



# DBR

WITH THE EDGE

## **May 7 – John 1:1-28**

*Re-read 1:1-3*

John begins his gospel by talking about “the Word.” This Word is obviously a person, so who is it?

Why do you think he is called the Word?

How does that change the way you are supposed to “listen” to him?

## **May 8 – John 1:29-51**

*Re-read 1:29*

John the Baptist says something pretty amazing as he sees Jesus walking towards him. He calls Jesus, “the Lamb of God.” Why does he call him that? (What were lambs used for in the Old Testament?)

Why is this important for us?

## **May 9 – John 2**

*Re-read 2:17*

After Jesus goes into the temple and drives the money-changers out, John makes sure to add that the disciples remembered something. They remembered something written in the Old Testament that was about Jesus. The whole Bible is really important! Do you treat it as important?

How can you deepen your study of God’s word?

## **May 10 – John 3:1-21**

*Re-read 3:19*

Jesus has just delivered perhaps the most famous verse in all of the Bible, verse 16, that speaks of the eternal life offered in the life of Jesus Christ. But in verse 19, it gives the other side of things. God will judge people for their sin, and Jesus says something about that here. He says that people loved the darkness (their sin) rather than the light (righteousness). How can you see this to be true in the world?

What about in your own heart?

## **May 11 – John 3:22-36**

*Re-read 3:36*

Everyone is required to believe and obey. Real life is promised to everyone who believes in Jesus, and anything less than that life, is not the best. How exciting is it that Jesus promises the *best life imaginable* for people who believe and obey him?

## **May 12 – John 4:1-30**

*Re-read 4:13*

This woman is promised something that seems impossible. Jesus says that he is able to give her “living water” that will allow her never to thirst again! He is promising to completely satisfy her in himself! He gives us the same opportunity today. What does it mean to be never be thirsty again (according to this passage)?

How does Jesus do this for us?

## **May 13 – John 4:31-54**

*Re-read 4:34*

As the disciples present food to Jesus, he replies with another odd statement. He says that his food is to do the will of the one who sent him (God the Father). This means that Jesus' motivation was to serve God completely! Can you truly say that doing what God commands you is like food to your body?

Do you have that kind of desire to obey God?

If not, what can you do today to get that kind of desire?

## **May 14 – John 5:1-24**

*Re-read 5:18*

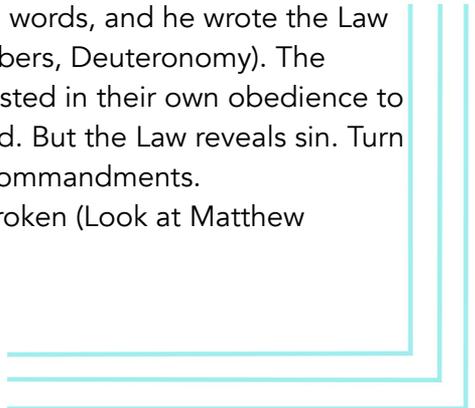
Jesus is not just a good teacher, a smart guy, a loving leader; Jesus is God. He is equal in power, glory, and majesty with God the Father (although they perform different jobs). How does this affect your thoughts about this life on earth?

## **May 15 – John 5:25-47**

*Re-read 5:45*

It is clear that Jesus knows what these people trust. He knows that they do not trust in him for righteousness, but in themselves. God gave Moses the words, and he wrote the Law (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy). The people Jesus was speaking to trusted in their own obedience to that law to be "good" before God. But the Law reveals sin. Turn to Exodus 20 and read the Ten Commandments.

Write down the one's you have broken (Look at Matthew 5:21-22, 27-28).



## **May 16 – John 6:1-21**

*Re-read 6:9*

Throughout the Bible and the history of the church, God has done amazing things with only a little bit to start with. In the story of Jesus feeding five thousand, we rarely think about the boy with the loaves and fish, and perhaps this is good as we point the attention on Jesus, where it belongs. But, this boy had to give what he had to Jesus, and he received much more. Jesus wants you to offer whatever you have in service to him (your time, skills, work, money, etc.).

