



**September 13, 2015 | The Glory of God Has Returned | John 1:1-18**

## Introduction

Why are we calling John the “gospel of life”? “Life is one of the key words in John’s gospel. It is used at least thirty-six times; and the seven I AM statements all relate to John’s theme of spiritual life in Christ.”

Warren Wiersbe, *Jesus in the Present Tense: The I AM Statements of Christ* (p. 26).

In John 20:30-31, John tells us the purpose for his account:

*Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have **life** in his name.*

[Q] This purpose seems aimed at those who don’t believe. Why is John’s gospel important for believers also?

## I. Jesus is the Word. Read John 1:1-3, 14.

*ESV Study Bible:* The term “the Word” (Gk. *logos*) conveys the notion of divine self-expression or speech and has a rich OT background. God’s Word is effective: God speaks, and things come into being (Gen. 1:3, 9; Ps. 33:6; 107:20; Isa. 55:10–11), and by speech he relates personally to his people (e.g., Gen. 15:1). John also shows how this concept of “the Word” is superior to a Greek philosophical concept of “Word” (*logos*) as an impersonal principle of Reason that gave order to the universe.

[Q] From the following verses, note what you know about Jesus. What is your response to each?

v. 1

v. 2

v. 3

v. 14

[Q] Why is it important to understand that Jesus is 100% human and 100% God?

**II. Jesus is the Light. Read John 1:4-5, 9-11.**

[Q] What does John say about Jesus in verses 4 and 5 that he didn't say in the first three verses?

[Q] What connection do you see between John 1:1-5 and Genesis 1:1-5?

[Q] Read John 8:12; 1 John 1:5-6. Explain what it means to walk in the light.

[Q] Read Psalm 27:1. In what ways is Jesus *your* light?

**III. Jesus, the Only Son of God, the only way. Read John 1:12-18.**

[Q] What does it take to receive Jesus, according to v. 12-13?

[Q] What have we received according to 1:16? If you have more than one translation of the Bible available, look up this verse in at least two versions.

[Q] What do you learn about how to know God in 1:18?

[Q] How have you seen people searching for God in other ways?

**BLESS:**

Begin with prayer. *Lord, who can I BLESS this week?*

---

---

---

---

---