



The Turning Point

Eight Encounters with Jesus That Will
Change Your Life

Dr. Allen R. Hunt

- **Allen R. Hunt** (born January 6, 1964, in [Los Angeles, California](#)) is an American author and speaker. Hunt, a former Methodist mega-church pastor, is now a Roman Catholic.
- Hunt earned undergraduate degrees in Finance and History and later completed a Master of Divinity degree at Emory University's Candler School of Theology. In 1994, Hunt completed his Ph.D. in New Testament and Ancient Christian Origins at Yale University.

Dr. Allen R. Hunt

- In January 2008 he entered the Catholic Church as the culmination of a 15 year journey beginning with a group of Dominican Nuns who began to pray for him. He wrote *Confessions of a Mega-Church Pastor: How I discovered the Hidden Treasures of the Catholic Church.*

Dr. Allen R. Hunt

- Dr. Hunt partners with Matthew Kelly as Senior Advisor at the Dynamic Catholic Institute. The Institute team is dedicated to re-energizing the Catholic Church in America by developing world-class resources that inspire people to rediscover the genius of Catholicism

The Turning Point

- The Gospel According to John was written to help you experience Jesus Christ.
- “These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name” (John 20:31).

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- Pope Francis wrote, “I invite all Christians everywhere, at the very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting Him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day” (*The Joy of the Gospel*).

The Turning Point

- You will intimately encounter Christ through the people and events John describes in vivid detail: the Wedding at Cana, Nicodemus, Two Wayward Women, the Hungry Crowds, Lazarus, Martha, and Mary, Peter, and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Class Structure

- At each session we will assign preparation homework for the next session
 - Three chapters from the Gospel
 - A special passage or passages that highlight an encounter with Jesus
 - Questions for you to answer and meditate about

Class Structure

- When we meet again we will watch a DVD presentation and take notes on the response sheet.
- We will then discuss the readings and the answers to some of our questions.

Introduction to John

The Gospel according to John is quite different in character from the three synoptic gospels. It is highly literary and symbolic. It does not follow the same order or reproduce the same stories as the synoptic gospels. To a much greater degree, it is the product of a developed theological reflection and grows out of a different circle and tradition. It was probably written in the 90s of the first century.

Introduction to John

The Gospel of John begins with a magnificent prologue, which states many of the major themes and motifs of the gospel, much as an overture does for a musical work. The prologue proclaims Jesus as the preexistent and incarnate Word of God who has revealed the Father to us.

Introduction to John

The rest of the first chapter forms the introduction to the gospel proper and consists of the Baptist's testimony about Jesus (there is no baptism of Jesus in this gospel—John simply points him out as the Lamb of God), followed by stories of the call of the first disciples, in which various titles predicated of Jesus in the early church are presented.

Introduction to John

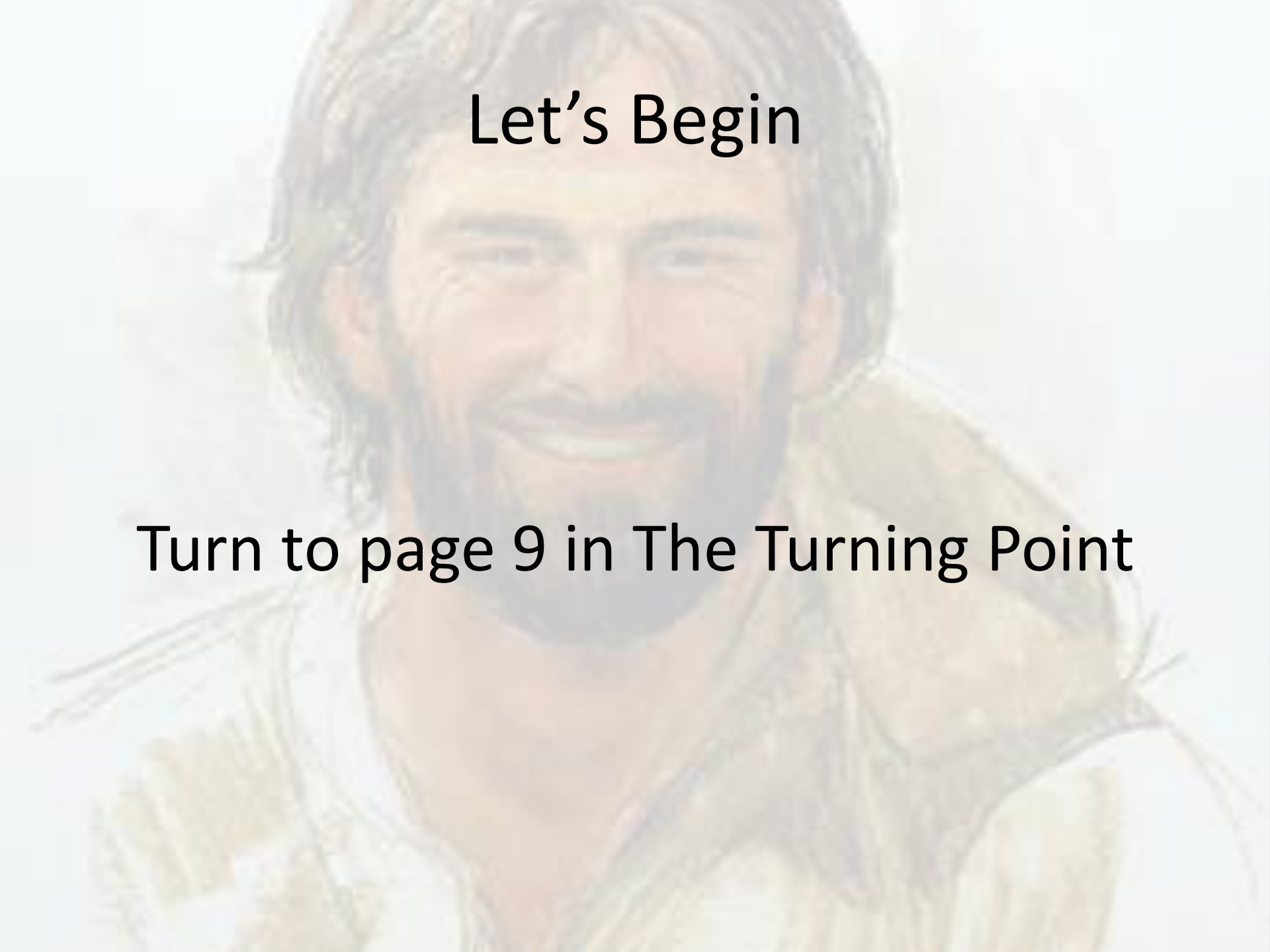
The gospel narrative contains a series of “signs”—the gospel’s word for the wondrous deeds of Jesus. The author is primarily interested in the significance of these deeds, and so interprets them for the reader by various reflections, narratives, and discourses.

Introduction to John

After the account of the seven signs, the “hour” of Jesus arrives, and the author passes from sign to reality, as he moves into the discourses in the upper room that interpret the meaning of the passion, death, and resurrection narratives that follow.

Introduction to John

The whole gospel of John is a progressive revelation of the glory of God's only Son, who comes to reveal the Father and then returns in glory to the Father. "Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of [his] disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may [come to] believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name."



Let's Begin

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