

*With Love*  
*from the*  
Upper Room

Words of Life for Troubling and Turbulent Times  
An Inductive Study of John 13 through 17

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**SAMPLE PAGES:**

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## About the Study

So much more than presenting an accurate biography of a remarkable life, the Gospel of John is a persuasive and compelling proclamation of Jesus, the Christ, the promised Messiah, God Himself manifest in the flesh.

*With Love from the Upper Room* is a 12-week, inductive Bible study of John 13 through 17 — the chapters in which John recounts the final hours Jesus spent, just before His crucifixion, loving and preparing his disciples for life after the cross. Using a variety of Bible study methods, this course leads the reader into a richer knowledge of Christ, a deeper comprehension of His love, and a greater understanding of the provisions He made — not only for His disciples so long ago — but also for us, as life after the cross continues.

*A note to class leaders:* To lighten weekly homework or tailor this course to a specific number of weeks, each lesson is easily divided into two parts (with completion over two weeks, instead of one). See the downloadable leader's guide for suggested divisions ([www.inpraiseministries.com](http://www.inpraiseministries.com)).

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### What do I need to complete this course?

For this study, you will need a Bible and a set of colored pencils.

In addition, there are occasional assignments to complete word studies (looking up definitions for the Hebrew or Greek words used in the original Bible languages) or to consult a commentary. Many of these resources are available free online. See Appendix B for more information on word studies.

### Does it matter which translation I use for study?

Quotations throughout this course come primarily from the New King James Version (NKJV) of the Bible with comparative readings in the English Standard Version (ESV) and the Amplified Bible (AMP). It is fine to use another translation—for example, the New American Standard Bible (NASB)—to answer questions. Paraphrases, such as The Living Bible, will be more difficult to use for study.

### What if I have limited time for study?

Most lessons require approximately 20-30 minutes of study time per day. For those with a more limited time for study, longer assignments often contain optional questions and/or boldface and non-boldface passages to consider. In these instances, skipping the optional questions and completing only the boldface items will provide an excellent overview of essential truths. (*For examples of these shorter study options, see Lesson Six, Day Three. Questions #1, #2 and #4 contain both boldface and non-boldface references. Question #3 is optional.*)

### If I join a group late, do I have to start from the beginning?

Even though this is an in-depth study, every lesson can stand alone. When joining a class that is already in session, first complete Days One and Two of Lesson One. When done, jump ahead to the lesson your group is currently completing. At the end of the course, you can come back to the beginning and work through any lessons you missed.

What if I don't understand, or don't have an answer for, a question?

If you occasionally have trouble answering a question, make a mark in the margin and go on to the next question. Many times an answer will come to light as you continue to study.

Why are there boxes  to initial and blanks to fill in?

It is all too easy to plunge right in and begin studying without pausing to ask God's blessing on, and help in, your Bible study endeavors—or to conclude your study without responding to God in prayer. To remind you of the importance of prayer, and encourage you to make it a serious part of your study time, we include a small box for you to initial after completing a time of prayer. These boxes usually appear at the beginning and/or end of each section of study.

Scripture memorization is another important, but easy-to-overlook, aspect of Bible study; therefore, each week you will memorize a verse related to the lesson's topic. The verse appears in its entirety opposite the first page of Day One. Complete the fill-in-the-blank verse each day. Try to complete the blanks more and more by memory as each week goes on.

*May the Lord bless your study!*

*Kristie*

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## *That You May & believe*

### *An Overview of the Gospel of John*

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In the hours before His arrest and crucifixion, Jesus spent time alone with His disciples. Gathered in an upper room somewhere in Jerusalem, He prepared them for the heartache, confusion and turmoil of what they were about to face. Scripture puts it this way:

*Now before the feast of the Passover,  
when Jesus knew that His hour had come  
that He should depart from this world to the Father,  
having loved His own who were in the world,  
He loved them to the end.*

John 13:1

The ways in which Christ loved His own in the upper room that night are recorded for us only in the gospel of John — and given the troubled and turbulent times in which we live today, that same love of Christ is as important for us now as it was for the disciples so long ago!