What can you offer him today that will help his purposes?

## **May 17 – John 6:22-44**

*Re-read 6:35*

This is the next statement Jesus makes about himself, giving him a new title. Jesus says he is the “bread of life,” and he will satisfy all who come to him. What are some things that we all really want, but never really are able to get completely apart from in Christ? (happiness, joy, peace, love)

What do you desire the most?

And how can you be satisfied in Jesus?

## **May 18 – John 6:45-71**

*Re-read 6:53-55*

This can be a little bit confusing. Just a warning: please don't eat Jesus. He just described himself as the “bread of life” and just as bread sustains your physical life, so Jesus provides and sustains spiritual life and eternal life in heaven. But every person truly needs to trust in him to receive all those benefits. What does it mean to truly trust in Jesus?

## **May 19 – John 7:1-31**

*Re-read 7:18*

This statement is true both of Jesus and all those who speak for God's words today! When you speak to others about God, whose authority do you speak on behalf of?

What kind of words do you use?

If you are speaking on behalf of God, use his words! (the Bible)

## **May 20 – John 7:32-53**

*Re-read 7:43*

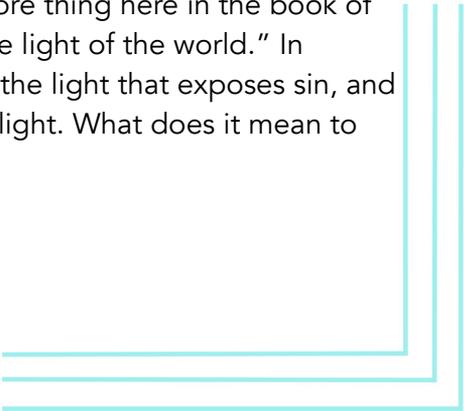
There is a lot that has been said so far in the Gospel of John about the people's opinion of Jesus. In today's world, there are millions of people with millions of different opinions of who Jesus is. How you defend the truth of who Jesus is?

Where will you turn for the information you need about him?

## **May 21 – John 8:1-20**

*Re-read 8:12*

Jesus describes himself as one more thing here in the book of John. He describes himself as "the light of the world." In chapter 1, John said that Jesus is the light that exposes sin, and people love darkness rather than light. What does it mean to have the "light of Jesus?"



## **May 22 – John 8:21-36**

*Re-read 8:31-32*

It is clear, Jesus wants his followers to listen to his words. He wants them to read/hear and do what he says. How are you doing at getting in his word everyday?

Even more than that, how are doing at thinking about his words throughout the day, and are you doing them?

## **May 23 – John 8:37-59**

*Re-read 8:58-59*

In this chapter, Jesus made the people so mad that they wanted to kill him. Why? Because he claimed to be God, and he claimed that the people were slaves to something, and that he could set them free. The only way we can praise Jesus, is if all these things are really true! What does it mean for you that Jesus is really God?

How does it change the way you feel about doing what he says?

## **May 24 – John 9:1-23**

*Re-read 9:2-3*

The people assumed that this blind man (or one of his family members) had sinned, and therefore he was blind. They asked Jesus what the sin was, and he told them that it wasn't because of a certain sin. He said the purpose of this terrible ailment was to show people the glory of God. Some bad things happen that we don't understand, but we are called to trust God through it. What are some bad things you have seen in your life, or in the lives of others, that you think God is doing to bring glory to himself?

## **May 25 – John 9:24-41**

*Re-read 9:41*

Jesus establishes the guilt of the people because they themselves claim that they are not blind to their sin. If they were blind to the fact that they sinned, then they could be freed by Christ. How do people act when they are blind to their sin?

How do they view the Bible's rules?

