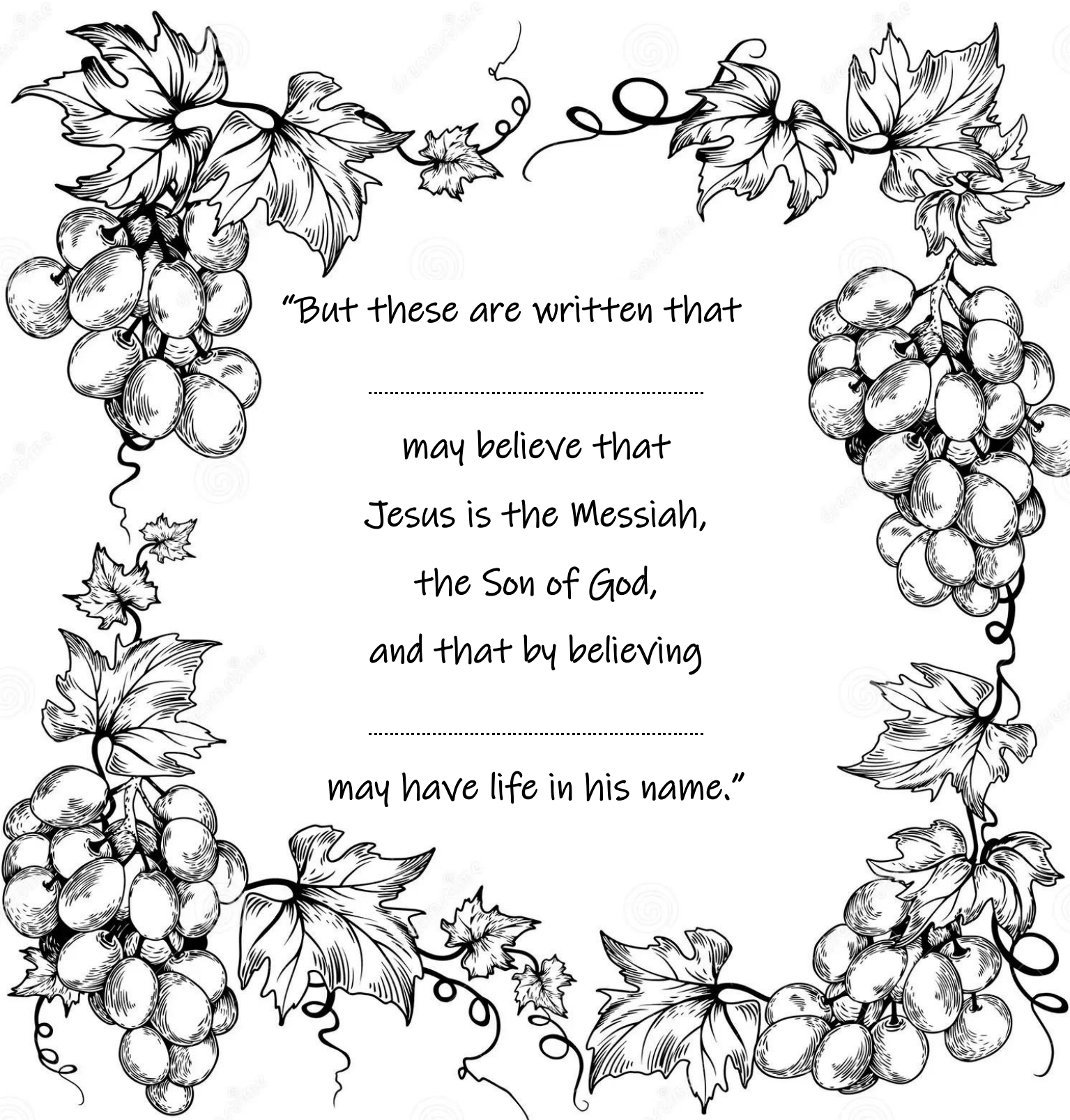




"But these are written that

may believe that
Jesus is the Messiah,
the Son of God,
and that by believing

may have life in his name."

Teach Me to Abide

A Journal for _____'s Time in John

THEMES

Look for these themes in each chapter of John

Creator: Where do you see God (Father, Son and Spirit) creating something brand new, never before seen? (Hint: look for "life" and words from Genesis 1 and 2.)