*. . . these are written that you may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,  
and that believing you may have life in His name.*

John 20:31

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# Lesson One

Day One \_\_\_\_\_  
today's day/date

... these are \_\_\_\_\_ that you may \_\_\_\_\_  
that Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_, the Son \_\_\_\_\_,  
and that \_\_\_\_\_ you may have \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_.  
John 20: \_\_\_\_\_

Before turning our attention to the upper room (John 13 through John 17), it is important to have a good understanding of the whole of John's gospel—for it is in the context of the whole that Christ spends time with His disciples.

1. If you have not already prayed as you began your study do so now, asking the Lord to bless the time you are about to spend in His Word. Initial the small box to the right as the "amen" to your prayer.

2. We are not left to guess or speculate as to John's purposes in writing the gospel that bears his name. In fact, he gives us the most precise and obvious purpose statement of any of the four gospels—and because it is so important, it is your memory verse this week!

a. Read John 20:30-31.

b. Verse 31 gives us John's two-fold purpose in writing. What are his two purposes?

**Purpose #1**

**Purpose #2**

c. Given these two purposes, would you say the book of John is written for unbelievers or believers?  
(Also consider 2 Timothy 3:15-17 as you support and explain your answer.)

3. According to John 20:30, Jesus did many other things in the presence of the disciples that John *could* have included as he presented evidence for the deity of Christ and called his readers to life-giving belief.

a. Summarize the additional information found in John 21:25.

b. In stating this thought two times at the end of his gospel, it is clear John wants his readers to comprehend the magnitude and scope of the things Jesus did. Why is this important?

4. According to 2 Peter 1:21, John was not alone in deciding what to include in his gospel; as all writers of Scripture, he was moved and inspired by the Holy Spirit (God Himself!). What implications does this have regarding the things John selected to record?

5. Under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, John chose several different means to accomplish his purposes, including testimonies, miraculous signs, and the very words of Jesus. Close out this section of study by reading John 3:1-21.

a. In John 3:1-21, what things are promised to all who believe in Christ?

b. Other than verse 16, which verse do you see as the strongest call to believe in Jesus and have life in His name? (Once you have recorded your choice, end with prayer and initial the box.)

Day Two \_\_\_\_\_  
today's day/date

<p>... these _____ that you _____ that _____ is _____, the Son _____, and that _____ you may _____ His _____. John ____ : ____</p>
--

John begins his gospel with some of the most profound verses in all of Scripture. As you contemplate this passage, take plenty of time to stand in awe of God and His provision for your salvation.



7. Read John 1:1-18 aloud (the NKJV appears below). When done, complete the right-hand column.

*Note: Verse 14 identifies Jesus as the Word, and the “John” spoken of in chapter one refers to John the Baptist, and not to the author of this gospel.*

**John 1:1-18**

- <sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God.
- <sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.
- <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- <sup>5</sup> And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.
- <sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- <sup>7</sup> This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe.
- <sup>8</sup> He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.
- <sup>9</sup> That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.
- <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him.
- <sup>11</sup> He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.
- <sup>12</sup> But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:
- <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- <sup>15</sup> John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.’”
- <sup>16</sup> And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.
- <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
- <sup>18</sup> No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

a. As he begins his gospel, what does John want his readers to know about Jesus? (*Summarize or make a list from vv. 1-5.*)

b. Explain the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. (vv. 6-8, 15)

c. Why did Jesus come to earth? (vv. 9-18)

d. In four words or less, how would you describe the response Jesus received when He came to earth?

e. Put a box around the verse you think best correlates with the purpose statement recorded in John 20:31 (*your memory verse*).

2. Beginning with John 1:19, several testimonies to the deity of Jesus appear throughout the book of John. As you read the passages below, record a few words of each testimony. (If time is limited, complete only the bold-face references.)

*Testimonies to the Identity and Deity of Jesus*

**a. Testimony of John the Baptist**

**John 1:19-34**

*b.* Testimony of Andrew

John 1:40-41

**c. Testimonies of Philip and Nathanael**

**John 1:43-49**

*d.* Testimony of the people in Samaria

John 4:1-42 (Focus on vv. 25-26 and 39-42.)

