

Welcome and Intros:

Leader: Some recommendations for your first gathering and for each subsequent gathering

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- WHAT kind of biblical writing is John?
 - Poetry/hymn (John 1: 1-18), Narrative, eye-witness (rest of John)
- WHY did John write?
 - "These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20: 31)
 - The word "believe" is used 98 times in the gospel of John—always as a verb! Belief is an action that leads to abundant, embodied, eternal life...
 - Wants his readers to understand Jesus AS God incarnate- "The deeds and works of Jesus are the deeds and works of God."
- WHEN was John written?
 - Usually dated between 70-130 CE
- HOW is John structured? 5 parts!
 - Part ONE (John 1): Introduction of Jesus
 - Part TWO (John 2-12): Miraculous signs
 - Part THREE (John 13-17): Night before Jesus trial/final words to disciples