Passover: a celebration of God liberating his people from slavery. (Hint: look for words used in Exodus.)

Temple: the place on earth where God is present with his people. It's where heaven (God's presence) intersects with earth.

Being One/United/Close: What word pictures does Jesus use to explain what he means by that?

Accept or Reject: What do you notice about those who accept (or believe in) Jesus and about those who reject (or refuse to believe in) Jesus? List those who come to Him. Anything surprising?

Testimony/Witness/Signs: What evidence in this chapter tells us who Jesus is or why he came to dwell among us? "But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name."

Love = covenant loyalty. What does Jesus say about those who follow him (disciples) in this chapter?

Teen Bible Study

John Intro and 1:1-18

I hope as we read John, you are seeing it in your mind like a movie. Ask Jesus to help you not just read it, but to experience it.

What we are reading is John's eyewitness testimony about Jesus which he finally wrote down...or perhaps one of his assistants/students wrote down for him when he got older (he was just an uneducated fisherman after all.) Either way, these are his words, inspired by the Holy Spirit who dwelt in him, just as Jesus had promised.

John and the other apostles have shared their stories over and over, and anyone traveling with them has those stories memorized word for word. The years have passed, and John has experienced the things we read about in Acts. John and Peter healed a crippled man at a temple gate and watched him joyfully jump around. John also knew what it was to have the Holy Spirit give them joy and perseverance in the face of persecution. One of John's most famous quotes was spoken to the Sanhedrin who ordered him and Peter to stop preaching and teaching in Jesus' name. They replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you or to God. As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

And John couldn't help speaking about Jesus for the rest of his life. He told more than just the stories of Jesus during those 3 years John walked in the dust of his rabbi. He tells why those things happened. And he told why he was still able years later, with all kinds of persecution happening, to still follow Jesus. After being filled with the Holy Spirit, after experiencing "being in Jesus and Jesus being in him," he can't wait to share how eternal, abundant LIFE in Jesus began. John wants everyone to experience this Life (which isn't a thing, but a person.)

John creates new, never before thought of vocabulary to describe what it is to be a part of this new creation. Look for all the different ways John describes being one with Jesus.

John had SO many memories of SO many signs Jesus performed. In John 20:30-31, the music has swelled into a triumphant fanfare more victorious than any we've heard, the readers are celebrating Jesus' triumph over the grave with huge smiles on our faces, knowing everything is finally as it should be. And John hits pause to whisper to us, his readers: "these things are written that _____ may _____ that _____ is the _____, the _____ of _____, and that by _____ may have _____ in _____."

He has arranged every story and chosen every word for this reason. I have made a poster of this for you, so you can keep it somewhere to remind you. Instead of "you", write your name

in the blanks. Color it if you want. Make it so it catches your eye. John didn't know we'd be reading this 2000 years later, but Jesus did. This gospel was written for you.

Look at the second reason: "and that by believing you may have life in his name." Jesus, teach us what you mean by this "life". You say in John that it is eternal and abundant and is lived by remaining in your love, remaining in your word, remaining in you. Amazing! But what does that mean? We want to learn and to experience life in you and you in us.

Read John 1:1-18

This is such an epic opening! The Holy Spirit inspires John to start this gospel by throwing back the curtain to God's throne room and letting us (who are of the earth) see from God's perspective.

Why does John begin his gospel with those first 3 words?

Why is "the Word" written that way?

What is John saying about God and the Word 1:1-2? Can you put it in your own words?

There are 2 Old Testament stories John uses in these first 18 verses to show who Jesus is and what he is accomplishing. Can you find them?

John talks about testimony and witnesses a lot. Do you remember why?

Who is the first witness? Why do you think he is mentioned in this big, grand opening?

John 1:1-18

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 1:19-51

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 2

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 3

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 4

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 5

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 6

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 7

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 8

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 9

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 10

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 11

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 12

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 13

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 14

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 15

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 16

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 17

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 18

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 19

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 20

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions:

John 21

Creator:

Passover:

Temple:

Being one:

Those Who Accept Jesus	Those Who Reject Jesus

Testimony/Sign:

Love (Covenant Loyalty):

Other Observations or Questions: