

“VOICE OF JOHN” SERIES

(Gospel of John, 1st John, 2nd John, 3rd John, Revelation)

JUST LIKE LIFE AND LOVE ITSELF, JESUS IS THE VERY BEGINNING AND ENDING OF YOUR INTENDED STORY

study #7:

Jesus Keeps Appearing

— covering **John chpts. 20-21** —

ACTION 1. Have you ever noticed there are 2 back-to-back “creation” stories in **Genesis chpts.1&2**, each with just a little different focus than the other? In much the same way, at the very end of this NT account of Jesus, **there are 2 back-to-back “resurrection” stories** in **John chpts.20&21**. Read **John chapter 20** and then discuss:

- re-describe the empty tomb story in your own words and what stands out as most interesting to you
- in this chapter, identify exactly *what/when/where* were Jesus’ first 2 appearances to his disciples
- describe the exact “process” of how the Holy Spirit got into the disciples & what role came with it
- do you think this chapter is *praising* or *scolding* (or what!?) the kind of “belief” that Thomas had?
- how does John the author seem to wrap up his whole account of Jesus in this chapter... how does he summarize it and describe its purpose in the first place?

ACTION 2. Up to this point, **the disciple John keeps getting described & compared alongside the disciple Peter**— usually with Peter seeming to be *quick & inconsistent*, and John seeming to be more *reliable & chill*. Also, John keeps getting called “the *beloved* disciple” or “the *other* disciple.” This final chapter seems to especially be written to benefit Peter’s reputation. Read **John chapter 21** and then discuss:

- re-tell what all happened in this chapter and what stands out as most interesting to you
- identify exactly what/when/where was Jesus’ 3rd appearance to his disciples
- what do you think Jesus’ goal was in repeatedly confronting Peter about “love-&-shepherding”?
- John the author knew that 2 different “communities of Christians” were going to read this account of Jesus (one that appreciated Peter most, the other that appreciated John the most). Knowing this, what debates or questions do you think the author meant to resolve for his readers by including **verses 20-23**?

EXTRA... FOR THOSE MOTIVATED, DEVOTED, & WITH SOME SELF-COMMAND:

GOLD CHALLENGE ...read ahead (& maybe journal about) for next study: **1st John**

PENGUIN CHALLENGE ... read **GC** + Torah-Law during series: **Exodus 20-40** (*Laws to Generate a Nation*)