Only in the Gospel of John**

The story of the wedding in Cana and the miracle of turning water into wine

The story of Nicodemus who came to visit Jesus at night

The story of Jesus asking the Samaritan woman at the well for a drink of water

The miracle of Jesus healing the Royal Official’s son

The miracle of Jesus healing the paralytic on the Sabbath

The story of the woman caught in adultery that was brought before Jesus by the Pharisees

The miracle of Jesus healing the man who was blind from birth

The miracle of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead

The story of Jesus washing the disciples’ feet at the last supper

The story of Joseph of Arimathea

The story of Thomas doubting Jesus’ resurrection

## **The Seven Miracles in the Gospel of John**

Turning water into wine (John 2:1-11)  
Healing of the Royal Official's son (John 4:46-54)  
Healing of the paralytic (John 5:1-27)  
Details of the Feeding of the 5,000 (John 6:1-14)  
Jesus walking on water (John 6:15-21)  
Restoring of sight to the man born blind (John 9:1-41)  
Raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-57)

## **The Seven "I Am" Sayings of Jesus**

"I am the Bread of Life" (John 6:1-59)  
"I am the Light of the world" (John 8:12; 9:1-41)  
"I am the Door of the sheep" (John 10:7, 9)  
"I am the Good Shepherd" (John 10:1-21)  
"I am the Resurrection and the Life" (John 11:1-44)  
"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (John 14:1-14)  
"I am the True Vine" (John 15:1-17)