

JOHN

/liv/

JOURNAL (PART 2)



JOHN

/liv/

The book of JOHN (Part 2) study journal
Northwest Hills Community Church • 2021

WELCOME TO THE JOHN JOURNAL

In March we began a 26-week journey through the Gospel of John. Now, in Part 2 of this two-part journal, we will dive deeper into John chapters 12-21. In these final chapters of John's Gospel we get to understand, more deeply, John's first hand account of Jesus' final week before his death and the glorious victory that followed. John was one of Jesus' closest friends who was there at the cross. Really soak up these chapters of John as we get to sit in awe of how incredible our savior is.

As we study the Gospel of John together, remember to be patient. It can be easy to jump to other sources as we study the Word of God, but as we study together, take your time and think critically about the text. Consider others that you can connect with, maybe your Community Group, to share what God is teaching you throughout this series. Learn more about how to get the most out of this journal in this introduction as we study John's account of Jesus' ministry here on earth as a NWH family.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

5		Introduction John (Part 2): John 12-21	32		AUGUST Spiritual Discipline, Simplicity
11		Week 16 (June 27) John 12			
14		JULY Spiritual Discipline, Extravagant Generosity	35		Week 21 (August 1) John 17
17		Week 17 (July 4) John 13	38		Week 22 (August 8) John 18
21		Week 18 (July 11) John 14	41		Week 23 (August 15) John 19
24		Week 19 (July 18) John 15	44		Week 24 (August 22) John 20
29		Week 20 (July 25) John 16	47		Week 25 (August 29) John 21
			50		John (Part 2) Reflection

WHAT IS IN THIS JOURNAL?

This journal has been put together by NWH to help guide you through the Gospel of John in your own personal study. This is not a replacement for the Sunday gathering but rather a supplemental material to help you engage more deeply both with the Bible and spiritual disciplines.

EACH WEEK

As a church, we will be focusing on one chapter from the Gospel of John each week. At the beginning of the week, you are invited to take notes during the Sunday message. Then, Monday through Friday, you are encouraged to meditate on the week's passage using the **H-E-A-R Bible study method**.

H-E-A-R is a great method of Bible reading and journaling. It encourages us to create an atmosphere to hear God speak.

H – HIGHLIGHT

After reading the passage of scripture, highlight each verse that speaks to you by copying it out in your journal.

E – EXPLAIN

Explain what the text means. By asking some simple questions, with the help of the Holy Spirit, you can better understand the meaning of a passage or verse by engaging with the text and wrestling with its meaning.

Consider:

- Why was this written?
- To whom was it originally written?
- How does it fit with the surrounding verses?
- Why did the Holy Spirit inspire John to include this passage in this Gospel?
- What is John intending to communicate through this text?

A – APPLY

Application is at the heart of the process. How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Answer a series of questions to uncover the significance of these verses to you personally:

- How should this passage change me?
- What does this mean today?
- What is God saying to me?

R – RESPOND

Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may write a call to action. You may describe how you will be different because of what God has said to you through His Word. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God. For example, you may ask God to help you to be more loving, or to give you a desire to be more generous in your giving. Keep in mind that this is your response to what you have just read.

There will be space for each part of this Bible study method to write out your thoughts and reflections.

Before diving into the Word each day, prayer is an important first step. Ask God to open your eyes to the things that he has for you to learn and grow in as you meditate on the text. Then jump into the passage and see what he unfolds.

EACH MONTH

Each month we, as a church, will be highlighting one spiritual discipline to put into practice.

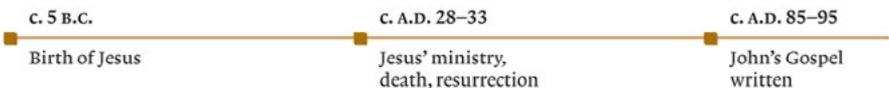
Here at NWH we are committed to engaging in the disciplines and to practice them in such a way that they become a natural part of our life as we grow in our faith and walk with Jesus.

