



**School of Theology “UPPER ROOM DISCOURSE JOHN 13-17”
2026 Syllabus (Inst. Pastor Gerald Murphy & Pastor Jeremy Gilgora)**

Session	Topic	Homework
Week 1 - January 28th, 2026	INTRODUCTION	<i>Due. Sunday 9pm Feb. 1st</i> <i>Email two things you learned to info@gardencitychurch.tv</i> <i>Read John 13:1-30 before Feb. 4th, 2026</i>
Week 2 - February 4th, 2026	JOHN 13:1-30	<i>Due. Sunday 9pm Feb 8th</i> <i>Email two things you learned to info@gardencitychurch.tv</i> <i>Read John 13:30-38-John 14:1-11 before Feb. 11th, 2026</i>
Week 3 - February 11th, 2026	JOHN 13:30-38-JOHN 14:1-11 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NrW4pWjUzRQ	<i>Due. Sunday 9pm Feb 15th</i> <i>Email two things you learned to info@gardencitychurch.tv</i> <i>Read John 14:12-29 before Feb. 18th, 2026</i>
Week 4 - February 18th, 2026	JOHN 14:12-29	<i>Due. Sunday 9pm Feb 22nd</i> <i>Email two things you learned to info@gardencitychurch.tv</i> <i>Read John 15 before Feb. 25th, 2026</i>
Week 5 - February 25th, 2026	JOHN 15	<i>Due. Sunday 9pm March 1st</i> <i>Email two things you learned to info@gardencitychurch.tv</i>

		<i>Read John 16:1-15 before Mar. 4th, 2026</i>
Week 6 - March 4th, 2026	JOHN 16:1-15	<i>Due. Sunday 9pm March 8th Email two things you learned to info@gardencitychurch.tv Read John 16:16-33 before Mar. 11th, 2026</i>
Week 7 - March 11th, 2026	JOHN 16:16-33	<i>Due. Sunday 9pm March 15th Email two things you learned to info@gardencitychurch.tv Read John John 17 before Mar. 18th, 2026</i>
Week 8 - March 18th, 2026	JOHN 17	

*****Additional resource: blueletterbible.org David Guzik commentary on the gospel of John**

Week 1 principles for theology and studying the Bible

Theology: The study of God

- **Theology is a verb. It is something we do with God, and it is his idea.**
- **Understanding these four principles are necessary for doing theology rightly.**
 - God is self revealing
 - God is knowable
 - God is transcendent (beyond space and time)
 - God is immanent (close and near)

When you study the Bible do these things before you read

- Pray
- Worship (spend time lifting up thanksgiving for the Word)
- Search your heart for any unknown barrier between you and the Lord that you haven't dealt with (Psalm 139:23-24).
- Ask yourself what your desired goal/outcome is.
 - To learn
 - To draw closer to God (devotional)
 - To receive breakthrough/wisdom/direction
 - To be better equipped to guide and lead others

When you study the Bible show up in these four postures

- Ready to encounter the heart of the Father
- Ready to experience the revelation of Jesus Christ
- Ready to encounter the power of the gospel
- Ready to surrender and yield to the leadership of Holy Spirit

When studying the Bible use these tips

- Identify the author, audience, setting (time and culture) & purpose of the book
- Make note of major themes and ideas in each chapter along with the key verse of each chapter as you see it
- Take each chapter and summarize it by breaking down small sections of the chapter and communicating in your own words what is being expressed
- Write down words you want to understand better
 - <https://www.blueletterbible.org/>
- Find a commentary or two that you like
 - The scripture was meant to be read in community. Using commentaries while you're alone bring you into a dialogue of sorts with someone else's interpretation of the scripture and it helps you form your own thoughts and takeaways
- Read the Word out loud
- Stop when the Holy Spirit highlights something He is inviting you to reflect on
- Meditate on and memorize key passages (take notes and high-light scriptures as you read)
- Journal your experience and transformation as it unfolds
 - Jesus had an expectation for the believer to be sanctified through the truth of the Word (John 17:17). When we commit to reading the Word we will experience transformation.

Discovery Bible Study Method

- What does this story tell me about God?
- What does this story tell me about people (or myself)?
- If this is God's word for my life, how will I obey it (what is the command, principle or invitation that deserves a response)?
- Who am I going to tell?

I will statement: An action that can completed within 24hrs