

Session 4
Gospel of John Class
February 2, 2020

Resurrection Lutheran Church, Cary
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How to Find Past Class Notes

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I'M NEW ABOUT US **MINISTRIES** CONNECT & SERVE OUR SCHOOLS

Welcome

Resurrection Lutheran Church celebrates 40 years of ministry in this neighborhood on the southern edge of Cary, North Carolina -- joyfully serving and ministering to western Wake County since 1978!

Celebrating our Savior's love continues today in the faithful gathering of God's people.

- What to Expect
- Service Times & Directions

- Prayer Ministry
- Online Giving
- Christian Education
- The Gospel of John
- Wednesday Night Workshop
- Confirmation
- Men's Ministry
- Women's Ministries
- Student Ministry
- Children and Family Ministry
- Vacation Bible School

Resurrection Lutheran!

Recognized in Three Categories:

- BEST Private School**
- BEST Middle School Principal**
- BEST Preschool**

The Latest

Review

“Giver of Living Water”

John 4:1–30 & 7:37–39

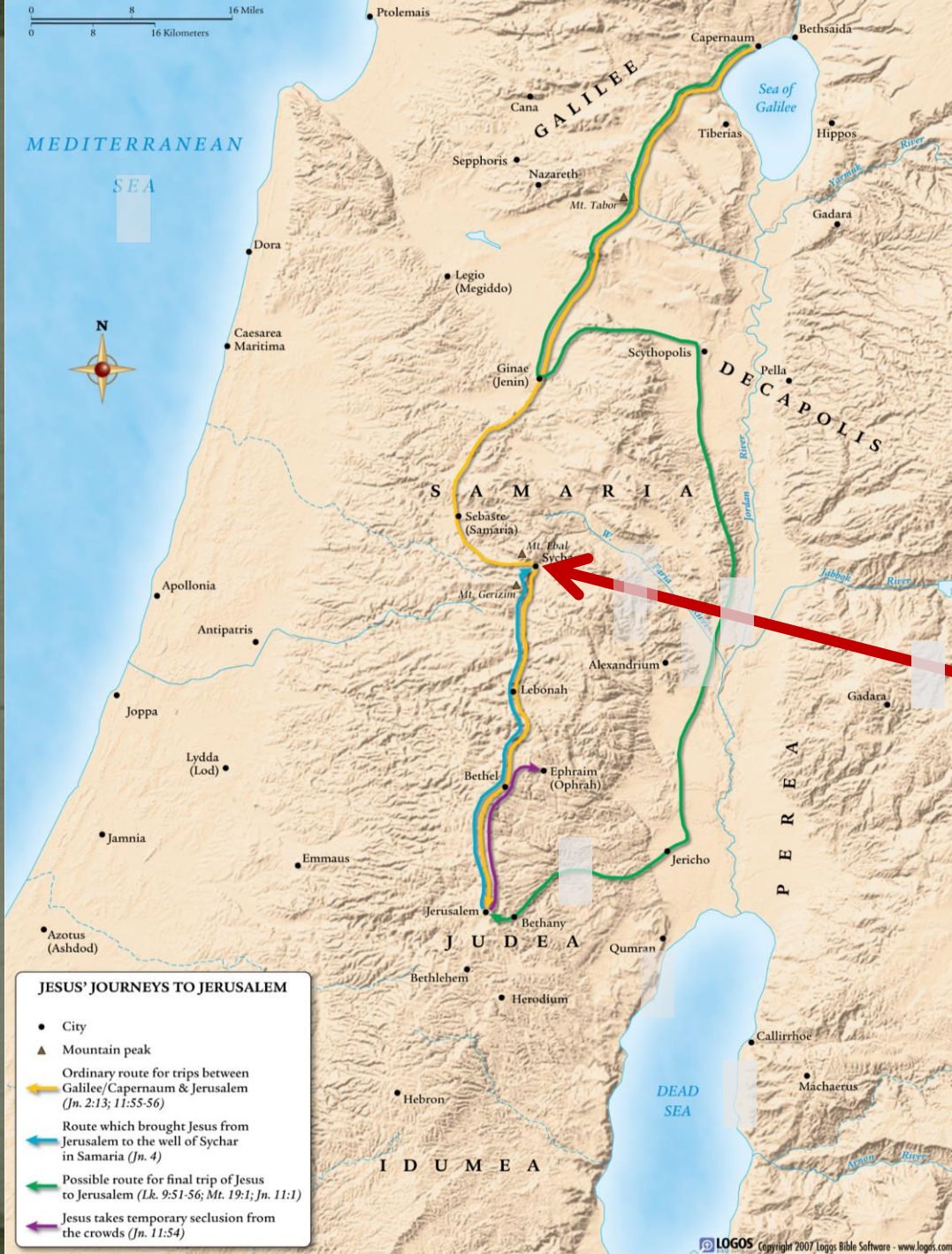
Water, A Complex Image

- Think of two uses of water that make it necessary for human life:



