

Leaders' weekend 2020

Session 1: Jesus at work in his absence (John 9)

Why has Jesus left us to fend for ourselves?

1. Jesus is absent

9:1–12

9:13–17

9:18–23

9:24–34

9:35–41

2. Jesus' absence is bad

3. Jesus is at work in his absence

Session 2: Jesus loving us by his absence (John 11)

Does Jesus really have our best interests at heart?

Orientation: two immutable John 11 truths

Jesus loves Lazarus

Jesus wasn't there

1. Jesus loves you enough to give you a better sort of life

2. Jesus loves you enough to get you to believe in him

Plenary Session

Session 3: Jesus making God known through his 'absence' (John 14)

Wouldn't it be easier to know him if Jesus hadn't left?

Jesus coming back at the end (13:36–14:7)

Jesus coming back by his Spirit (14:8–31)

The vine (15:1–17)

Jesus coming back by his Spirit (15:18–16:15)

Jesus coming back in his resurrection (16:16–33)

1. The disciples didn't know Jesus when he was here

2. It took Jesus' departure for them to know him

3. Whoever keeps his words can know him too

Session 4: Jesus overcoming the world by his 'absence' (John 15–16)

Wouldn't we be more effective if Jesus were here?

1. **The true vine** (15:1–2)

2. **The fruitful vine and the disciples' joy** (15:3–11)

3. **The fruitful vine and the disciples' job** (15:12–17)

Fruitful in his absence

Notes