







Day 1

-  Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.
  
-  Conventions of these StudySheets:
  -  Pencil icon indicates commentary or notes; since commentary is not Scripture, they are purposely less prominent (i.e., font-size is smaller).
  -  “Christ Jesus:” we in the United States are traditionally given birth names with a first, middle, and surname (last-name or family-name). Back in the time of Jesus, people were called ‘first-name, son of father’s first-name’ (e.g., Jesus, son of Joseph). Because “Christ” is Jesus’ title, these StudySheets will frequently refer to Jesus as ‘Christ Jesus’. The purpose is to avoid the American naming convention that might indicate “Christ” is Jesus’ last name (surname). By the way the Apostle Paul uses Christ Jesus or Jesus Christ interchangeably.
  
-  The best analogy I have heard to describe the Godhead of God the Father, Christ Jesus the Son, and the Holy spirit is to envision a three-fingered hand (or a three-leaf clover). Each finger has a separate name, but the three-fingers are all part of the same hand – the Godhead. The Jewish faith is unfalteringly monotheistic (belief in one God), so the concept of Christ Jesus the Son is blasphemous to them. That said, a Jewish commentator conveniently explained-away (or ignored) the plural pronouns of “us” and “we” that are used in Genesis 1:26, 3:22, and 11:7 (©2019 by Dennis Prager, *The Rational Bible Genesis*, published by Regenry Faith. Pages 24-25, 59, & 150).
  
-  One last thought, if it takes a great deal of effort (i.e., convoluted explanation) to reach a certain Biblical conclusion, then it is probably false. I pray that this concept is readily apparent as you work through these StudySheet lessons. The Bible is a wonderfully written historical narrative. The Bible also provides us with words that describe God’s character: His desire for all humanity, His agapé love for all, and His abhorrence of sin. Sin is the barrier between God and humankind; Jesus destroys the barrier for those who believe in His saving grace.

*The Word Became Flesh*

Q1. Who is this “John” the author of the Gospel of John?

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**Matthew 4:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, <sup>22</sup> and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

**Mark 3:13-19**

<sup>13</sup> Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him.

<sup>14</sup> He appointed twelve -- designating them apostles -- that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach <sup>15</sup> and to have authority to drive out demons.


<sup>16</sup> These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); <sup>17</sup> James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means Sons of Thunder); <sup>18</sup> Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot, <sup>19</sup> and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

**John 13:23-25** [This dialogue occurred toward the end of the ‘Last Supper’]

<sup>23</sup> One of them, the disciple [John, son of Zebedee] whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him.

<sup>24</sup> Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means."

<sup>25</sup> Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?"

 The Apostle John, son of Zebedee, brother to James wrote the Gospel of John (an eye-witness account), Revelation, and three Epistles (letters). Based on the Gospel texts John (son of Zebedee), James (son of Zebedee), and Peter (also called Cephas or Simon Peter) formed the ‘inner circle’ of Christ’s apostles.

**John 1:1, 2, 14, 17**

<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 with God in the beginning. <sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Q2. As you read the logical progression in John 1:1, 2, 14, 17, Who is the “Word”?

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<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 with God in the beginning.

Q3. How long has Jesus been with God?

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**Genesis 1:26**

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

**Genesis 3:22**

And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever."

**Genesis 11:7**


Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

<sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

Q4. Who is the Creator?

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Day 2

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

<sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

Q5. We are all alive; what does “In him was life” mean?

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Q6. What is the “darkness”?

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Q7. What is the “light”?


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Q8. “The light shines in the darkness... darkness has not understood it.” Why hasn’t “darkness... understood it”?

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<sup>6</sup> There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

 tes·ti·fy: (1) To make a declaration of truth or fact under oath; submit testimony: witnesses testifying before a grand jury. (2) To express or declare a strong belief, especially to make a declaration of faith. (3) To make a statement based on personal knowledge in support of an asserted fact; bear witness: the exhilaration of weightlessness, to which many astronauts have testified. [Copyright © 2009 Farlex, Inc.]

Q9. Verse 6: who is this “John”?

John the ???

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Q10. How would you define “witness”?


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Q11. Please, summarize John’s role as described in verses 6-8.

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 Jesus was about 30-years old when He started His ministry. John the Baptist is a herald announcing the start of the Messiah’s ministry. It can be argued that Jesus was “born” when He was baptized by John the Baptist and His baptism marked the start of His ministry in this world.