Water, A Complex Image

- As we will see, Jesus doesn't call Himself "living water" as He does with "bread of life" (6:35) or "light of the world" (8:12).
- Rather, Jesus identifies Himself as the *giver* of living water (4:10; cf. 7:39).
- We will discover, as we read through the Gospel of John, what this "living water" is!



Jesus “must” pass through Samaria (4:4) and stops at Sychar

Understanding “Living Water” (ὕδωρ ζῶν)

- The Gospel of John frequently records Jesus’ use of double entendre, so it is likely the phrase would have conveyed...
 - “Fresh, running, or flowing water”...that is, the water in a stream or natural spring, rather than that supplied by a cistern
 - “Water of life” (Rev. 22:1, 17), which in the OT, pointed to God Himself (Jer. 2:13; 17:13)

Understanding “Living Water” (ὕδωρ ζῶν)

- **For drinking**... “Fresh, running, or flowing water” from a stream or natural spring, would have been viewed as longer lasting, healthier, and more delicious than water supplied by a cistern
- **For washing**... Only flowing water was considered appropriate for ritual cleansing in the Jewish tradition.
- **For one who must draw and carry water by hand**... Why do you think the woman might have chuckled and said, perhaps a bit sarcastically, “Sir, give me this living water!”?

Jesus at the Feast of Booths/Tabernacles (7:2, 37)

- This was a festival that occurred at the end of the dry season and the beginning of the rainy season
- It commemorated God's protection of Israel during its wilderness wanderings (see Exod 17:1–6)
- In Jesus' day a water libation ceremony would have accompanied the Feast, together with the reading of **Isaiah 12:1–5**; water brought from the Pool of Siloam and wine were poured over the altar of the Jerusalem temple.
- What is the “living water” Jesus gives, according to Him?
- Read Rev 22:1–5 (Psalm 1:1–3). Thoughts?

The Spirit (Living Water) Gives Life

- Go back to the earlier image of the woman at the well. Consider the first sin of Adam and Eve and how the blissful picture of work/play/rest intended by God became painful, with thorns and sweat (Gen 3:17–19).
- At His resurrection, when Jesus breathes over His disciples giving them His Spirit, John uses the same word first used when God breathed into Adam (Gen 2:7)!
- What is the “work” Jesus gives his disciples to do in 20:23? How will the life’s breath of the Spirit be “living water” for them in that task?

