

THE SYLLABUS FOR THE STUDY OF JOHN'S GOSPEL

June - August 2020

First and Introductory Lesson on June 18th

What is John's Gospel?
New converts and John's Gospel
John and OT
Symbols of each Gospel
Literary style of John
Who wrote? When? Why? To whom?
Key people and Mega themes in John
Special Features in John
I AM sayings
Theological Discourses
How and Why John is different from the Synoptics?
What is prologue?

Second Lesson on June 25th

(Chapters 1 & 2)

Jesus is the Lamb of God (John 1: 29, 36).
The Symbolism of the Lamb in the OT and Why Jesus is called the Lamb of God?
Difference between John's Baptism with the water and Jesus' Baptism with the Holy Spirit?
John the Baptist and his disciples
Can anything good come from Nazareth? Moral, social and political background of Nazareth
What is the symbolism of Nathanael under fig tree?
The Wedding at Cana and the intercessory role of Blessed Mother.
The multiplication of wine is the fulfillment of Isaiah 43:19
Why John puts Jesus' cleansing of the temple at the beginning of his gospel while the Synoptics keep it at the end of their gospels?
The context of selling sheep, Cattle and coins and doves?
What is the theological meaning behind cleansing of the temple? How does it apply to our churches' commercialism?

Third Lesson on July 2nd

(Chapters 3 & 4)

Who is Nicodemus? Jesus' theological discourse with Nicodemus on natural birth and spiritual birth.
What is the meaning of born again? Nicodemus at the burial of Jesus
The spiritual meaning of 'lifting up the serpent in the desert' in connection with Jesus' life and exhalation on the Cross?

Explanation of John 3:16

Jesus' theological discourse with the Samaritan woman as Life Giver and Savior of the Gentiles

Who were the Samaritans in the Bible?

Church's mission to modern Samaritans who don't know Christ and how to be good Samaritans in our lives

Fourth Lesson on July 9th

(Chapters 5 & 6)

Jesus heals a lame man by the pool.

Popular belief about healing power in water - OT background of Naaman in the waters of Jordan.

Controversy concerning healing on the sabbath

Jesus' claim of his sonship through various testimonies

Theological discourse on the Holy Eucharist: I am the bread of life/

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink

Fifth Lesson on July 16th

(Chapters 7 & 8 & 9)

Jesus encounters conflict with the religious leaders

Jesus' teaching at the temple. Temple is a place of both Praying to Ever living God and Teaching His everlasting words.

Jesus forgives an adulterous woman. The church is not a club of saints but a hospital of sinners

Jesus is the light of the world. Truth will set you free. Jesus is Eternal

The man born blind: Who sinned? Him or His parents for being born blind?

Why suffering in the world? How to view suffering as a Christian?

Blindman, a model of discipleship

Sixth Lesson on July 23rd

(Chapters 10 & 11)

Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

The good and bad shepherds in the OT (Ezekiel 34).

The Lord is my Shepherd (Psalm 23)

Hallmarks of a good shepherd.

Need of good shepherds in the church and in public life.

How to be good shepherds and good sheep?

Why lack of priestly and religious vocation? Why crisis in priesthood?

What is the role of laity in strengthening priesthood?

Jesus is the family friend of Lazarus, Martha and Mary

Lazarus' death: in death, life is only changed not ended.

Death is for the glory of God.

Jesus is the resurrection and the life

Seventh Lesson on July 30th

(Chapters 12 & 13)

Anointing at the feet of Jesus by Mary.

Various Anointings in the Bible.

Anointing in the church and Anointing of the Sick

Why did Humble and poor Jesus allow extravagance in the anointing and pompous entry to Jerusalem on a donkey?

Jesus explains why He must die: Unless a grain of wheat falls.....

Jesus washes the disciples' feet

What is the OT background for washing of the feet?

Jesus eats the Last Supper with the disciples

Institution of the Holy Eucharist and Ministerial Priesthood

A new Commandment

Eighth Lesson on August 6th

(Chapters 14 & 15 & 16)

Jesus is the way, the truth and the life

Jesus promises the Holy Spirit known as Counselor, the Spirit of Truth, the Teacher, Guide and One who convicts

Peace of the world and Peace of Jesus: What is the difference?

The symbolism of Vine and the Branches

Remain in 'My Love'. What is His love?

Jesus warns about the world's hatred

In the world, you will have trouble

Your grief will turn to joy

'Whatever you will ask in my name' - Why we have to ask in Jesus' name?

Ninth Lesson on August 13th

(Chapters 17 & 18 & 19)

The High Priestly Prayer of Jesus: For Himself, the Disciples, future believers

Prayer for Unity

Power of Jesus' name

Denial of Peter

Jesus' trial before Jewish authorities

Jesus' trial before Roman authorities

Power from heaven (19:11) Authority comes from God (Romans 13)

INRI (19:19) "What I have written, I have written"

Eve near the Tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gen 2:17) - Blessed Mother near the Cross (Tree of life Gen 2:9)

Jesus' death on the cross, Tree of Life as Giver of Life
Symbolism of Blood and Water from Jesus' pierced side

Tenth Lesson on August 20th
(Chapters 20 & 21)

Jesus' Resurrection

OT background of Resurrection: (Isaiah 26:19 / Daniel 12:2/ 2 Macc 7)

Resurrection of Jesus Christ: (Mt 28:1-7/ Mk 16:1-8/Lk 24:1-12/Jn 20:1-9)

Jesus' teaching on Resurrection

What impact Jesus' resurrection had on the disciples?

St. Paul's teaching on Jesus' Resurrection (1 Corinthians 15)

Resurrection is the center and Heart of our Christian Faith (1 Cor15:20)

Why Resurrection is important to us?

How well it should affect our faith?

First and second resurrection (Daniel 12:2/ Rev 20:4-6)

Risen Christ' Appearances

Mary Magdalene John 20:10-18

Ten disciples behind closed doors John 20:19-25

All the disciples including Thomas (except Judas) John 20:26-31

Seven disciples while fishing - John 21:1-14

Do you Love me? Love dialogue with Peter

Prophecies about the deaths of Peter and John

GRADUATION CEREMONY ON AUGUST 27TH AT ST. BARNABAS CHURCH PARISH