

Perspectives

Focus

“Stay focused!” This is a phrase you might have heard spoken to you sometime during your life. It might have come from your teacher, who caught you looking out the window during class. It might have come from a coach, who was giving a halftime pep talk, encouraging the team to not lose sight of playing hard to win the game. It might have come from your own inner monologue during a workday when it was 70 degrees outside and it seemed impossible to concentrate on your work. Whoever said it to you or on what occasion, the purpose was to get your mind centered on something important. Focusing enables our minds to “zero in” and really concentrate on someone or something—giving it our full attention.

This quarter we focus in on who Jesus is and specific encounters He had with others as written in the book of John. During the first unit, we will examine who the Bible tells us Jesus is as the Son of God. As you read each story, focus in on Jesus, as well as those He encountered. *Who is He? Why did He come? In what ways does who He is impact your life? In what ways are you modeling the life of Jesus in your world?* During the second unit, we will examine specific encounters Jesus had with others. As you read each story, focus in on Jesus, as well as those He encountered. *How did Jesus respond to others? What can I learn from this encounter? In what ways am I modeling the life of Jesus in my encounter with others?*

Throughout this study in John, do not merely read the story, but focus! Center your attention on Jesus. Concentrate on how others responded to Jesus. Zero in on the message of the Word. Invite the Holy Spirit to open your mind and heart to who Jesus is, why He came, and the ways you can respond to Him in faith through the things you say and do.

May God bless you as you focus on His Word this quarter!

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