At the beginning of each month, we will focus on one of the disciplines with an overview from Pastor Josh to read. Throughout the month, take time to try and engage with that discipline.

If you have never practiced any of the disciplines, it is okay to take “baby steps” and start small. Commit to creating a cadence to incorporate that discipline into your life that month.

It is our prayer, that as you study the Gospel of John with this journal in hand, you will be transformed by his Spirit, that he would illuminate his Word to you, and that you would fall more deeply in love with Jesus, himself.

INTRODUCTION TO THE GOSPEL OF JOHN



Author, Date, and Recipients

John the son of Zebedee wrote this Gospel. He was a Palestinian Jew, one of the 12 disciples, and a member of Jesus' inner apostolic circle. He was referred to as the disciple "whom Jesus loved" (13:23). John also wrote 1–3 John and Revelation. He likely wrote his Gospel account between A.D. 70 (the date of the destruction of the temple) and A.D. 100 (the reputed end of John's life). It was likely written from Ephesus in Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey), one of the most important cities of the Roman Empire at the time. His original audience consisted of Jews and Gentiles living in the larger Greco-Roman world in Ephesus and beyond, toward the close of the first century A.D.

Theme and Purpose

The theme of John's Gospel is that Jesus is the long-awaited, promised Messiah and Son of God. By believing in Jesus, people have eternal life (see 20:30–31).

As evidence that Jesus is the Messiah, John relies on several selected messianic signs performed by Jesus and a series of witnesses to Jesus. These include the Scriptures, John the Baptist, Jesus himself, God the Father, Jesus' miraculous works, the Holy Spirit, and John himself.

Key Themes

- I **Jesus.** Jesus is God, the "I am." He existed before the creation of the world, and he has supernatural knowledge. He fulfills the Jewish festivals and institutions. As the sent Son of God, he reflects the Sender. Signs and witnesses demonstrate that he is the Messiah.
- II. **The Trinity.** Father, Son, and Spirit are united in their work of revelation and redemption.
- III. **Salvation.** God is sovereign in salvation. Jesus' death is the basis of salvation, which is obtained through believing in the living Jesus as the Son of God
- IV. **Eternal Life.** Jesus is the giver of eternal life. Believers can experience some of salvation's benefits during this present evil age.
- V. **Mission.** Believers are called to continue Jesus' mission.

Outline

- I. **Prologue:** The Incarnate Word (1:1–18)
- II. **Signs of the Messiah, with Teaching about Life in Him** (1:19–12:50)
- III. **The Farewell Teaching and the Passion Narrative** (13:1–20:31)
- IV. **Epilogue:** The Roles of Peter and of the Disciple Whom Jesus Loved (21:1–25)

The Setting of John

The events of the Gospel of John take place in Palestine, incorporated into the Roman Empire in 63 B.C. Appointed by the Romans as king over the Jews in 37 B.C., Herod the Great ruled until his death in 4 B.C. The Romans divided his kingdom among his descendants.

Introduction to John.” *ESV Bible*”, Crossway, www.esv.org/resources/esv-global-study-bible/introduction-to-john/

HELPFUL RESOURCES WHILE STUDYING JOHN:

- *BibleProject* Videos: bibleproject.com/learn/john
- *The Gospel According to John*, by D. A. Carson
- *Word Biblical Commentary: John*, by George R. Beasley-Murray
- blueletterbible.org
- biblegateway.com

JOHN

/liv/

CHAPTERS 12-21
(PART TWO)



JUNE 27 SPEAKER:
CODY WAGNER, NWH Intern

I was born in California and raised in Texas and ever since I can remember I have been in church every chance there was to be in church. The most central and important thing in my life has always been God. My parents homeschooled me so that they could ensure a good Christian education, my social circles and all my closest friends have been from church, and my first job was even as a janitor for my church.

