

## Questions and Exercises – Day 1

### 1. Overview

1. Read John 1:1-1:18, and 20:30-31, which serve as ‘bookends’ to the main part of the Gospel. What in these passages strike you as important words, concepts or verses that may guide your understanding of the whole Gospel?
2. The Gospel of John is probably the best loved and most quoted of all of the books in the scriptures. What verses in the book have had the most significance for you personally?
3. Is the Gospel of John more of an apologetic or a prophetic book, that is, does it principally teach and explain who Jesus is or is it a call to make a response? Are there particular verses that point in one direction or the other?

### 2. John 1-2: The Word Made Flesh

4. Compare Colossians 1:15-19 with John 1:1-18. What do we learn about John's Christology from this comparison?
5. Is it legitimate to apply what we learn about John the Baptist's ministry to current moves of God? Is repentance necessary before we see God move in exceptional power as seemed to be the case in Jesus' incarnation and ministry. (More controversially - What does the behaviour of Andrew say about denominational loyalties?) How else might this teaching apply to us today?

### 3. John 3-4: Love of God

6. What impact do you think this first miraculous sign (water into wine) had upon the disciples? What significance does this transformation of water into wine have for the rest of Jesus' ministry?

7. **Laying aside for the moment any of the popular notions associated with the phrase 'born again', and assuming only a knowledge of Jesus' words here in chapter 3 verses 1-8, what does Jesus' statement 'You must be born again' suggest about man's need and the way of salvation?**
8. **When Jesus directly reveals to the Samaritan woman that he is the Messiah, he freely gives to her the saving knowledge that he conceals elsewhere. What does Jesus' compassion for this woman reveal about the heart of God?**

#### **4. John 5-6: Four Signs**

9. **In these chapters, Jesus has to contend with a very hard-hearted audience. They were people with fixed agendas. Even when miracles were performed, the reaction of the people was argumentative, grumbling and analytical. To what degree can we assume that signs and wonders actually bring about faith in Jesus?**
10. **Jesus said he only did what he saw the Father doing. What does this mean for us?**
11. **Out of the four signs that are described here, which of them speaks most strongly to you and why?**

#### **5. John 7-9: 'I AM'**

12. **What is John trying to say about Jesus across these three chapters (7-9)?**
13. **Did Jesus lie about going up to the feast?**
14. **What did the Pharisees find difficult about Jesus' teaching in these chapters (7-9)? Do you find this difficult?**