**e. Testimony of Simon Peter**

**John 6:67-69**

*f.* Testimony of Martha

John 11:27

3. Of course, not everyone responded with belief in Jesus. Many rejected His claims (John 5:43-47). Some followed Him for a time and then “walked with Him no more” (John 6:66); and others, such as His brothers, did not believe at this time (John 7:5), but later did come to belief.<sup>1</sup>

One truth seen throughout the book of John is this: When presented with the deity and works of Jesus, people respond. They either respond in belief, and follow Christ—or in unbelief, and reject Him. And where there is only external interest (John 6:26-27) and not genuine belief, the Lord knows the state of the heart, and any inward state of unbelief will ultimately be made known by our actions (when, inevitably, we “walk with Him no more”).<sup>2</sup>

*a. (Optional)* Read John 5:19-47. What additional witnesses do we have that encourage us to believe that Jesus is the Son of God? (Focus on vv. 36-37, 39, and 45-47.)

*b. (Optional)* Why do you think testimonies and witnesses are so prevalent in the gospel of John?

4. As you consider all you have read and recorded to this point:

*a.* What thought stands out? Why?

*b.* What is your prayer?



Day Three \_\_\_\_\_ and Day Four \_\_\_\_\_  
today's day/date today's day/date

... these \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_  
 that \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_,  
 and \_\_\_\_\_ you may \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_.  
 \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_

In setting forth proofs of the deity of Jesus, John gives more than an eternal “genealogy” and eye-witness testimonies—he also records specific works (signs) designed to leave us with no doubt as to the true identity of Jesus.

Of the myriad of miraculous works Jesus did while on earth (so many “*even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written*”), the Holy Spirit inspired John to present only nine signs to prove to us that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Seven of these occur before the crucifixion, two after it, and most of them are recorded *only* in the gospel of John.

What are these signs?

Out of *all* the miracles Jesus performed, how do these particular ones serve to further John’s purposes?  
 Are these signs needful for the consideration of both believers and unbelievers?

7. Read and observe the seven pre-crucifixion signs.\* As you contemplate each one:

- Record what you learn about Jesus. State the obvious (for instance, *every* sign reveals Jesus’ power over something), but also record the less obvious. *Take time here!*
- Answer the question which accompanies the passage.

*You have two days to complete these readings.  
 If time is limited, simply complete as many as time allows (in any order you wish).  
 If you are “stuck” at any point, continue on.  
 At the end of study, you may consult a trusted commentary for additional insight.*

**Sign #1**—The Changing of Water into Wine—John 2:1-11

**What this sign reveals about Jesus:**

**Question for Sign #1:** Verse 11 says that the disciples believed in response to this sign; however, they had previously expressed faith and followed Jesus—so what does this statement mean?

\* You will observe the two post-crucifixion signs in Lesson Twelve.

*Sign #2*—The Healing of the Nobleman’s Son—John 4:46-54

*What this sign reveals about Jesus:*

*Question for Sign #2:* Do you think this sign is recorded more to demonstrate Jesus’ compassion, authority, power or glory? Explain.

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*Sign #3*—The Healing of the Paralytic Man—John 5:1-16

*What this sign reveals about Jesus:*

*Question for Sign #3:* Many might think that 38 years with such an infirmity would be one of the worst things that could happen to a man, yet in verse 14, Jesus warns of something worse. What does He mean?

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*Sign #4*—Christ Feeds the 5000—John 6:1-14

*What this sign reveals about Jesus:*

*Question for Sign #4:* This is the only miracle which is recorded in all four gospels. What might be a reason the Holy Spirit has inspired it to be so emphasized?

***Pause for a moment!*** Think about signs #1-#4. If someone is already a believer and serving Christ, are these signs necessary to remember and consider? If so, specifically why?

*Sign #5—Jesus Walks on the Water—John 6:15-21*

*What this sign reveals about Jesus:*

**Question for Sign #5:** In this frightening time, Jesus demonstrates a particular tenderness toward His disciples when He says, “*It is I; do not be afraid.*” If Jesus is more powerful than a tumultuous storm, why are such words comforting? Would it not be a fearful thing to be in His presence?