## **May 26 – John 10:1-21**

*Re-read 10:11*

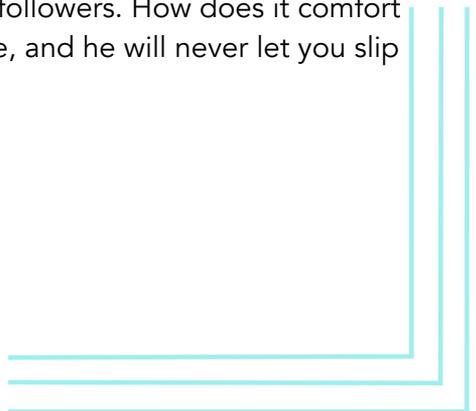
Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd. In the Old Testament, God himself is compared to the shepherd of the people. Jesus is the leader who lays down his own life for his people. How did he do this?

How should the sheep (you) follow such a shepherd?

## **May 27 – John 10:22-42**

*Re-read 10:28*

Once again, Jesus uses the sheep/shepherd analogy to describe his relationship with his followers. How does it comfort you to know that God is in charge, and he will never let you slip out of his hands?



## **May 28 – John 11:1-17**

*Re-read 11:4*

Jesus is again using seemingly bad situations for good. Lazarus was sick and ended up dying, but Jesus did something amazing, he brought him back to life! Jesus was to be glorified through this bad situation.

How can you glorify God in your bad situations?

## **May 29 – John 11:18-46**

*Re-read 11:33*

Many assume that Jesus was free from getting sad because he was God. Jesus was also human, and felt sad and happy and upset at times, just like us! He was tempted like we are tempted, he went through hard times like we do.

How does this change the way you think of his life and death?

## **May 30 – John 11:47-57**

*Re-read 11:57*

The chief priests and the leaders of Israel were going after Jesus. They wanted him arrested and done preaching. Soon after Jesus' death, they turned their hatred of him onto his disciples. Many were arrested and put in jail because they followed him. Now, we are the ones who are hated for being Christians.

Are you willing to be punished for following Jesus?

## **May 31 – John 12:1-19**

*Re-read 12:13*

People lined up to see Jesus and to praise him. While these people didn't have all the right motives, it should get us thinking: how eager are you to praise Jesus for all he has done?

How can you worship God better today?

## **June 1 – John 12:20-50**

*Re-read 12:25*

Jesus says that anyone who follows him ought to "hate" his own life in order to serve him. This doesn't mean that if you have a good life, you can't follow Jesus. It means that in comparison to how much you love God, your own love for living this life must be completely minimized. If you think honestly, what is the thing you love most?

Is this something you feel you couldn't live without?

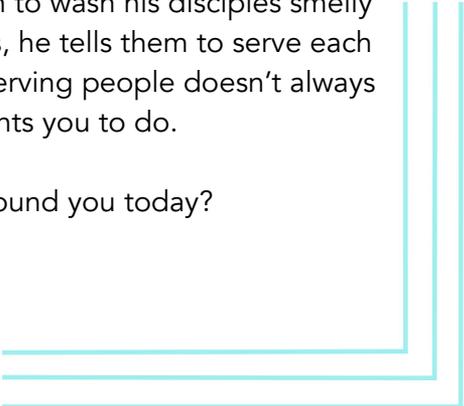
Is knowing God more valuable to you than those?

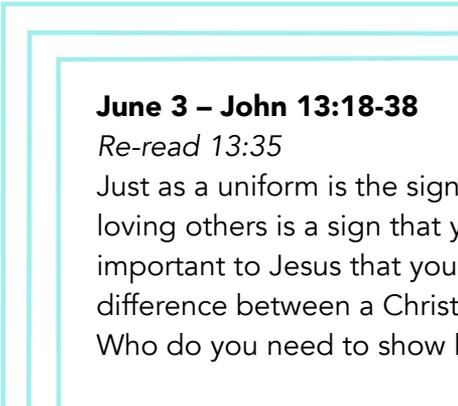
## **June 2 – John 13:1-17**

*Re-read 13:14*

Jesus is God. He is the Creator of the universe, yet he wrapped a towel around himself and began to wash his disciples smelly feet. As unpleasant as this sounds, he tells them to serve each other like this when he is gone. Serving people doesn't always feel good, but it is what Jesus wants you to do.

