

### 1. Review:

- The Gospel of John is tightly worded and dense. Each verse carries weight.
- John very purposefully structures his Gospel to help communicate his message.
- "Repetition is the Mother of all learning" - the key to deepening our understanding of John is becoming increasingly familiar with the text through repetition.
  
- Creation Revisited - see our lesson from Week 1 - <https://youtu.be/5omWyxyfnLg>
- Mystical Path to God - see our lesson from Week 2 - <https://youtu.be/1Ljo17HH-Is>
- Testimony

### 2. Testimony Speaks to the Soul -

- Proofs speak to the intellect. Testimony speaks to the soul.

### 3. Purpose of John's Gospel:

- John 20:31 - To have life through belief.

### 4. John's Community in Ephesus –

- John's community in Ephesus was not able to encounter Jesus on earth, but they can come to believe through the testimony of others, including John's Gospel.
- John 20:29

### 5. Testimony of John the Baptist:

- John 1:6-8 - John tells us that God sent John the Baptist as a "witness" (Greek: *marturia*) and to "testify" (Greek: *martureo*).
- In English, "testify" and "witness" sound completely different, but in Greek, "*marturia*" and "*martureo*" provide a sense of repetition.

### 5. Witness/Testify/Testimony:

	Matt.	Mark	Luke	John
<i>Martureo</i> (verb) To Testify	1	0	1	33
<i>Marturia</i> (noun) A Witness/Testimony	0	3	1	14
<b>Total</b>	1	3	2	47

### 6. Testimony v. Proof:

- The Western world descends from the Greek mind - a way of thinking dominated by logic and reason.
- The Western religious system is dominated by Systematic Theology, which attempts to systematize the Bible and its teachings through reason and logic.
- The Bible comes from the East and is not systematic. The Bible is primarily conveyed through stories that are themselves testimonies of God's actions throughout history.
- Testimony is personal and reflects the shared human condition, which makes it easier to identify with.

### 7. Biblical Example of the Power of Testimony:

- **Mark 5:1-20** - Demon-Possessed Man in the Decapolis
  - The only Decapolis city on the southeast coast of the Sea of Galilee is called Susita in Aramaic, which means mare. Also, in Latin, it is called Hippos, which means horse - like a hippodrome (horse-course / horse racing stadium) or hippopotamus (river-horse).
- See our lessons covering this important story:
  - Sea of Galilee - part 3: <https://youtu.be/bq3z-10xxPA>
  - Sea of Galilee - part 4: <https://youtu.be/5VhrvCU9MqE>