

## WEEK 2: A PORTRAIT OF JESUS

### INTRODUCTION

Think of one of your favorite people and describe them with 3 words (i.e. cool, nice, sweet, strong, etc.)

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Now do your best to describe them with 2 objects (i.e. Mack truck, flower, etc.).

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### DISCOVER

John 1:1-18 is the Apostle John's *introduction* to, as well as *presentation* of - Jesus Christ, referred to as the Word (Rev 19:13)?

So often we quickly glance over the priceless descriptions and attributes of Jesus in the Bible without fully understanding and meditating on them. Carefully read through John 1:1-18 and reflect on the descriptions of Jesus.

#### Read (John 1:1-18)

The gospel of John is a story and presentation of Jesus. Why do you think John begins with, "In the beginning", reminiscent of Genesis 1:1, rather than beginning with Jesus' birth?

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What facts about Jesus can you find in verses 1-5 (John 1:1-5)?

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What facts about Jesus can you find in verses 10-18 (John 1:10-18)?

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Which verse speaks the most to you in John 1:1-18? OR which do you feel is John's focus or climax in 1:1-18? Why?

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### **MEDITATING ON THE TEXT**

#### **Impassioned Reverence for God**

Of all the titles, functions and descriptions of Jesus which one would you like to learn more about or which one do you feel you need to reflect on more to have a more accurate perception of Jesus in your relationship with Him? Which is your favorite?

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How can your above observations of Jesus impact your relationship with Jesus?

(TIP: Think about how a deeper understanding of a friend can impact your relationship with them and relate that to a spiritual relationship with Jesus)

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### **DISCOVER**

In (John 1:19-34) we receive John the Baptist's introduction and presentation of Jesus.

#### **Read (John 1:19-34)**

In your opinion what do you think is John's focus or most climactic verse in verses 19-34? Why? OR share with us which verse stands out the most to you?

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## DISCOVER

Let's focus in on (John 1:29) and dig deep into what John meant when he said Jesus is the "lamb of God." Remember who John is speaking to- Pharisees, who are Jewish Israelites, familiar with the Old Testament Scripture (Bible). We will cross reference a passage (Exodus 12:1-13) to uncover the context behind what the metaphor "lamb of God". This will help us understand what John was intending to communicate to them. Once we understand what he was communicating to them, we can determine how that is relevant to us.

### Read Exodus 12:1-13

What's the problem or consequence?

(Refer to **Exodus 12:12**)

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What is the only way to escape the consequence?

(TIP: What were the Israelites commanded to do in order to be spared from the plague-judgment of God?)

(Refer to **Exodus 12:3, 7, 13**)

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How did God chose which house to pass over and which one to condemn in judgment?

(Refer to **Exodus 12:13**)

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According to God's explicit instructions on how to escape the plague; did the Israelites need to stop sinning? Did they need to confess their sins to a high priest? Did He give any leniency if they were a good person; or if they did good works?

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### **MAKING THE CONNECTION**

What similarities do you see between the symbolic Passover lamb in Exodus and our Passover Lamb, Jesus?

(Refer to parallel between **Exodus 12:5** and **1 Peter 1:18-19**)

(Refer to parallel between **Exodus 12:46** and **John 19:33**)

(Refer to parallel between **Exodus 12:7** and **Heb 9:22**)

(Refer to parallel between **Exodus 12:7** and **Rom 3:25**)

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In your own words why do you think that John described Jesus as the “lamb of God” when speaking to the Pharisees?

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### **APPLICATION**

When you pray or spend time with Jesus; what picture comes to mind?

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Out of all the descriptions of Jesus that we discovered in this study; are there any that surprised you? Were there any that were new to you? Were there any that you had forgotten about? Were there any that you need to remind yourself of?

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**THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION, RECONCILIATION AND PRAYER**

How can these descriptions and stories of Jesus impact my perception of Him?

How can they impact my day to day life?