



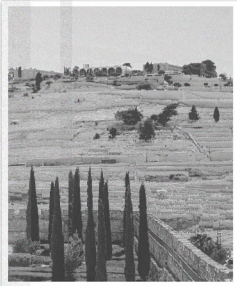
that you may

BELIEVE

The Purpose of This Book

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Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.



THE WORD BECAME FLESH discussion questions

1. How is Christ the true light of every man (verses 4 & 9)? In what ways is Jesus your light?
2. The Jews had been waiting for hundreds of years for the Messiah to come. Why did they not recognize Jesus? Why don't people recognize Jesus today?
3. How does one receive Jesus? What does John mean by "born of God"? How is spiritual birth different from physical birth?
4. A man named John is mentioned in verses 6 and 15. Who is he, and what was his purpose?
5. How does the meta-narrative (big story) of John 1 impact your daily life? What other story lines are competing with this one, and how have they affected you?
6. In what ways has the incarnation of Christ made the invisible God more comprehensible to you? How is Christ-in-you making him more comprehensible to those around you who don't yet know him?



The Book of John

The Word Became Flesh

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was in the beginning with God.³ All things were made through him, yet the world did not know him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men.⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.⁷ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁸ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.⁹ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him.¹⁰ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.¹¹ But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,¹² who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹³ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.¹⁴ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'")¹⁵ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.¹⁶ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.¹⁷ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.