

# THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Themes in John		
<i>Theme</i>	<i>Explanation</i>	<i>Application</i>
Jesus Christ, Word of God, Son of God	Jesus is the Word of God, God's total self-communication. He is the revealer and the revealed. As God's unique Son, both fully God and fully man, only he can reveal the Father fully.	Jesus is most trustworthy, Listening to Jesus puts us on the path to the "way, truth and life."
Faith	Look to the signs Jesus performs and believe. Belief lead to eternal life.	Response to Jesus means believing in him – his life, his words, his deeds and his death and resurrection.
Love	Jesus embodies God's love and shows it through service and his Paschal mystery.	Follow the command Jesus gave to us: "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you (Jn 15:12). The Spirit enables us to believe and understand Jesus' teaching.
Holy Spirit	Jesus promised another Paraclete who would guide, comfort, and counsel Christians. Through the Spirit, the Lord will be present in believers.	Allowing the Spirit to live within us helps us experience the love of the risen Lord.
Resurrection	Jesus lives! On the third day, he rose from the dead, a fact testified by te apostles and others. It is the basic fact of Christian faith.	Believe in Jesus! He is the resurrection and the life. If we die united to him, we will also live forever.

**John's "Simple Message"**

God ..... the greatest lover  
 so loved ..... the highest degree  
 the world..... the greatest number  
 that he gave..... the most generous act  
 his only Son ..... the most precious gift  
 so that everyone .... the best invitation  
 who believes ..... the greatest simplicity  
 in him ..... the most perfect person  
 might not perish ... the greatest deliverance  
 but ..... the biggest contrast  
 might have ..... the greatest assurance  
 eternal life ..... the most important possession.

From: Pennock, Michael. *Encountering Jesus in the New Testament*. Notre Dame, IN: Ave Maria Press, 2003.

<b>"I AM" Titles for Jesus in John's Gospel</b>	
<i>Title</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
Bread of Life (6:35 ff)	Jesus gives true life, eternal life. By receiving him in the Eucharist, he lives in us.
Light of the World (8:12)	Jesus is the beacon of truth who points to his Father. Living in the light brings true life.
Sheepgate (10:7)	Jesus is the way to God's kingdom.
Good Shepherd (10:11)	Jesus loves each of us and has surrendered his life for us. He is the Messiah who watches out for his flock.
Resurrection and the Life (11:25)	Jesus has power over death. Belief in him leads to eternal life.
Way, Truth, Life (14:6)	This summarizes the Word's purpose for joining us: he is the way to God; he proclaims the truth of salvation; he bestows on us eternal life.
Vine (15:5)	Jesus is the source of life; we must remain attached to him.