My parents have been pillars of faith for me my whole life and when I was eight years old, I prayed a prayer that everyone around had been telling me to pray. But there was no repentance behind that prayer. Just a selfish desire to be celebrated alongside my friends.

However, our God is faithful and continued to pursue me lovingly and I finally responded to that at the age of 11. On July 2, 2011, I was at a church camp and I heard God's call so clearly and convicting, I felt as if I could do nothing but respond by giving my life and laying down my desires for His greater plan. I was truly blessed to have a good community and church around me to help me grow my faith through personal discipleship, mission trips, and even opportunities to teach and lead all while I was still a teenager.

Going into my senior year of high school I had a simple plan for the future, I would become a traveling nurse, make lots of money, while helping people, and drive a Jeep Wrangler. I thought, because helping people was noble, it would be enough to be called Godly, but in reality it was that desire for self-gain coming through again and I began to feel uneasy about this plan as I graduated.

Feeling more and more uneasy about this after graduating and seeing doors close, I began to grow more and more frustrated at God till I finally reached a breaking point and surrendered. I felt a call into ministry and had a track record of gifts being affirmed in me so I told God I'd do ministry if He would make the path. Ever since I surrendered, He has been faithful to make that path more clear through three internships with four churches and the opportunity to go to college to study ministry. I continue to walk that path with God today, one step at a time.

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

JULY

THE DISCIPLINE OF EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

1 Timothy 6:17-19:

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command them to do good, to be rich (extravagant) in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

This year our theme has been LIV: Defining what it means to live. Here, Paul says there is a way to live that is truly living — which means if you aren't doing this YOU WONT be experiencing life the way God intends — do good, to be rich (extravagant) in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

To be rich in good deeds and generous doesn't necessarily mean you have to give large amounts of money, but it does mean you need to feel your generosity. Consider these words from Jesus found in **Luke 21:1-4**:

Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, 2 and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. 3 And he said, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. 4 For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

The invitation to be radically generous is all about lavishly loving others as we have been lavishly loved by God. As you examine your life this month, where are you in this invitation to be extravagantly generous to God and to others? Where are the opportunities you might have to extravagantly bless others through your generosity?

— Pastor Josh Carstensen



JULY 4 SPEAKER: **GARY JONES, NWH Youth Pastor**

I am just a guy who loves Jesus! I can look back at my life as a Christian and say that God has been incredibly faithful and continually called me to take next steps in the faith. I believed as a young boy, remember serving in kids camp when I was in elementary school, prayed for my friends in middle school, led someone to faith in Jesus when I was in high school, served in campus ministry at my state university, and felt a call to ministry my senior year there.

The next chapter of my life was becoming a high school art teacher, where my mission field was the 150 students in my classes and after one year of teaching, I became the youth pastor at a small church in Southern Illinois where Tara and I lived for 4 years. We got married in the fall of 2014 and moved to Plano, TX in January of 2015 where I accepted the call to serve as the youth and young adult pastor of our church there in the suburbs of Dallas. I also served as the regional director of a youth camp in Texas, led teams at camps in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts, and got the opportunity to serve twice in Wales as a camp speaker. It has been the biggest blessing to be able to serve God wherever he calls us, which led us to Corvallis a year and a half ago – and we LOVE it here! I enjoy bow hunting and riding dirt bikes and Tara loves photography and design. Lou loves hanging out with her friends, reading, and being cool. This family we have found in Corvallis is so special! Thank you for loving us well.

Tara and I have served together in campus ministry, children's ministry, youth, young adults, camp teams, and mission trips...working with young people always keeps things fresh and exciting – they keep you on your toes! Through our ministry – we have served alongside each other, and now serve together in our toughest and best role yet – raising our daughter, Lou!

I love serving here at Northwest Hills as the youth pastor and intern director! One fun fact about me is that at last count, I have been to 27 camps...this summer will bump that to 29. It's hard to say whether that has added or subtracted a few years to or from my life...but no matter the cost – living all-in for Jesus is WORTH IT!