How can you serve the people around you today?





### **June 3 – John 13:18-38**

*Re-read 13:35*

Just as a uniform is the sign that you belong to a team, so loving others is a sign that you belong to Christ's team. It is so important to Jesus that you love others, that he says it is the difference between a Christian and a non-Christian lifestyle. Who do you need to show love to today?

Give the name of someone you have not loved as much as you should, and write down how you can show them love.

### **June 4 – John 14**

*Re-read 14:21*

This is the ultimate call to obedience. Jesus is saying that you cannot even say you love him if you don't obey him. But if you do, it is true that you do love him. It is clear to see who is living for God by observing the actions of a person.

What are some things you do that are disobedient?

### **June 5 – John 15**

*Re-read 15:12-13*

Jesus chose to lay down his life for every person he saves. He is the ultimate example of love. His love was sacrificial (giving of himself for others).

What can you do today that reflects his love?

## **June 6 – John 16:1-15**

*Re-read 16:3*

You are not promised an easy life on earth as a Christian. You are called to give up your life in service to Jesus, and if he requires it, your death.

Why is it worth it to live this way?

## **June 7 – John 16:16-33**

*Re-read 16:33*

In the midst of all the hardship that Christians are promised, there is hope. Jesus speaks over and over again to the fact that this world is not all there is. Here in verse 33, he promised that he himself has overcome the world. If we trust in him, we share in that victory!

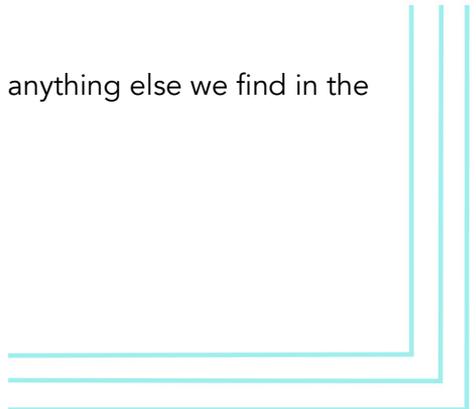
How does knowing this change the way you view hard times?

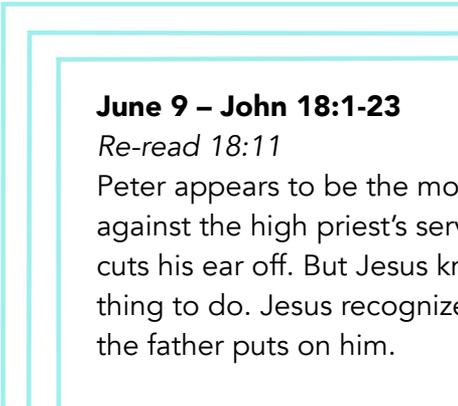
## **June 8 – John 17**

*Re-read 17:17*

Jesus is praying to the Father, and he is praying for his followers. He has given us the Bible to read and study, and he says it is truth. Why is it important that the words in the Bible are true?

How is that “truth” different from anything else we find in the world?





## **June 9 – John 18:1-23**

*Re-read 18:11*

Peter appears to be the most bold for Jesus as he takes action against the high priest's servant. Peter takes his sword, and cuts his ear off. But Jesus knows that fighting isn't the best thing to do. Jesus recognizes that he needs to bear whatever the father puts on him.

When have you ever had to accept what God was putting you through, even when you didn't want to?

## **June 10 – John 18:24-40**

*Re-read 18:36*

Jesus explains to us why he stopped Peter from fighting back. He says that his kingdom is not of this world. What does that mean?

And why is that important for your life everyday?

## **June 11 – John 19:1-22**

*Re-read 19:1-3*

It is amazing the kind of mockery Jesus endured as he was approaching the cross. Look up Hebrews 12:3.

What should you be enduring?

## **June 12 – John 19:23-42**

*Re-read 19:30*

These are the final words of Jesus on the cross. The words that are translated “it is finished” can also be translated, “paid in full.” What had Jesus paid in full?

And to whom had he paid it?

