



The Book of John in Plain English

All 21 Chapters summarized in plain English. No theological jargon — just what happened and why it matters in one paragraph per chapter.

💡 **Key Purpose (John 20:31):** *"These are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name."*

CHAPTER 01

Gospel of John

The Word becomes flesh

John opens cosmic: Jesus is the eternal Word who was with God and IS God. He moved into the human neighborhood. John the Baptist points to Jesus as the Lamb of God, and the first disciples begin following him.

CHAPTER 02

Gospel of John

Water into wine & temple rage

Jesus turns water into wine at a wedding in Cana — his first miracle at a celebration. Then in Jerusalem, he cleanses the temple from exploitation. Two sides of Christ: joy at a celebration, fierce fury against corruption.

CHAPTER 03

Gospel of John

Nicodemus & new birth

Nicodemus visits Jesus secretly at night. Jesus explains that entering God's kingdom requires spiritual rebirth. Features John 3:16: God loved the world so much he gave his Son so that all who believe have eternal life.

CHAPTER 04

Gospel of John

The woman at the well

Jesus crosses ethnic and social barriers to speak with a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well. He reveals her past and offers living water. She runs back to her town, and an entire village comes to believe in Jesus.

CHAPTER 05

Gospel of John

Healing on the Sabbath

Jesus heals a man paralyzed for 38 years at the pool of Bethesda on the Sabbath. Religious critics oppose him, and Jesus boldly proclaims his divine authority and unique unity with the Father.

CHAPTER 06

Gospel of John

Feeding 5,000 & Bread of Life

Jesus feeds 5,000 with five loaves and two fish. Later, he teaches that he is the true Bread of Life. Following him isn't about physical handouts, but consuming his truth for eternal life.

CHAPTER 07

Gospel of John

Division & living water

At the Feast of Tabernacles, opinions about Jesus divide Jerusalem. Jesus invites anyone who thirsts to drink from him, promising rivers of living water through the Holy Spirit.

CHAPTER 09

Gospel of John

Healing the blind man

Jesus restores sight to a man blind from birth. When religious authorities try to intimidate the man, he answers simply: 'I was blind, now I see.' Spiritual blindness is exposed.

CHAPTER 11

Gospel of John

Lazarus raised from death

Lazarus dies, and Jesus weeps with his grieving friends. Jesus then commands Lazarus out of the tomb after four days dead. This undeniable resurrection miracle seals the plot against Jesus' life.

CHAPTER 13

Gospel of John

Washing feet & betrayal

At the Last Supper, Jesus washes the dusty feet of his disciples, demonstrating true servant leadership. He predicts Judas' betrayal and gives the new commandment: love one another.

CHAPTER 08

Gospel of John

Light of the world

Jesus protects a woman caught in adultery ('let him who is without sin throw the first stone') while calling her away from sin. He declares: 'I am the light of the world' and 'Before Abraham was, I AM.'

CHAPTER 10

Gospel of John

The Good Shepherd

Jesus is the Good Shepherd who knows each sheep by name and lays down his life for them. He declares, 'I and the Father are one,' making his divine identity crystal clear.

CHAPTER 12

Gospel of John

The triumphal entry

Mary anoints Jesus with costly perfume. Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey amid palm branches. He teaches that a grain of wheat must fall and die to produce a harvest.

CHAPTER 14

Gospel of John

The Way, Truth, & Life

Jesus comforts his followers: 'I am the way, the truth, and the life.' He promises the Holy Spirit as an indwelling Comforter and gives them his supernatural peace.

CHAPTER 15

Gospel of John

The Vine & the branches

Jesus is the vine; we are the branches. Apart from him, we can do nothing lasting. Remaining attached to his love produces abundant fruit, even when facing worldly opposition.

CHAPTER 16

Gospel of John

The Spirit of Truth

Jesus prepares his disciples for his departure and the coming Holy Spirit. He concludes with lasting hope: 'In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.'

CHAPTER 17

Gospel of John

Jesus' great prayer

The longest recorded prayer of Jesus. He prays for his glory, for his disciples' protection, and for all future believers — including you today — that we may be united in his love.

CHAPTER 18

Gospel of John

Arrest & Peter's denial

Jesus is betrayed in Gethsemane and arrested. While Jesus boldly stands before the high priest and Pilate, Peter denies knowing him three times before the rooster crows.

CHAPTER 19

Gospel of John

The Crucifixion

Jesus is crowned with thorns, beaten, and crucified at Golgotha. He declares 'It is finished' — the debt of sin is fully paid. He is buried in a garden tomb.

CHAPTER 20

Gospel of John

The Resurrection

On Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene discovers the empty tomb. The risen Jesus appears to Mary and his disciples. Thomas touches Jesus' scars and worships: 'My Lord and my God!'

CHAPTER 21

Gospel of John

Breakfast by the sea

The risen Jesus meets the disciples fishing, provides a miraculous catch, and makes breakfast on the beach. He restores Peter three times, charging him: 'Feed my sheep.'

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