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:



JULY 11 & 18 SPEAKER: JUSTIN JACKSON, NWH Worship Director

You may have guessed by the thick-rimmed glasses or skinny jeans that I'm a Portland native; though surprisingly, you'll never find a cup of coffee in my hand. I'm a classic 'Christian Family' kid, which I realize may not make for the most exciting story, but it's worth giving you a quick glance, if only to showcase how good God is and how stubborn I am. My story has been one full of God's unending faithfulness. Nearly every time He has placed an opportunity for growth in front of my feet, I've turned to the side and thought, "That's nice, but I'm going to see if this works out first." And, without exception, every time I have strayed, or thought my choice made for a better path, He has gently nudged me back to where I was supposed to be. As an example, have you ever thought to yourself, "I don't know exactly what I want to be when I grow up, but I know I WON'T be doing THAT"? For me, 'THAT' was full-time ministry. So it stands to reason that God would eventually lead me straight to Northwest Hills. I won't call it an easy path, or a straight path, or even a painless path. Jesus had it right when He called the way 'narrow'. I wandered off more times than I care to admit, and carry a few scars to prove it. But God is faithful, and here I am.

God has this fantastic, painful way of helping us overcome our vices by providing multitudinous opportunities to display the corresponding virtue. My vice is fairly easy to spot once you talk to me for longer than five minutes. Pride. Pride is just the worst. It's often subtle enough to go unnoticed and uncondemned, but it slowly feeds all other vices and poisons relationships. Unfortunately, pride's counter virtue is humility, which, unless you're a naturally humble person, is gained very painfully. Ever wonder why the words 'embarrassing' and 'humiliating' are synonyms? It's because the most common way to be made more humble is to fail, or feel embarrassment, or watch all your plans fall apart. If I were to sum up my four years working in ministry at Northwest Hills, 'Humbling' would only begin to scratch the surface of what God has been doing in my life. But let me encourage you if you are afraid of humiliation, or, like me, struggle with pride. There is no greater breath of fresh air, or empowering gift of life, than to be consistently humiliated by God, and forced to let go of your pride, and trust His process of making you into the person you are meant to be. Like many aspects of discipleship with Jesus, it's not easy, but it is very much worth it.

So if you ever get a chance to talk with me after a service, or stop by the church office to chat, ask me how God has been humbling me this week. Chances are I'll already have two or three good stories for you.

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE CHECK-IN

After making your plan, how have you been living radically generous this month?

How has seeing Jesus' generosity impacted your willingness to live like he did?

Spend some time reflecting.



JULY 25 SPEAKER:
CHAD WEAVER, Special Guest

I was born and raised on a dairy near Astoria, Oregon. My parents took my two older brothers and I to the same church every week. I was blessed to grow up in a Godly home. I gave my heart to Christ when I was six at a puppet show. Although there were ups and downs through high school, I've always tried to follow God. In 2001 I came to OSU and lived on campus and met great friends that were "Jesus freaks." They brought me to Real Life. It was a Bible study that had several hundred students meeting at Arnold dining center on Tuesday nights. Different leaders began to empower me, so I began to serve. I'd come early and set up or stay late and tear down. One leader encouraged me to lead a small group Bible study. Another encouraged me to help organize the Real Life Retreat. I loved having the opportunity to serve and lead.

Once I completed my bachelor's degree in 2005, I went to Cornerstone School of Ministry at Calvary Corvallis for a year. It was foundational in giving me tools for life and ministry. After finishing I decided to finish my master's at OSU to be a high school teacher, but at the end of my master's degree the Real Life pastor asked me to come on staff. So, after praying about it, I took a step of faith in the summer of 2007 and began raising support to do ministry full-time with Real Life at Oregon State, and later in spring 2016 became the college pastor at Calvary Corvallis. I never imagined being a full-time campus missionary for 14 years, but I've been blessed to work with awesome students and leaders. I've enjoyed leading Bible studies at fraternities, chapels for sports teams, All-Campus worship nights, and getting to share the love of Jesus with students. I also work with Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) at OSU.

In August 2011, I married my best friend, Bethany. She's an amazing mommy to our kids (Claire & Caleb) and works part-time as a nurse at Good Samaritan. Besides college ministry, we have a passion for missions and have led many teams in various countries. We love our city and campus, and love partnering with the other churches and college ministries in our community to reach others with the love of Jesus.

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

AUGUST

THE DISCIPLINE OF SIMPLICITY

A great verse in scripture that speaks to how we ought to live in simplicity comes from **Proverbs 30:8-9**:

8b Give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, 9 lest I be full and deny you and say, "Who is the Lord?" or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.

The Biblical writers speak so much about economics and our natural desire to think we don't have enough. Enough money, enough time, enough clothes, enough friends, enough adventures, enough intimacy, enough entertainment. Thousands of years ago, God gave these words to us in **Deuteronomy 5:21**:

'And you shall not covet your neighbor's wife. And you shall not desire your neighbor's house, his field, or his male servant, or his female servant, his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.'

If that were written today it would say, "Don't believe the lies from Amazon, Zillow, Instagram, Toyota, Travelocity, Target, Tinder or TikTok that you need everything that you don't have." We are sold a bill of goods that says, "to have the good life, we need more."

Jesus sheds light on the battle that rages in many of us in **Matthew 6:19-21**:

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

It can be so easy to devote our lives to storing up treasures here on this earth like bigger houses, nicer cars, better vacations, or the biggest lie of all, security. The invitation to a life of simplicity however is to be satisfied with GOD alone and to not try to fill your life with more of what you don't have, which, if you are not careful, will steal your heart from following Jesus.

The discipline of simplicity is the invitation to refrain from MORE; more of all kinds of things. Take this month to think and pray through how you might simplify your life.

— *Pastor Josh Carstensen*



AUGUST 1 SPEAKER:
CALEB HUNT, NWH Ministry Partner

While I grew up in a loving Christian home, it wasn't until late in college that I began to understand the love of Jesus, and fell in love back. It was a love that radically changed my life, and forced me to wrestle with many questions about the faith I thought I already knew, and come out the other side even more inspired to worship. During that formative time I was graciously grafted into the Christian community on campus known as Cru, where I was showered with love and spiritual fertilizer, and met an amazing gal named Christina.

God then chose to test my parents' faith by giving me a heart for the world and sending me to the other side of it for two years in a wonderful country we affectionately call "East Asia." It was there that God opened my eyes to see even more of the beauty of the gospel through the lens of other cultures, and helped me develop the intellectual side of my faith by allowing me to look like a fool a lot. Working alongside Cru staff, students and other missionaries from nine different countries, I learned how truly diverse and united the body of Christ really is, and caught a glimpse of what unity could look like.

Upon returning home, Christina decided to give me a chance, and God taught me firsthand about miracles. We returned to East Asia as a family, where we served for three more years, and God taught us both about humor by giving us two sets of twins. Since returning home, we have grown in our passion to make Jesus known among every people and culture, as we continue to serve in Cru and shower the next generation of American and international students with love and spiritual fertilizer.

Over the years God has taught me many things, including the fact that walking with Jesus can be honest, difficult, and even a little funny sometimes. I love to have authentic conversations about Jesus, and to help others wrestle with the faith they thought they already knew, and come out the other side even more inspired to worship.

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

A – APPLY

How can you apply what you learned from today's verse(s) to your life? Is there a command to obey? A sin to confess? Or a promise you can claim? Record here the thoughts God brought to your mind as you read the passage and/or a plan to live out this verse.

R – RESPOND

Write here your response to God. Your response to the passage may take on many forms. You may indicate what you are going to do because of what you have learned. You may respond by writing out a prayer to God.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:



NORTHWESTHILLS
Community Church