

## **INTRODUCTION TO JOHN'S GOSPEL: (1)**

### **INTRODUCTION**

- the AIM of John's Gospel.
- the STORY of John's Gospel.
- how John can encourage us in personal evangelism.

### **A. THE AIM OF JOHN'S GOSPEL**

#### **1. JOHN'S KEY VERSES – 20:30-31**

“Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

#### **2. THE “SIGNS” IN JOHN'S GOSPEL**

[“sign” = 2:23, 3:2, 4:48, 6:2, 6:26, 7:31, 9:16, 11:47, 12:37, 20:30]

2:1-11	Water into wine
4:43-54	The official's son
5:1-15	Healing at the pool
6:1-15	Feeding of the 5k
6:16-21	Walking on water
9:1-12	Man born blind
11:1-43	Lazarus raised
20:1-29	Resurrection
21:1-14	Miraculous fish

### 3. THE SIGNS POINT TO SOMETHING

#### 4. WHAT DO THE SIGNS SIGNIFY (20:31)?

1. Understand WHO JESUS is: the Christ, the Son of God
2. Instruct us about and encourage us to BELIEVE IN JESUS
3. As we believe in Him, we will have LIFE.

Jesus... belief... life

The content of faith  
The nature of faith  
The result of faith

## **B. The STRUCTURE of John's Gospel**

### 1. THE PATTERN OF THE SIGNS

2:1-11                      Water into wine

4:43-54                    Officials son.

*- both occur at Cana in Galilee.*

5:1-15                      Healing at the pool

9:1-12                      Man born blind

*- both happen on the Sabbath and lead to negative reaction of Jews.*

6:1-15                      Feeding of the 5k

6:16-21                    Walking on water

*- these occur in the middle of this section. They belong together. Signs like those performed by God at the time of the Exodus.*

11:1-43                    Lazarus raised

20:1-29                    Resurrection

*- two resurrections*

21:1-14                    Miraculous fish

*- a final unpaired sign.*

## 2. AN OUTLINE OF THE GOSPEL IN ONE VERSE – 16:28

“I came from the Father and entered the world;  
now I am leaving the world and going back to the Father.”



## 3. A FULLER OUTLINE OF THE GOSPEL

### **Chapter 1. Introduction**

1:1-18                Jesus is God  
1:18-50             Jesus is Messiah

### **Chapters 2 – 12. Jesus comes from the Father.**

**Jesus' identity and work is revealed in signs and words,  
leading to final rejection by the Jews, and the Gospel goes to the Gentiles.**

Chs 2-4.             Jesus is the promised king  
Chs 5-10.            Jesus is the divine king who gives eternal life and judges  
Chs 11-12.          Jesus will bring resurrection life through his death.  
                            The Jews reject him, Gentiles begin to believe.

### **Chapters 13-20. Jesus returns to the Father – via the Cross.**

**Jesus goes to the Cross & teaches the disciples how to live in the light  
of the Cross**

Chs 13-17.          Trusting Christ and living for him once he's returned to the Father  
Chs 18-19.          Jesus' obedient, glorious, wrath-bearing sacrifice  
Ch20.                Jesus is risen. Believe the witnesses

### **Chapter 21. Epilogue**

#### **4. USEFUL RESOURCES ON JOHN'S GOSPEL**

- Excellent Biblestudy notes, free online – see <http://city.st-helens.org.uk/resources/truth-at-work-resources>
- *Read, Mark, Learn: John* – by St Helen's Bishopsgate (fuller notes and study questions)
- D.A. Carson, *John's Gospel* (huge and difficult commentary; great for teachers)
- Andreas Kostenberger, *John's Gospel* (huge and difficult commentary; great for teachers)