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| ***GBC SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS***  ***THE GOSPEL OF JOHN CHAPTER 1***  ***Lesson 1 Week of August 13, 2023*** | C:\Users\Kal\Pictures\Church Logos\GBC\GBC1400x1400N.png |

1. *We begin the lesson by focusing on the Sunday message. After meditating on the message, share one way the sermon shaped your thinking this week.*
2. *The* ***Gospel of John*** *is one of four gospels written to teach about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. John’s gospel is a little different than the other three. It has been called a “global” gospel and the focus and organization are* ***theological*** *rather than strictly chronological. He structured the book around* ***8 signs*** *(****miracles****) that Jesus performed and* ***7*** *“****I AM****”* ***statements*** *which Jesus uses to teach about Himself. You’ll notice that with each sign there is a sermon or teaching that corresponds with them.* ***The theme of the book is the deity of Jesus****, and the purpose of the gospel is to present* ***the means to salvation*** *(****John 20:30-31****). Read* ***John 1:1-5****, and using your own words, describe the* ***theological truths*** *that are expressed in these verses.*
3. *Throughout the book, John repeatedly makes the distinction between those who believe and those who reject Jesus as* ***Messiah****. This theme of a two-fold response can be seen in nearly every chapter.* ***Summarize*** *how John presents this two-fold response in* ***1:10-13****.*

* *Christ rescuing people out of* ***darkness*** *is a very strong theme throughout John’s Gospel. Describe how your life was* ***darkness*** *before you became a Christian and how you came to the light.*

1. *Two other themes are developed in the Gospel of John in one form or another. These are* ***evangelism*** *(the word “****believe****,” or “pisteuo,” is used 98 times.) and* ***apologetics*** *(one writer has said that John sought to “convince his readers of Jesus’ true identity as the incarnate God-man who is both divine and human.”). Eight “****signs****” (“semeion,” or miracles) are recorded to reinforce Jesus’ true identity and supply the framework for chapters 1-11. Only two of these are found in the other three gospel accounts. John’s “prologue” in* ***verses 1-18*** *introduces many of the themes that he would later develop. Read the prologue” (****1:1-18****) and write an outline of* ***four or five sections or divisions****, giving each* ***a brief title****. For each section, write as many* ***basic truths about Jesus*** *as you can identify:*
2. ***“Jesus is the Light” (1:1-5) ~ Jesus is eternal, is the Creator of all things, and is the source of all life. The purpose of Jesus coming is to shine in our darkness.***

*(c)*

*(d)*

*(e)*

1. *Throughout his gospel, John introduces the reader to a number of “****witnesses****” to prove that Jesus is the Messiah and the Son of God. The first of these is* ***John the Baptist****. Read the three passages listed below and write the points that John the Baptist made regarding Jesus:*
2. ***1:19-28*** *~*
3. ***1:29-34*** *~*
4. ***1:35-39*** *~*
5. *The “****calling****” of Jesus’ first group of disciples is also recorded in John chapter 1. Describe briefly the events in each of the two passages below and write what most impressed you about Jesus in each section:*
6. ***1:35-42*** *~*
7. ***1:43-51*** *~*

* ***Matthew 4:18-22*** *gives us another account of Jesus calling His disciples. How are these two accounts similar and how are they different?*

1. *John set out in chapter 1 to prove that Jesus is the Son of God. He places special emphasis in his writing on* ***Jesus’ titles****,* ***His works****, and* ***the witnesses who knew Him****. Look over* ***chapter 1*** *once again and next to each topic listed below, write the truths that John uses to prove the deity of Christ:*
2. ***Names of Jesus that prove He is God’s Son*** *~*
3. ***Works of Jesus that prove He is God’s Son*** *~*

*(c)* ***Followers of Jesus that prove He is God’s Son*** *~*