

## *Encountering Christ in the Gospel of John*

March 23-29 - Week 13, John 1-6

From NT Wright: *The Gospel of John has always been a favorite for many. At one level it is the simplest of all the gospels; at another level it is the most profound. It gives the appearance of being written by someone who was a very close friend of Jesus, and who spent the rest of his life mulling over, more and more deeply, what Jesus had done and said and achieved, praying it through from every angle, and helping others to understand it. Countless people down the centuries have found that, through reading this gospel, the figure of Jesus becomes real for them, full of warmth and light and promise.*

(John 1:1-18) These first 18 verses are known as a “Prologue”, where the entire upcoming Gospel account is captured in the first 18 verses. Based upon John’s Prologue, what do you anticipate to read about?

(John 1:1-18) John’s goal was to write a Gospel for everyone. Based upon these opening verses, which often repeated words which John used would have resonated with people throughout the Mediterranean?

(John 1:35-42) One disciple first asked Jesus, “Where are you staying?” If you could ask Jesus just one question, what would it be?

Jesus clearing the temple is chronologically in a very different place than the other Gospels. Does it matter that the chronology is sometimes different from one Gospel to the next? Do you think our understand of “time” is different today than it was back then?

(John 3:1-21) Most of you probably know John 3:16. Has reading it within the context of Jesus’ conversation with Nicodemus changed your understanding of this verse? If it has, how so?

(John 4:1-42) Why do you think Jesus constantly went out of His way to spend time with those that the rest of His society avoided? What person or groups of people (that our society says you should avoid) is your faith calling you to spend more time with?

How is “the Samaritan woman by the well” a positive example for us to follow?