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*Sign #6—The Healing of the Man Born Blind—John 9:1-38*

*What this sign reveals about Jesus:*

**Question for Sign #6:** In the previous signs, we have seen Jesus perform a miracle without a word (signs #1 and #4), by His word (#2 and #3), and now here by the means of dirt, saliva, touch and washing. What can we learn from this?

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*Sign #7—Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead—John 11:1-44*

*What this sign reveals about Jesus:*

**Question for Sign #7:** Although suffering was involved, many good things came from the death of Lazarus. List two or more.

**Stop to think again on signs #1-#7.** What stands out most to you about Jesus?

... these \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
and \_\_\_\_\_ may \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_

Little words can say a lot. In the Scriptures, the little words which say the most are the words “I AM.” In the book of Exodus, God notably reveals Himself as the great “I AM”—the God who would bring His people out of bondage in Egypt. Through this name, God reveals His self-existence and eternity—in other words, this is the name, more notably than any other, that asserts that He alone is God. In Exodus 3:15, the Lord tells us that this is His name to *all* generations.

Many generations later, Christ would come to earth and claim to be the great “I AM.” His life and works prove that He was—and is.

1. While on earth, Christ declared His deity in many ways. In John 5, after healing the paralytic at the pool of Bethesda:

*“... the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.”*

John 5:18

In addition, Christ also declared His deity by using God’s covenant name, “I AM,” in reference to Himself. In our English translations this can easily be overlooked, as translations often add words to make sentences read according to correct rules of grammar. Thankfully, where words are added, they are usually *italicized*. (For example: “I am *He*.”) In some cases, reading these verses without the italicized words brings an intrinsic meaning to light.

In John 8:37-59, Jesus is involved in conversation with a group of Jews. As you read, make brief notes under the columns below. (*Concentrate on vv. 53-59 and be sure to note v. 58 where Jesus makes use of the words “I am.”*)

**John 8:37-59**

**Summary of Jesus’ Claims to Deity**

**How the Jews Responded**



2. (Optional) Consult a trusted commentary on John 8:37-59 and/or observe other verses where Jesus uses the words “I AM.” (For example: John 4:26; John 8:24, 28; John 13:19; and John 18:5-6.)

3. In John 5 and John 8, Jesus’ claims were clearly understood. As you read the following passages, continue to note the responses people had to Jesus’ words and works. (*If time is limited, consider only the boldface passages.*)

a. John 7:25-31

*b.* **John 10:30-33, 37-39**

*c.* **John 10:40-42**

*d.* John 11:45

*e.* John 11:46-53, 57

4. In addition to all the passages you have read, John also records seven “I AM” statements which further Christ’s claim to deity. In these, Christ declares:

*a.* I AM the Bread of Life — (John 6:35-51)

*b.* I AM the Light of the World — (John 8:12)

*c.* I AM the Door of the Sheep — (John 10:7, 9)

*d.* I AM the Good Shepherd — (John 10:11, 14)

*e.* I AM the Resurrection and the Life — (John 11:25)

*f.* I AM the Way, the Truth, and the Life — (John 14:6)

*g.* I AM the True Vine — (John 15:1, 5)

(Optional) Choose one or more of the I AM statements to read in context. Make notes on the following page.

5. Throughout his gospel account, John clearly sets forth the deity of Jesus.

*a.* Why is this truth central to John’s purposes in writing? (*Review your memory verse before answering.*)

*b.* Why do you think John repeatedly records the different responses people had as they came face to face with Jesus? (*Take time here!*)

6. Having completed our brief overview of the gospel of John, we now embark on our study of Christ in the upper room with His disciples. Long ago, He came to earth in the likeness of sinful man, lived a perfect life, and before dying to rescue us from our bondage to sin, He tenderly demonstrated His love to those who were His own.

He is the great “I AM,” the Almighty God, one with the Father. Today, is your testimony one of belief?

If belief, respond to the Lord with a declaration of your faith in Him.

If unbelief, will you throw yourself on the mercy and grace of God?

*Notes, Thoughts . . .*

*. . . and Prayers*

