

THIRTY THREE 21 THREE  
GOD REVEALED



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO  
**JOHN**

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022



# WELCOME

RICHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

At RCC, the Bible tells us that God wants us to find our greatest joy in Him and that He desires for us to share this experience with others. That's why our mission is -

To encourage people to **Enjoy God Together.**

To get there, we have a few things that matter to us:



**WHAT WE THINK ABOUT GOD MATTERS**



**WE FIND OUR GREATEST JOY IN JESUS**



**WE HELP PEOPLE HELP PEOPLE**



**WE CELEBRATE QUESTIONS**



**WE EMBRACE INEVITABLE TENSIONS**



**THIS IS FOR LIFE**

To find out more about what matters to us, check out:  
<https://www.richfieldcommunitychurch.com/vision>

# GROUPS

Our fall kick off for Life Groups starts TODAY and we'd love to have you join one. Life Groups at RCC happen weekly (or every other week) and provide an opportunity to grow deeper connections with a smaller group of people centered around reading the Bible and sharing all that life sends our way.

To get more information or to get involved in any of the groups, please contact **Steven Huggins**, Pastor of Adults, at [stevenh@richfieldcc.org](mailto:stevenh@richfieldcc.org) or sign up at [richfieldcc.org/events](http://richfieldcc.org/events).



**NO  
REGRETS**

Guys, if you are looking for a group of men to connect and grow in your love of Jesus with, No Regrets is a great group for you to try. You'll spend the time living life together as you discuss Scripture and all the ups and downs life brings our way. Men of all ages are welcome!

**Time:** 7:00

**Cost:** \$65 for materials

**Dates:** Starts Thursday, 9/15, and runs through May  
(multi-semester program)

**Location:** At RCC

**Register:** [richfieldcc.org/events](http://richfieldcc.org/events)

Sign up for Gold Group (2nd Year, returning) or  
Silver Group (1st Year, new sign ups)



Ladies, join us for "Consecrated" - a night of worshipping the glory of God through music and prayer focused around lifting up our educators and students for the new school year.

**Location:** RCC Worship Center

**Cost:** Free

Light refreshments will be served.

For more information or questions, please email **Stephanie** at [womenconnect@richfieldcc.org](mailto:womenconnect@richfieldcc.org).



We are happy to partner with Living Well Pregnancy Center in Orange. Their Abortion Recovery Class begins Monday, 9/12 from 6-8pm.

This 10-week class helps women and men (in separate classes) emotionally and spiritually process their struggles following an abortion. With a small class size and compassionate support, you will find the courage to face the pain of a previous abortion or abortions, no matter how many years it's been.

For more information or to help you get connected to Living Well, you can contact **Keith** at [keithg@richfieldcc.org](mailto:keithg@richfieldcc.org).

# GIVING UPDATE

Thank you to all of you for investing in RCC's vision and community. As of 09/07/22 our giving vs. budget is:

General Fund Giving	Month to Date	Year to Date
2022 Actual	\$21,014	\$887,754
2022 Budget	\$35,407	\$1,038,970
Difference	-\$14,393	-\$151,216

## HOW TO GIVE

At RCC, we believe that giving comes as a natural, joyous outpouring of worship for what God has done, is doing, and will do in our lives. So whatever is received, we are grateful and truly believe God is honored through our giving.

**If you'd like to give, you can:**

1. Give at [richfieldcc.org/invest](https://richfieldcc.org/invest)
2. Give through "giving" on The Church Center App
3. Give by text to 84321 (and text an amount to get started)
4. Give by cash or check in any of the "for God" boxes"

# SUMMER RECAP OF JOHN

Everything you may have missed this summer during John

**Jesus does amazing things.** He feeds five thousand men and their families. The people are flocking to Jesus. He demonstrates that He cares about the needs of daily life (John 6:1-21). Jesus says to the crowd, you're following me because I fed you, but you should be seeking me because I am the bread that leads to eternal life (John 6:22-58). Then, Jesus encourages His followers to feed on His flesh and drink His blood – eww – many turn away. But Peter affirms – Jesus, we're not leaving You, You have the words of eternal life (John 6:59-71).

