

**MEET  
JESUS**

# Using Uncover John with Roman Catholic Friends

A series of passages and questions that might be particularly helpful for Roman Catholic friends to Meet Jesus through Uncover John.

**Evangelism Training Resource**

# Meeting Jesus in Uncover John

A series of six passages and studies

## Study 1 – Grace

Grace is a common word that can mean lots of different things, especially in religious settings.

### Read John 1:9-17

1. How would you define grace?
2. Circle all the times “grace” is used in this passage. What do you think the author John might mean by the word?
3. Who is this passage about?
4. Circle all the times “receive” is used in this passage. What is the relationship between “grace” and “receive”?
5. Jesus came to the Jewish people (v11) but they didn’t receive him. Who did receive Him? What happened when they did?
6. Receiving Jesus and receiving grace are very closely linked in this passage. The author John<sup>1</sup> is keen to show how not to receive Jesus and his grace in v 13 – what are they?
7. What is the way people can receive Jesus and his grace or favour?

*Other passages ... Ephesians 2:1-10, Galatians 2:20-21, Mark 2:1-12*

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<sup>1</sup> There are two John’s in this book. The author John who is chosen to be a disciple of Jesus, and John the Baptist, Jesus’ relative who tells people about Jesus before Jesus makes himself public.

## Study 2 – Sin

Last week we saw that Jesus shows us that God is full of grace and he shows his grace or favour towards people who don't inherit, earn or deserve it, just receive it. This week we will look at why it is so important to have God's favour.

### Read John 1.29-34

1. How is Jesus described in this passage?

The heart of sin is failing to recognise and receive Jesus. Re-read John 1:10-11.

2. In this passage that we looked at last time we were told that Jesus made us and made the world (v 10, also v 3). If that's true and we fail to recognise and receive Jesus, would it be reasonable for Jesus to judge us for that?

3. If Jesus is the source of all life (a claim made in v4) and we reject him, what would a fair judgement be?

4. Did John know who Jesus was (v31)?

5. How did John find out who Jesus was?

6. Why is it so important for Jesus, as the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world?

*The phrase "Lamb of God" comes from the Old Testament. It goes back well over 1000 years before Jesus to the time of Moses and the first Jewish Passover.*

*The Passover is very important to Jewish people because it reminds them of a time God came to judge people for their sins.*

*The Jewish people were told if they sacrificed a lamb and put some of the blood on their front door frame God would pass over their houses and not judge them for their sins.*

*The Jewish people that trusted God and did what Moses said escaped God's judgement.*

*You can read about this in Exodus 12*

# Study 3 – The Atonement

In our first meeting we saw that God shows his grace, his favour towards those who don't deserve and don't earn it, just receive it. Secondly, we saw that Sin at its heart is failing to recognise Jesus and we face God's judgement because of this. Not even John the Baptist recognised Jesus until God showed him. We all reject Jesus and are helpless to fix this. This week we will hear about the amazing way God is able to forgive sin.

## Read John 2:13-23

1. What Jewish festival is about to happen? From last week, what does this festival commemorate?
2. After Jesus died, his disciples remembered him saying "Zeal for your house will consume me". What house was Jesus referring to?
3. What sign does Jesus offer to show his authority? What is he referring to? What do those in the temple think he is referring to?
4. Remember this is all happening at the time of the Passover. We saw in our last passage that Jesus has just been declared by John to be "The Lamb of God who takes away the Sins of the world". Putting these things together, How does John show us how Jesus takes away our sin?
5. Is this Fair?
6. Is this Merciful?

*Other passages ... Romans 3:21-28, 1 John 4:7-11, Mark 15:1-38*

# Study 4 – Faith

In our first meeting we saw that God shows his favour towards those who don't deserve it and don't earn it, just receive it. Secondly, we saw that sin, at its heart, is failing to recognise Jesus and we face God's judgement because of this. Not even John the Baptist recognised Jesus until God showed him. We all reject Jesus and are helpless to fix this. Last week we saw the amazing way that God is able to forgive sins by Jesus pouring out his blood, dying on the cross as a sacrifice in our place (the Lamb of God), so that God could Passover some people's sins. This week we will see what people need to do to receive this forgiveness.

## Read John 3:9-21

1. In this passage Jesus is talking to Nicodemus, a Jewish Rabbi or teacher. What is the Rabbi struggling to believe?
2. What is Jesus referring to when he says "The son of Man must be lifted up". What must people have faith in or believe in to be saved from sin?
3. What is God's motivation for saving people
4. What happens when people believe (or have faith) that Jesus death on the cross has saved them from their sin?
5. Is there anything else people have to do to be saved from their sin?
6. If people's salvation depends on believing Jesus death pays for our sins completely can we be certain we are saved?
7. What happens if people don't believe that Jesus' death on the cross alone saves people from their sin?

*In the time of Moses, God taught the Jewish people about faith. When they were in the desert, if they were bitten by a snake, all they had to do was look at a bronze snake on a pole that Moses had been instructed to make and then they would be healed. This symbol of a bronze snake on a stick has become a universal symbol for doctors.*



Christianity, at its heart, is very simple. All that's required is believing Jesus is who he says he is and has done what he said he would. Sometimes this is called faith or trust.

*Other passages ... Mark 4:35-41, Mark 5:23-43, Mark 10:14-16, Romans 4:1-4, Romans 4:16-5.1, Ephesians 2:8-9, John 9.1-13, Hebrews 11:1-3*

# Study 5 – What are good works

In our first meeting we saw that God shows his favour towards those who don't deserve it and don't earn it, just receive it. Secondly, we saw that Sin at its heart is failing to recognise Jesus and we face God's judgement because of this. Not even John the Baptist recognised Jesus until God showed him. We all reject Jesus and are helpless to fix this. Then we saw the amazing way God is able to forgive sin by Jesus pouring out his blood as a sacrifice so that God could Passover some people's sins. Last week we saw that all people need to do to receive God's forgiveness and eternal life is to trust that Jesus' death on the cross saves them. This week we will see the right way to respond to God's salvation.

## Read John 6:25-59

Leading up to this passage, Jesus miraculously fed over 5000 people and then crossed Lake Galilee in northern Israel.

1. When Jesus arrives on the other side of the lake, many people are looking for him. Why does he tell us they are looking for him? What does Jesus tell them they should be working for?
2. What is the way people should do this work? (v29)
3. Who does Jesus say is the real bread from Heaven (v32-33)?
4. What problem does this cause for people (v41-42)?
5. Believing that Jesus has come from heaven is important for Jesus. What happens when people believe Jesus comes from heaven?
6. Jesus returns to the story of Manna in the desert to teach people what it means to believe in Jesus. He talks about people eating his flesh and drinking his blood like people ate Manna in the desert. What does he mean when he says, "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man<sup>i</sup> and drink his blood you have no life in you"?
7. What has this passage taught you about how to live as a Christian?

*People in this passage seem to struggle with what it means to believe in Jesus, so Jesus reminds them of an event that happened in the Old Testament.*

*When the Jewish people had left Egypt, under Moses' leadership, God taught them how to rely on Him. Every morning he would provide a perishable bread that fell like dew. The Jews would collect that bread to have only enough food for that day. They had to trust that each day God would provide enough food for them because if God didn't, they would die.*

*You can read about this in Exodus 16.*

*Other passages ... Titus 2:11-14, Col 3:1-17, Luke 14:16-35, Mark 10:17-31*

<sup>i</sup> A term Jesus uses to refer to himself.