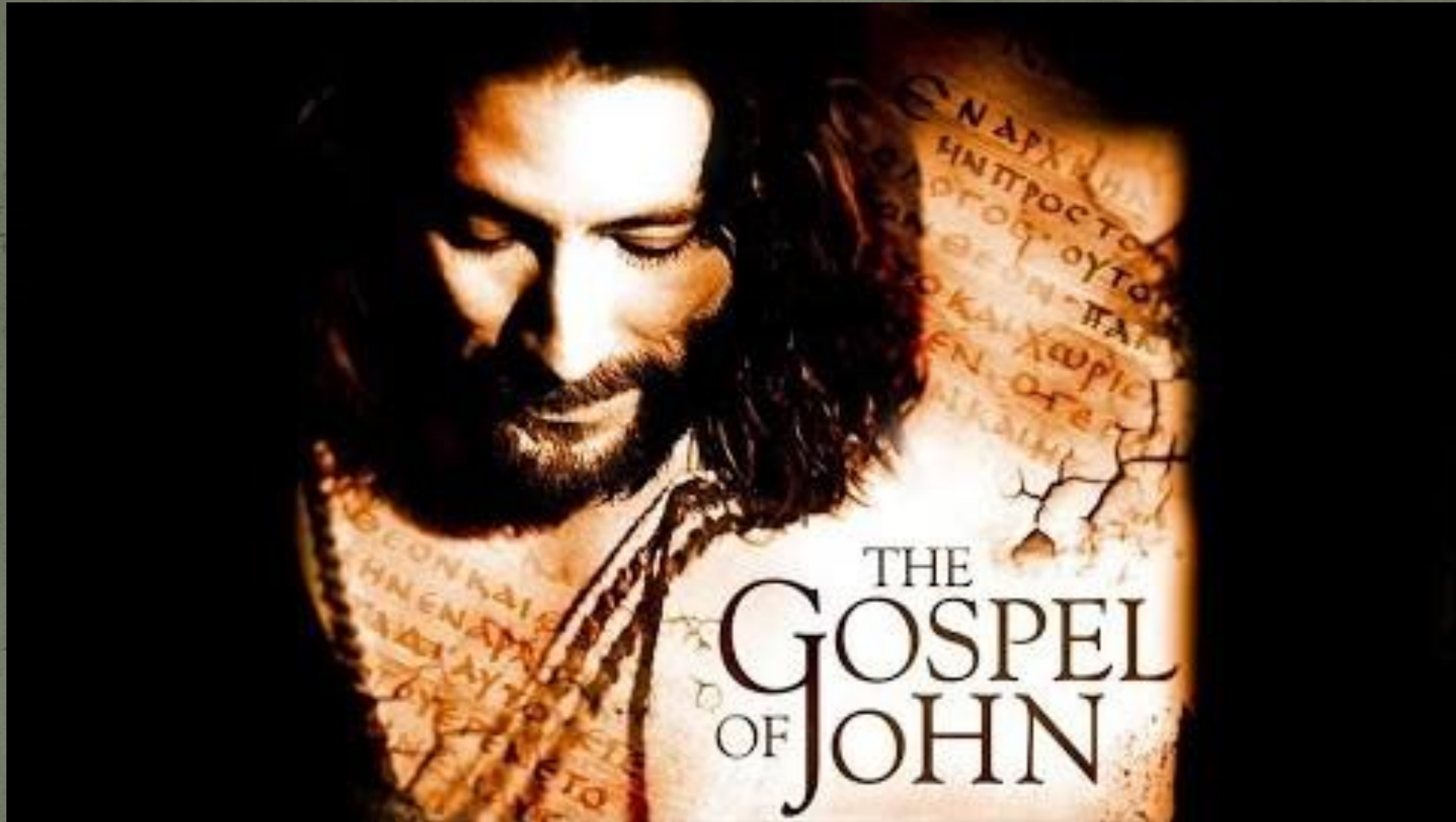
“Bread of Life”

John 4:1-30 & 7:37-39



The bread of life image in John is associated with a “sign” containing bread

John 6:1-15



Bread of life image begins with a “sign” containing bread

Understanding signs and symbolic actions

- **Allusions to Jesus' death and resurrection** appear in each of the symbolic actions, so that Jesus' death and resurrection disclose the significance of earlier actions, and earlier actions help readers discern the meaning of Jesus' suffering and death.
- **Conversations and discourses** We will see what Jesus does here in light of His "bread of life discourse"
- Actions appropriate and redefine associations with **images** **connected with the action** (in this case, eating "bread" until satisfied seems to indicate something important)

A New Moses?

- “When the people saw the sign that [Jesus] had done, they said, ‘This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world.’ Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew...”
(6:14-15)
- What is meant by “the Prophet”? See Deut 18:15–18.
- Review what we learned about the motif of misunderstanding in John’s Gospel. What does such misunderstanding lead us to see about the crowd? About Jesus?

John 6:25-71



Bread of Life

Do you believe Jesus
is describing His
Word as food....



Or is He talking
about the blessing of
Holy Communion?

Two Kinds of Bread/Two Kinds of Listeners

- Interest is in food that perishes (6:27)
- Interest is in making Jesus a king by force (6:15)
- Focus on Moses as the “He” who gives bread (6:32)
- Do not remain with Jesus, but fall way (6:60–66)
- Interest is in food that endures (6:68)
- Interest is in receiving Jesus (6:21)
- Focus on the Father as the “He” who gives bread (6:32)
- Remain with Jesus, for He has the words of eternal life (6:68)



What “lesson” is there in these two kinds of bread and two kinds of listeners, for 21st century readers of John’s Gospel?

For Next Sunday, Read John 1:1–9; 3:1–21; 8:12



Light of the World