### Day 3

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

<sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

Q12. What is the meaning behind “light”?

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Q13. Was the phrase (“was coming into the world”) similar to a birth announcement? Whose birth?

Birth announcement?

Whose birth?

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<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

Q14. Who “was in the world”? Who is “He”?

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Q15. In both verse-3 and again in verse-10, John the Gospel writer references the Creator. Again, Who is the Creator? And why did John the Gospel writer repeat it?

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Q16. Why didn't the "world... recognize Him"?

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<sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.

Q17. Who do you think was "His own"? Does "His own" refer to His family with mother Mary and stepfather Joseph and His stepbrothers and stepsisters? Or something greater?

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Day 4

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

<sup>12</sup> Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

Q18. What is adoption? What legal rights does an adopted boy or girl have compared to a naturally born son or daughter?

Adoption?

Legal rights?

**Romans 8:15-17**

<sup>15</sup> For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship [adoption]. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

<sup>16</sup> The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

<sup>17</sup> Now if we are children, then we are Heirs -- heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

**Galatians 4:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons [through adoption]. <sup>6</sup> Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

**Ephesians 1:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup> he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will -- <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Q19. How can a person “become [a child] of God” and “born of God”?

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Q20. Is this automatic? What does it mean “he gave the right to become children of God”?

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<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Q21. Can you think of one incident when the author of this Gospel (or colleagues) saw "His glory"?

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**John 20:1-8** [Jesus had been humiliated, tortured, crucified, stabbed with a sword, declared dead, and buried in a tomb.]

<sup>1</sup> Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.

<sup>2</sup> So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved [the Apostle John and author of this Gospel], and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

<sup>3</sup> So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb.

<sup>4</sup> Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in.

<sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, <sup>7</sup> as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen.

<sup>8</sup> Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.

**Matthew 17:1-3** [The Transfiguration]

<sup>1</sup> After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

<sup>2</sup> There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.

<sup>3</sup> Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. . .

**Acts 1:6-11**

<sup>6</sup> So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

<sup>7</sup> He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

<sup>9</sup> After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

<sup>10</sup> They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them.


<sup>11</sup> "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Q22. What does this sentence mean, "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us"?

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## Day 5

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today's study.

<sup>15</sup> John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'"

Q23. If John is a herald, who is he proclaiming?

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**Isaiah 40:3-5, 10-11** [This prophecy was written about 700 B.C.]

<sup>3</sup> A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken." . . .

<sup>10</sup> See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and his arm rules for him. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. <sup>11</sup> He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

**Luke 3:2b-6**

<sup>2b</sup> the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the desert.

<sup>3</sup> He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>4</sup> As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. <sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. <sup>6</sup> And all mankind will see God's salvation.' "



**Luke 3:15-18**

<sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Christ.

<sup>16</sup> John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and preached the good news to them.

Q24. How would you explain this statement of John's: "He who comes after me has surpassed me"?

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Q25. What does this mean, "he was before me" [John 1:2 (↑) might help]?

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<sup>16</sup> From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Q26. What is Moses' law?

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Q27. What is the "grace and truth [that] came through Jesus Christ"?

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Day 6

 Please pray for holy guidance and insight before you begin today’s study.

<sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

**Philippians 2:5-11**

<sup>5</sup> Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup> but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Q28. Can we see God?

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Q29. To whom does “God the One and Only” refer?

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**John 4:23-24**

<sup>23</sup> Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

 Jesus is One with the God the Father Almighty. Jesus is equal to the Father. Jesus acquiesces (or willingly defers) to the Father for direction, wisdom, and guidance. While we humans believe that the world is chaotic, the Godhead’s creation is orderly and wonderful to behold. As the Godhead is perfectly designed with God the Father, Christ Jesus His Son, and the Holy Spirit, the Godhead also designed relationships between men and women and children and the aged to be God-focused, orderly, merciful, charitable, loving, and serving. Unfortunately, humankind’s free-choice and propensity to sin blurs the design.

**John 5:19-23**

<sup>19</sup> Jesus gave them this answer: "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does. <sup>20</sup> For the Father loves the Son and shows him all he does. Yes, to your amazement he will show him even greater things than these. <sup>21</sup> For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, <sup>23</sup> that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him."

**John 12:49-50**

<sup>49</sup> For I did not speak of my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it. <sup>50</sup> I know that his command leads to eternal life. So, whatever I say is just what the Father has told me to say."

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