

# John's Writings

## Syllabus

Redeemer School of Ministry  
Spring 2016  
Mike Webster, Instructor

### Course Objectives:

1. Develop awareness of the relational emphasis of John and his work.
2. Instill a love for John's Writings.
3. Become familiar with the structures, lessons and themes of John's Writings.
4. Prepare students for further study, especially for teaching and preaching out of John's Writings.
5. Acquaint students with essential details of each of the books written by John including issues, themes and outlines.
6. Establish a forum for questions relevant to the material covered in class.

### Course Contents:

1. Introduce John as a person and an author of Scripture under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
2. Introductory materials to each book that John wrote.
3. Study of the themes and key emphases in each passage of John's Writings.
4. Devotional and ministerial application of the material.

### Course Requirements:

#### 1. Preparation for and attendance at classes.

Biblical sections for each class are to be read prior to class. More than two absences may result in failure. Please keep the instructor informed of illness or other issues affecting your participation.

#### 2. Bible reading and study notes.

Students will read the entire Gospel of John and make notes as each chapter is finished. Using the class handout on Reading – Study Notes as a guide, the student will make observations on the passages. Special attention will be given to the believers' relationship to the Father as exemplified and taught by Jesus and empowered by the Holy Spirit. Finally, application will be drawn from this passage that is relevant for living the Christian life and ministry today.

Record observations, questions, definitions, notes, insights, and conclusions as you work through the readings. Follow this reading plan, and bring your notes to class each week for review.

<b>2/8/16</b>	John chapters 1 through 2
<b>2/22/16</b>	John chapters 3 through 5
<b>3/7/16</b>	John chapters 6 through 10
<b>3/21/16</b>	John chapters 11 through 16
<b>4/4/16</b>	John chapters 17 through 21

**3. A character study of an individual found in John's Writings.**

Select one person from your reading of John's Writings. Then, using the class handout material, study this person. You may do a character sketch, a life principle, personal contributions, life experiences, theological significance or some type of combined study. Apply your findings to Christian living and ministry today. This is due during the class period on 2/29/16. Late papers will receive a penalty of one letter grade deduction for each class period they are tardy.

**4. Bible study related to God as Father.**

Students will first identify all of the relevant passages related to God as Father in the Gospel of John. Students will select passages for further study. Then, the student will make observations on these passages. These observations will be questioned, defined, refined, and interpreted. Finally, application will be drawn from this study that is relevant for living the Christian life today. Record observations, questions, definitions, notes from other sources, insights, and conclusions as you work through the process. This is due during the class period on 3/21/16. Late papers will receive a penalty of one letter grade deduction for each class period they are tardy.

**5. A lesson outline from First John.**

This work will be based on a study of John's letter, First John. As you read and interact with this book, look for passages and themes that would be helpful in the ministry to others today. Then focus on one theme or passage to present as a lesson, sermon, teaching, training, small group study, or the like.

Prepare a report from your discoveries. Make an outline that could be used as a lesson plan, sermon notes, teaching guide, discussion guide, or the like. This is due during the class period on 4/11/16. Late papers will receive a penalty for each class period they are tardy.

**6. A final examination.**

This is a comprehensive test on the material covered in class. The test will be given 5/2/16.

## **7. Class participation.**

### **Course Grading:**

Final course grades will be determined by approximately 25% weight for each of course requirements 3 through 6 with plus and minus adjustments for class participation.

### **Course Text:**

The Bible – a readable version.

### **Extra Credit:**

For extra credit, compensation for a low grade, or for people who already have deep interaction with systematic Bible study, you can complete this assignment. Do a complete inductive Bible study, similar to assignment number 4, on one of the “I am” passages from the Gospel of John.

### **Classroom Decorum:**

We will be completing a three-unit college-level course together this semester. Because it has been structured to accommodate busy adult learners, we will need focus and cooperation for this to be successful. Plan to arrive on time because class will begin promptly. Avoid private discussion during class time. Be prepared for material to be given at a rapid pace. Take personal responsibility to receive any materials handed out during class. Hand in assignments promptly when required. Be sure you are seated where you can clearly see all projected material (class lecture ideas and videos will be used). Wait for appropriate discussion points to raise questions and concerns. Be considerate of your fellow students.

### **Contacting the Instructor:**

Your interaction is invited. Often just before class and just after class are not appropriate occasions for time with the instructor. You can set up an appointment during office hours if you need extended discussion. Please feel free to call or visit.

Phone: 382-2416

Email: [mike@spirit-word.com](mailto:mike@spirit-word.com)

Internet: [spirit-word.com](http://spirit-word.com)

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## Tentative Class Schedule

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Class Topic</b>	<b>Assignment Due</b>
<b>1</b>	1/25/16	Syllabus, Introduction	Registration; Plan Semester *
<b>2</b>	2/1/16	John 1; Christology	Reading
<b>3</b>	2/8/16	John 1, 2; Signs	Reading
<b>4</b>	2/15/16	John 3, 4; Gospel	Reading
<b>5</b>	2/22/16	John 4, 5; Worship	Reading
<b>6</b>	2/29/16	John 6, 7; Feasts	Reading; Character Study *
<b>7</b>	3/7/16	John 8-10; Portraits of Jesus	Reading
<b>8</b>	3/14/16	John 11-13; Humility, Judas	Reading
<b>9</b>	3/21/16	John 14-16; Two Advocates	Reading; Father Study *
<b>10</b>	3/28/16	John 17-20; Great Commission	Reading
<b>11</b>	4/4/16	John 21; Believing	Reading
<b>12</b>	4/11/16	I John; Walk in the Light	Reading; I John Study *
<b>13</b>	4/18/16	II and III John; Servant Leader	Reading
<b>14</b>	4/25/16	Revelation; Jesus is Lord	Review
<b>15</b>	5/2/16	Final Exam	Final Exam *

**\* Major assignment due.**