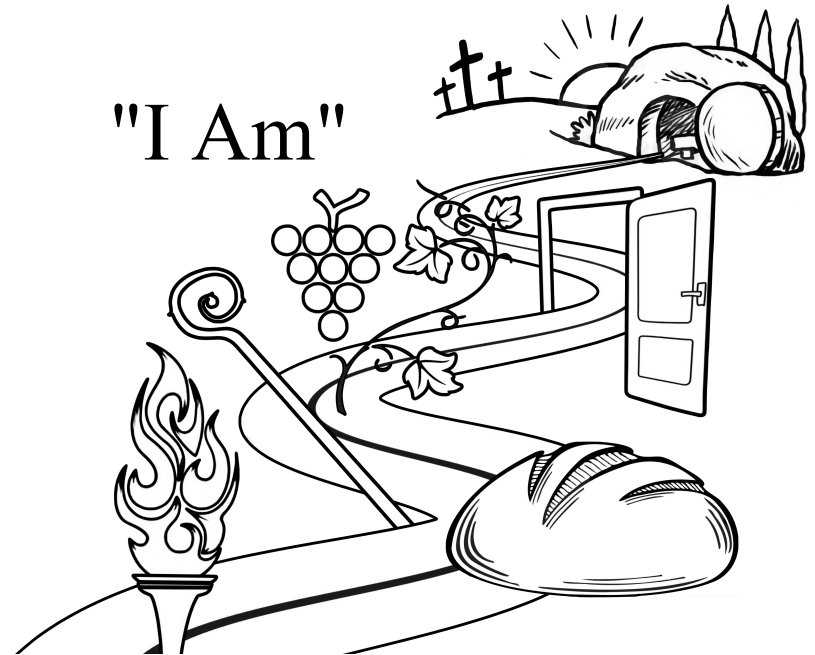


Similarities b/w Mark and John:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Differences b/w Mark and John:

Mark	John



a study of
The Gospel According to John
Summer 2025
Lesson #13
John 11:38-12:11
"The Spine, the Hinge, and the Binding"
(part 2)

REVIEW:

1. (6:35, 48, 51) **I am** the _____
2. (8:12; 9:5) **I am** the _____
3. (10:7, 9) **I am** the _____
4. (10:11, 14) **I am** the _____
5. (11:25) **I am** the _____

The Signs:

1. John 2:1-11 _____
2. John 4:46-54 _____
3. John 5:1-15 _____
4. John 6:1-15 _____
5. John 6:16-21 _____
6. John 9:1-41 _____
7. John 11:40-44 _____

BRIEF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT:

We are still in the center of John's Gospel, at the "hinge" between his "book of signs" and his "book of glory." John's story brings us to the core of his message, where he declares he is the resurrection and the life. Up to that point, Jesus' focus is outward, toward people, revealing the kingdom and performing signs of healing and miracles. At the heart of his message, Jesus is overcome with grief for his friends, and he performs a miracle that sets his path on the way to the crucifixion. From now on, John's focus shifts to what is done by people for, and to, Jesus. At the same time Jesus discloses the sacred communion of the Father, Son, and the Spirit.

Our lesson today will reveal the hidden activity of God within the Jewish and Roman authorities, and intimate encounters with his close followers.

Review John 11:38-44

1. Note the climax of this story is not the center of its chiasm. The astonishing physical act of a dead man coming out of a tomb is not where the truth of God is hidden, but found in the words of a woman. Discuss.

2. Compare verses 43-44 with John 10:27. How might John 11:43-44 be John's illustration, or visual aid, of 10:27?

Read John 11:45-54

1. What do you notice, what makes you wonder?
2. Discuss theological and spiritual implications in Caiaphus' prophecy. Was it accurate? In light of John's use of dualism, how would you equate Caiaphus' words to Jesus' mission?
3. John uses the Lazarus story as the incentive for the leaders to kill Jesus once and for all. Do you recall which event is used to propel Jesus to his arrest in the Synoptic Gospels? Matthew 26:14-16; Mark 14:10-11; Luke 21:37-22:1-6.

Read John 12:1-9

1. What do you notice, what makes you wonder?
2. Look at the same story in Mark. (Matthew's & Mark's accounts are nearly exact duplicates.)

Mark 14:3-9 And being in Bethany at the house of Simon the leper, as He sat at the table, a woman came having an alabaster flask of very costly oil of spikenard. Then she broke the flask and poured it on His head. ⁴But there were some who were indignant among themselves, and said, "Why was this fragrant oil wasted? ⁵For it might have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they criticized her sharply. ⁶But Jesus said, "Let her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a good work for Me. ⁷For you have the poor with you always, and whenever you wish you may do them good; but Me you do not have always. ⁸She has done what she could. She has come beforehand to anoint My body for burial. ⁹Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her."

3. What are the similarities and differences between the two stories?
4. Discuss the implications of Judas' complaint and the information that he was stealing from the disciples' purse.
5. If time allows, discuss what you see in Jesus' character in John's "book of signs." What has drawn you to him, and can you see God's character in his miracles and teachings?