

John

Icebergs come in all different shapes and sizes—North Atlantic icebergs are usually peaked and irregular in shape; Antarctic icebergs are tabular, with flat tops and steep sides. But they all share a common trait: only about one-ninth of the total mass projects above the surface of the water. That means that the **majority** of the iceberg is underneath—hidden from view.

After spending several months meditating and writing study questions from this gospel account we have come to believe that most people “see” Jesus in the same way they would see an iceberg—breathtaking on the surface. There are so many things about Jesus’ life that just stick out. Those unusual impressive attributes that make up the Christ jump out at us as we read any of the gospel accounts of Matthew, Mark, Luke or John. But yet, that familiar, first glance view distracts us from seeing what lies below the surface.

The book of John in so many ways is like the tip of the iceberg: visible enough for one to realize that what lies below the surface is immense and powerful, yet out of plain sight. John’s gospel account states that the world isn’t big enough to completely explain Jesus—His works, His power, His glory. There is so much more to Jesus than meets the eye. This is the only gospel account that records Jesus’ seven “I am” statements (John 6:35; 9:5; 10:7; 10:11; 11:25; 14:6; 15:3); the only gospel that places Jesus with GOD before creation; the only gospel account that shows such a wide range of people (Nicodemus, the woman at the well, Lazarus, the blind man, etc.) trying to determine who Jesus is. From the beginning to the end, the gospel account of John declares the deity of Jesus—THE SON OF GOD—the grand picture beneath the surface. We invite you...no , we challenge you to think about Jesus in ways you never have before. Open your eyes, open your heart and open your mind and be prepared to stand in amazement at the story of the “one and only begotten Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

Like all other ILLUMINATION studies, this workbook is written from the New International Version. You should be able to answer all the questions by either examining the text or examining your life. Please be sure to pray before you begin each lesson.

We have grown so much in our understanding of Jesus as we have worked on this study guide. We pray the same blessing for you as you examine and meditate and think about Jesus in this gospel account written by the disciple that He loved.

Connie Barker and Karla Taylor

Section I. Read John 1:1-5.

1. a. Summarize what these scriptures, Genesis 1:1; Psalm 90:1-2; and Revelation 1:8, plus today's section state about the existence of GOD.

b. List some things that 1:1-5 tells you about the Word.
2. a. Who is the Word (John 1:14; Hebrews 1:1-3)? _____
b. What does the name, Word, tell you about Him?
3. What is the darkness that did not understand the light?

Section II. Read John 1:6-13.

4. a. Give some reasons why the world should have recognized the Word, but didn't.

b. Do we, like the people of the first century, still have recognition struggles? How?
5. a. Think about our court process. What is the role of a witness?

b. What qualified John the Baptist to be Jesus' witness (Luke 1)?
6. Read John 1:12-13 out of two other Bible versions. Distinguish the difference between being "born of GOD" and "being born of natural descent, human decision or a husband's will."

Section III. Read John 1:14-18.

7. a. What was GOD's glory like in times past?
Exodus 24:16-17 _____
Exodus 33:18-23 _____
Psalm 19:1 _____

b. How has the appearance of that glory changed and what does it look like now?

8. a. What do we receive from each gift?

Law	Romans 3:20, 4:14-15; Galatians 3:24; Hebrews 10:1	
Grace	Acts 20:32; Romans 5:20-21; Ephesians 2:5	
Truth	John 3:21; Colossians 1:4-6; Titus 1:1	

b. How are the gifts from Jesus (grace and truth) different from those given by Moses (the Law)?

Section IV. Read John 1:19-34.

9. a. Find phrases in both Luke 1 and John 1 that paint a picture of the relationship John had with GOD.

b. Describe that relationship in your own words.

10. a. What was John's main purpose (John 1:23)?

b. Pick **one** of the following to answer:

- How have you fulfilled that same purpose for someone?

- How has someone fulfilled it for you?

11. Complete the chart using the scriptures on the left.

	Statements made about Jesus	What does that say about HIM?
John 1:29		
John 1:29		
John 1:30		

Section V. Read John 1:35-51.

12.a. Whose disciple was Andrew? How and why did Andrew convince his brother to come to see Jesus?

b. Who had the more important role: John or Andrew? Explain.

13.a. If someone introduced a new product or lifestyle to you, what would it take for you to try it?

b. Now how could those observations help you introduce someone to Jesus?

14.a. Looking only in this chapter (John I), list the words or phrases that describe Jesus.

b. Which one of those descriptions draws you to Him? Why?

15.a. Starting with verse 35, four men were introduced to Jesus. Who were they and what were their reactions?

Man's Name	His Reaction to Jesus

b. Where did that leave John?

c. Where did that leave Jesus?



This week as you encounter darkness ask JESUS to be your light.