



John's gospel Bible studies

Structure of the studies

These studies are designed for a mixed group of Christians and seekers. Be aware that you may have to pause sometimes to re-explain the gospel.

There are a lot of questions in each study, but you will notice that several of them are simple comprehension questions and should not take more than a couple of minutes. I recommend that you do the study yourself before running it with prisoners, so that you can see which questions are likely to take up more time, and have a good understanding of the answers, and where the study is going.

Each study is designed to last for about 90 minutes. If you only have an hour, just do the starred * questions.

Each study is written out twice, once for leaders (*with a guide to answers*) and once for participants.

What does the passage say and mean?

Please don't be put off by the number of questions in a study! These studies contain some comprehension questions – it is important that we understand what the passage literally says. These questions can be taken fairly quickly. Try not to go too deep with them - they just aim to set the background. There are also some deeper questions to help the group to think, and unpack the meaning of the passage. There are some interactive questions, to keep people who have short attention spans engaged:

SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING – SDL – 3 questions that need to be prepared. Let the group work on these in pairs. When they are finished, go through the answers as a group with a leader co-ordinating the discussion.

STICKERS – Write the question on the top of a flip-chart. Give the group stickers or post-it's and ask them to write the answer to the question on their sticker. Ask them to stick their stickers on the flip-chart. When they are finished, the leader reads out the answers, and then explains the right answer to the group.

SHOUT-OUT – these questions are designed to be asked of the whole group and their answers written on a flip-chart. This method of teaching tends to encourage people to give more answers than they would in a simple group discussion.

?

Application questions

These questions are designed to help the group apply the Bible's teaching to their own lives.

Bibliography

Barker et al (1987): *New International Version Study Bible*, London: Hodder and Stoughton

Carson D A (2006) *PNTC The Gospel According to John*, Nottingham: Apollos

Kruse C G (2003) *Tyndale New Testament Commentaries, Volume 4, John*, Nottingham: Inter Varsity Press

Moody J (2017) *John 1-12 For You*, The Good Book Company

Moody J (2020) *John 13-21 For You*, The Good Book Company