



John 1:1–5, 14 (NIV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

About the Gospel of John

Who Wrote It?

The Gospel of John is officially anonymous. John’s name is written nowhere in the book, but the weight of church history and tradition is that John the Apostle, the brother of James, wrote it.

- ...the disciple whom Jesus loved... John 21:20 (NIV)
- This is the disciple who testifies to these many things and who wrote them down. John 21:24 (NIV)

When Was It Written?

Most scholars agree that it was written between 80–95 AD, toward the end of John’s life. It was also the last Gospel to be written.

Differences

Matthew, Mark & Luke’s Gospels	John’s Gospel
Focus on Kingdom of God (75x) What does it mean to live in it?	Focus on believing in Jesus Jesus reveals God to us He is the SOURCE of life
Jesus calls us to follow Him	Jesus calls us to believe in Him
Jesus is most often plain-spoken	Jesus uses multiple metaphors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am the Vine—you, branches • I am the light of the world • I am the bread of life

Who was John and where was he from?

1. From Capernaum on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee, as were James, Peter and Andrew
2. John was a fisherman, as were his brother James and business partners Peter and Andrew
See Matthew 4:18–22; Luke 5:1–11
3. “Sons of Thunder”—the nickname Jesus gave to John and James See Mark 3:17

Diving Into the Gospel of John

The beginning of the Gospel of John is called _____.
Here, John sets up the major themes that will follow.

The Overarching Theme of John's Gospel is

Jesus is _____ in the _____

Supporting the Theme, John Tells Us:

- 1. Jesus is _____.**
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. John 1:1 (NIV)
- 2. Jesus was present at _____.**
He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. John 1:2–3 (NIV)

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1:16–17 (NIV)
- 3. Jesus is the source of _____.**
In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. John 1:4–5 (NIV)
- 4. Jesus offers life to _____.**
He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. John 1:10–12 (NIV)
- 5. God became _____ in Jesus.**
The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 (NIV)

The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood... John 1:14 (MSG)