

## WEEK ONE

**READ** John 1-4

### DISCUSS

1. What was John the Baptist's role in the arrival of Jesus? How might our role be similar in our world?
2. What are some ways that our lives can "point to Jesus" (John 1:15)?
3. Chapter 2 details the story of the first miracle. Discuss this event and the impact it may have had on:
  1. Mary
  2. The disciples
  3. The onlookers.
4. Chapter 2:13-17 tells the story of Jesus upending the temple merchants' tables. Discuss the role of anger in the ministry of Jesus. Are there other examples of Jesus being angry in the gospels? In the lives of believers, is anger ever okay?
5. Chapter 4 is the beautiful story of the woman at the well. Read the story again and discuss what stands out to you in this encounter between the Messiah and a rejected woman.

### GROUP EXPERIENCE

**BREAD** | This week at Westside, we talked about how Jesus is the bread of life, which means we can always be certain of the source of our sustenance. As you take communion together (use any grape juice/wine and bread), let each person say one way that Jesus has filled a hunger or a need.

## WEEK TWO

**READ** John 5-7

### DISCUSS

1. Several times in chapter 5 (and throughout the rest of the gospels) Jesus states that He cannot do anything unless He sees His Father do it. Why do you think this point is so significant that it is worth repeating so often?
2. Read John 6:5-6. Why do you think Jesus did this? What impact do you feel it may have had on Philip and on the rest of the disciples?
3. In John 6:39-40, Jesus sums up His mission, the reason He has come to earth. What is it? How do you see this mission at work in your life today?
4. John 7:5 tells us that even Jesus' own brothers didn't believe him. What does this tell us about the way Jesus lived in His world?
5. What does John 7:30-31 tell you about the sovereignty of the plan of God for Jesus' life? What does it tell you about His plan for your life?

### GROUP EXPERIENCE

**LIGHT** | Jesus is the light of the world. Light candles in your group, while each person says something they need for this week.



## WEEK THREE

**READ** John 8-10

### DISCUSS

1. What does Jesus promise His listeners in John 8:31-32?
2. What is their response and what does their response indicate?
3. In John 9:24-25, how does the blind man respond to the Pharisee's question about whether or not Jesus is God? What does this mean to you?
4. In John 10:10, what does Jesus say is the intention of the thief? How have you seen this play out in your own life?
5. In the same conversation, what does Jesus say is His intention for our lives?

### GROUP EXPERIENCE

WAY, TRUTH + LIFE | Use a whiteboard or notebook and write down every word your group can think of to describe the ways of Jesus (Ex: Good, true, steadfast, kind, etc).

## WEEK FOUR

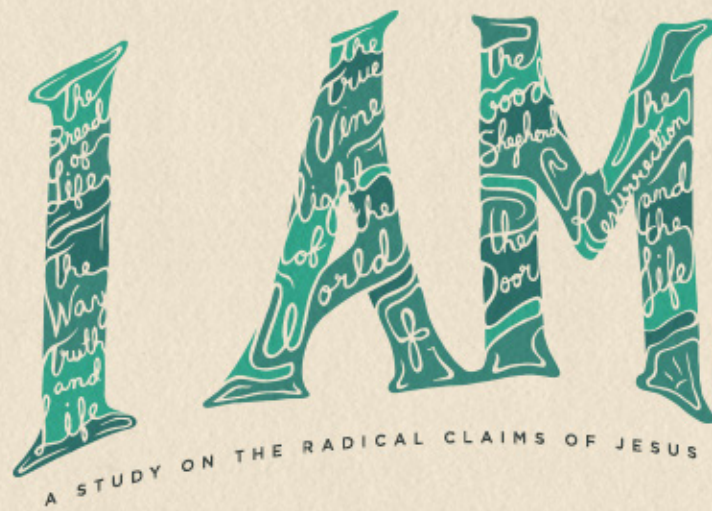
**READ** John 11-14

### DISCUSS

1. In the story of Mary, Martha & Lazarus, Jesus knew he was going to raise Lazarus from the dead (11:11) so why do you suppose He kept that information from Mary and Martha, when they were obviously so distraught about their brother?
2. In John 11:35 is the shortest verse in the Bible, but it conveys a great deal. Discuss how you feel about Jesus expressing emotions - what does it tell us about Him and about our own emotions?
3. Read John 12:24 - 25. What does this passage mean to you?
4. In John 12:46, Jesus says that anyone who believes in Him will no longer have to live "in the dark". What do you think He means by this?
5. Jesus washes the disciples' feet in John 13 and tells them, "What I've done, you do. I've laid down a pattern for you." How does it look in our current culture, to serve the people around us?

### GROUP EXPERIENCE

TRUE VINE | Take a seed of any kind, place it in the center of the group and discuss the best ways for that seed to become a tree and that tree to bear fruit. What would it need? What would cause it to die? What is the potential if it grows and flourishes?



## WEEK FIVE

**READ** John 15-18

### DISCUSS

1. What do you believe it looks like to be a fruitful follower of Jesus?
2. What should we do to “remain in Him”?
3. John 16:7 says, “But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.” What do you think this means?
4. Read John 17:14-18. What does Jesus say about the believer’s relationship to the world? Discuss what this means to you.
5. In John 18:37, Jesus gives Pilate the reason He came to our world. What is it? Describe some ways that Jesus testified to truth.

### GROUP EXPERIENCE

DOOR | Discuss what life would be like if we had no doors and fences had no gates.

## WEEK SIX

**READ** John 19-21

### DISCUSS

1. In the story of the crucifixion, John points out the ways that Jesus’ death fulfilled prophecy. Why was it important to John to do this?
2. John 19:39 gives us the return of Nicodemus from John 3. He originally came to Jesus at night, but now he comes in the light of day. Discuss what may have taken place in Nicodemus between John 3 and John 19. Have you ever had an experience that turned your doubting to faith?
3. What are the first words of Jesus to His disciples after His resurrection (John 20:20)? Why are these words significant?
4. John 21:7-9 tells the story of an exuberant Peter, who had denied him days before, diving into the water to get to Jesus while the rest of the disciples came in the boat. What does this tell you about Peter’s post-resurrection relationship with Jesus?
5. The very last verse of John’s gospel says that all the books in all the world could not contain all the stories of Jesus’ greatness. Take turns telling a story of His greatness in your life.

### GROUP EXPERIENCE

GOOD SHEPHERD | Read Psalm 23 aloud and discuss the benefits in our lives when we are led by a good shepherd.