**Confrontation grows with the religious leaders.** Jesus speaks and heals with God's authority on the Sabbath and that is not OK with the Jewish leaders (John 7:1-24). While the people are wrestling with whether Jesus could actually be the Messiah, the religious leaders organize two more attempts to arrest Him (John 7:25-52). Then Jesus publicly humiliates the religious leaders who had laid a trap for him. He shows that the punishment for sin applies to everyone, not just a woman caught in adultery (John 7:53-8:11).

**Jesus is speaking more and more directly.** Jesus declares Himself to be the Light of the World and the only hope out of darkness (John 8:12-30). He tells those who had believed in Him that His truth will set them free, but they think they're already free – after all they are good Jews (John 8:31-38). Jesus points out that if they were good Jews who listen to God, they would listen to Him – but instead many are trying to kill Him – because they are listening to their father, The devil! Boom! (John 8:39-47).

**With increased clarity comes increased opposition.** Jesus tells the Jews that even their hero – Abraham - rejoiced at His coming. But how did Abraham know about Jesus? Jesus tells them, 'before Abraham was, I Am.' They pick up stones to kill Him (John 8:48-59). Jesus heals again on the Sabbath – this has gotten Him in trouble before. Now, it's a blind man who can now see. But because He credits Jesus with his healing, the man is kicked out of the community (John 9:1-41). Jesus teaches the people that He is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. He tells them that the other so-called shepherds only steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:1-21).

**Where we left off...** Jesus promises the people that His sheep will be safe with Him and not cast aside – they will be in His hands and God the Father's hands because He and the Father are one. Once again, the Jewish leaders try to arrest Him, but Jesus gets away (John 10:22-42).

# 2 Crescendos

John 11:1-44

Todd Chapman - September 11, 2022

In this account, Jesus makes His boldest declaration of who He is and demonstrates most astonishingly who He is. He is God. He is the Savior.

## The Setting (11:1-16)

<sup>1</sup> Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup> It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup> So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." <sup>4</sup> But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." <sup>5</sup> Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup> So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup> Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." <sup>8</sup> The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" <sup>9</sup> Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. <sup>10</sup> But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." <sup>11</sup> After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." <sup>12</sup> The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." <sup>13</sup> Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, <sup>15</sup> and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup> So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."



## **What Jesus Says - 1st Crescendo (11:17-27)**

<sup>17</sup> Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup> Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup> and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup> So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

## **Jesus' Emotions (11:28-38)**

<sup>28</sup> When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup> And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup> Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup> When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup> Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup> When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. <sup>34</sup> And he

said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup> Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup> So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup> But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?" <sup>38</sup> Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.

### **What Jesus Does - 2nd Crescendo (11:39-44)**

<sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"

<sup>41</sup> So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup> I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me."

<sup>43</sup> When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." <sup>44</sup> The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

## Reading the Text:

1. In these 44 verses, John is telling one continuous story. How would you tell the story in your own words? Who or what are the key points, characters, emotions, details, etc.?
2. What did Jesus mean in v. 4 when He said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."? In what way did Jesus mean that Lazarus' illness (and death) was for the glory of God?
3. Jesus and Martha have a profound dialogue in vv. 21-27. What beliefs did Martha seem to understand? What are the things she did not quite fully see yet?
4. This story of Jesus resurrecting Lazarus is to point to Jesus Himself as "the resurrection and the life". In what ways is He "the resurrection"? In what ways is He "the life"?

## Living It Out:

6. Sometimes it can be difficult to think of God as a being with emotions. However, John goes to great lengths to show us Jesus' emotions in this story. How does seeing Jesus' emotions encourage you and influence your view of God?
7. A potentially confusing piece of this story is that Jesus waited four days before He got to Lazarus. (He waited two days to leave for a two-day journey). What circumstance in your life are you wishing Jesus would resolve more quickly? What is it like being in the waiting period? How might God want to be glorified through you in these circumstances?
8. John records a pointed question from Jesus in v. 26 – "Do you believe this?". In what ways do you sometimes find it difficult to believe His statement in vv. 25 - 26?

# RICHFIELD COMMUNITY CHURCH

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