

Good morning, Church. Daily Reading, John 2.

John 20:30-31 "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." (ESV)

Many of you might be asking why we have started reading the New Testament from John and not Matthew. Honestly, it is because primarily, Pastor Jeremy and I, along with Pastor Marcus and John, will be teaching from this Book for the next several months. I have heard how many encourage new believers to begin reading through the NT starting in John because it speaks of the love of God. In fact, John uses "love" 57 times in this gospel. And yet, this can be one of the more difficult books in scripture to understand.

This Book of the Bible also includes Jesus's first miracle. Illustrations on how to witness about Jesus. The seven great "I Am" passages are found here. Chapters 14-17 are one long teaching session taught by Jesus right between His last Passover meal and His arrest and subsequent trials, death, and resurrection.

John writes very differently than does Matthew, Mark, and Luke. These three Books are called the synoptic Gospels because much of their material is the same. But in John's gospel, almost 90% of his material is unique. Comparatively, John also has very few parables included.

The Apostle John is called "The Beloved Disciple," and he uses the most word metaphors, giving us many word-pictures to learn from Jesus.

Plan to be in worship and go on this fascinating journey through a very unique Book of the NT.