

The Purpose of This Book

²⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ²¹ 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.



that you may

BELIEVE



“IF YOU BELIEVE” discussion questions

1. What holds people back believing the truth about Jesus, his resurrection, the Bible, and eternity? Why is it tempting for some to remove the substitutionary atonement (Jesus’ death in place of ours, to pay for our sin and give us his righteousness) from Christianity?
2. What type of belief system do you get when there is no need for Jesus’ substitutionary death?
3. What has captured the affections and loyalty of the religious leaders in John 11:48 more than God? What are they willing to sacrifice to keep it?
4. What do you think about John’s statement that Caiaphas’ words in v. 50 were actually a prophecy? How is it that someone so connected with God’s truth (think Isaiah 53) could still not believe even though he’s speaking the truth of the gospel?
5. If you have believed, are you experiencing life to the fullest like Jesus said you could have (John 10:10)? If not, what else might be capturing your affections and loyalty?



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, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹² 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. ¹³ 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.’” ¹⁴ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁵ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁶ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.