

John review

Introduction

- The climax of John's Gospel (2:4, 12:23, 17:1).
- Two themes from John's prologue:
 - the Genesis God come to bring the new creation (1:1–5, ch 2–4, ch 11).
 - the Exodus God come to lead a second exodus (1:14–18, ch 5–10, ch 12).
- So in spite of its apparent weakness:

1. The cross was the climax of Jesus's new exodus (ch 18–19).

i. The hour of his divine glory (18:1–27).

- The glory of the “I AM” God revealed (18:4–7)...
- ...as he dies in Peter's place (18:8, 10, 14, 17, 25).

ii. The hour of his servant kingship (18:28-19:16a).

- The King of the Jews (18:33, 37, 39, 19:14, 15)...
- ...is the blameless lamb crowned with thorns (18:28, 38b, 19:1–3, 4, 6, 19:14).

iii. The hour of his completed work (19:16b–42).

iv. The purposes of God finished (19:24, 36, 37)...

- v. ...as the Son of God breathes his last (19:28–30).**

2. The resurrection is the beginning of Jesus's new Genesis (ch 20).

- 3.** A new Eden (19:41, 20:1, 12, 19, 22).
- 4.** A new relationship with God (20:17, 19, 21, 22, 26).
- 5.** A new mission to the world (20:22–23, 29–31).
- 6.** But which world will you choose?
 - Pilate's choice (18:18-19:16a, 19:16b–22)
 - Nicodemus's choice (19:38–42)

Conclusion

- Jesus has fed his disciples (21:1–14).
- Jesus has sent his disciples to feed his sheep (21:15–25).
- What will you do with their words?

Discussion questions

- Think about everything you've seen in John this year. How does it all come together in Jesus's hour?
- How did you think about the cross and resurrection before? How has John grown your understanding?
- How does that help you choose Jesus and his new creation over the world? What would that look like for you?

If you've finished the discussion questions, spend some time praying as a group.

If you still have time, you could start on one of the case studies below, but you might like to save the rest, so you can continue discussing next time your group meets.

Case studies

Chris is a student at King's, but recently flew home because of coronavirus. While he was in London, he felt really enthusiastic about being a Christian, and he grew a lot. But now he's at home, it feels more difficult. He can't meet with his Christian friends, and finds it draining to do church and Bible study online. He's also finding it a struggle to get into a good routine with reading the Bible. How might John help him?

Emma's best friend recently became a Christian, but now they're back home and she needs to find a new church. Recently, she told Emma that she's been tuning in to the live stream for a prosperity gospel church nearby. When Emma tries to warn her, she says, "But Jesus said he came to give life. Why wouldn't he want to make my life better now?" How would John help Emma respond?

Victor was recently made redundant because of the coronavirus. He's tried to find a new job, but few companies are hiring, and he's started to draw on his savings. He hasn't told his parents yet, because he's worried about what they might think. Before, he was going quite well as a Christian, but this has really knocked him. He just feels so angry with God. "Why would he mess up his life like this?" he thinks. "Doesn't Jesus care?" How would you encourage him from John's Gospel?

Gemma works for an insurance company in London, but she's been working remotely from her parent's house since the lockdown began. She recently tried to invite her colleague to an online course for people investigating Christianity, but they reacted really badly. She's worried his boss will find out, and has vowed never to mix his work with his faith again. What would you say to Gemma from John's Gospel?